

Manchester  
Adult  
Education

# The Past, Present and Future of Adult Education in Manchester (and how Online Learning will Change the World)

25th June 2020



co-operative  
college



Manchester  
Community  
Central

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European Union  
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MANCHESTER  
CITY COUNCIL



## Discussion Questions

- 1. How can adult education providers and VCSE organisations collaborate to help Manchester ‘build back better’?**
- 2. What role does online learning have to play in this?**

# Manchester Adult Education



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# What we do

286 learners in Employability

1,834 learners in Family Learning

1,625 learners in English

1,241 learners in Maths

2,016 learners in ESOL

278 learners in Community Interpreting

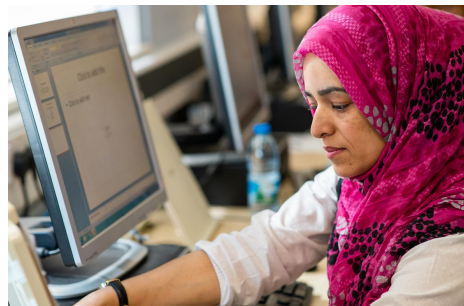
557 learners in Care and Education

651 learners in Digital Skills

39 learners in high needs provision

1,056 learners in partners' provision

1,773 learners in Talk English



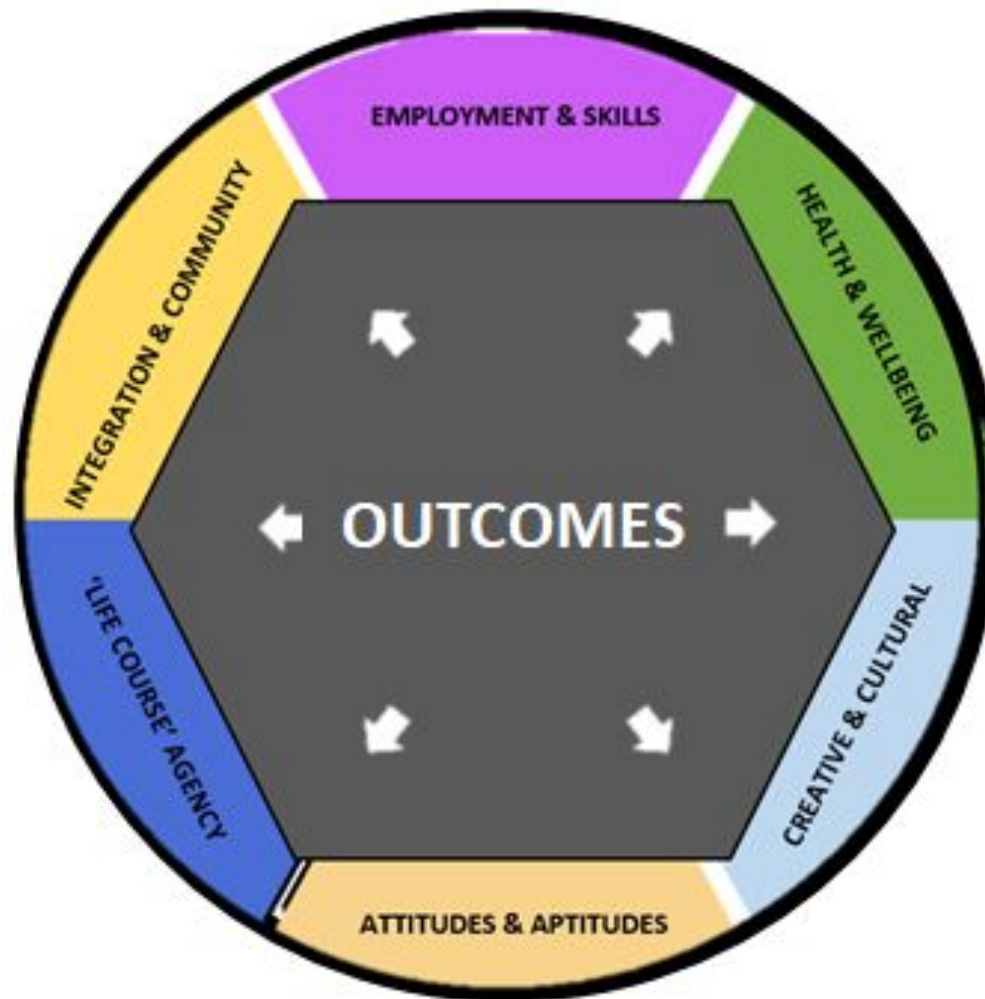
# Manchester Adult Education



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# An outcomes framework for adult education



## By 2025, Manchester will be the best city in the UK for adult education and skills.

1

All residents, whatever their starting point, access ladders to learning and development that will enable them to progress their ambitions.

2

Employers influence adult education and skills provision, co-invest in upskilling their workers and can find and develop the skills they need for their organisations to thrive.

3

Providers work closely in partnership to optimise resources and maximise impact.

4

The value of adult education and the contribution that it makes to economic and social well-being is valued and celebrated by all.





# A 'Shout Out' to Some Amazing Partners!



# Typical MAES Classroom



- Group/pair work
- Paper-based activities
- Low digital literacy
- Strong sense of community
- General interactions
- Learning from one another

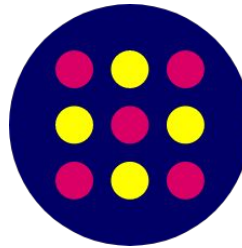
# Making Learning Accessible



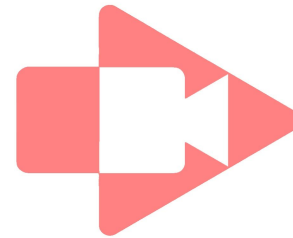
Whatsapp



Voice recorder



MyMaths



Screencastify



Google Meet

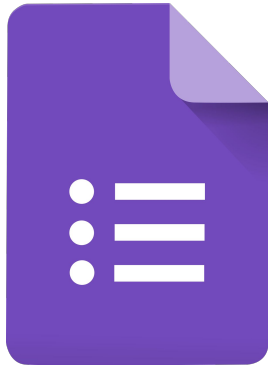
# What does a classroom look like now?



Google Meet



Google Site



Google Forms



Google Classroom

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# The Past, Present and Future of Adult Education in Manchester *(and How Online Learning Will Change the World!)*



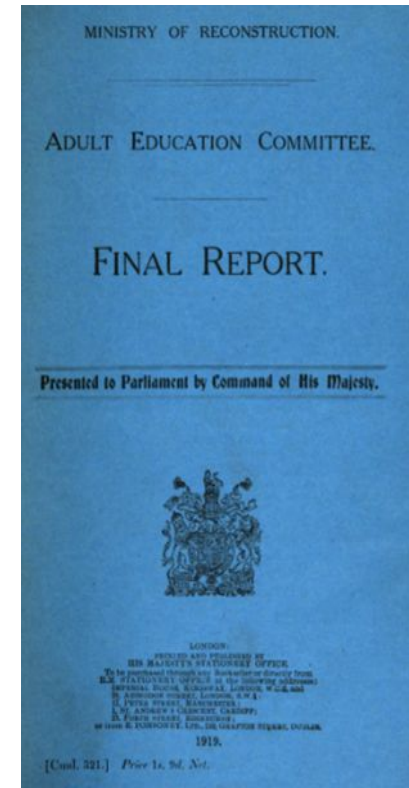
Cilla Ross, Co-operative College,  
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# Adult Education, Crisis and Rebuilding

*1919 Ministry of Reconstruction Education Committee Remit: "To consider the provision for, and possibilities of, Adult Education (other than technical or vocational) in Great Britain, and to make recommendations."*

Key words :

- 'Humane' - "the satisfaction of intellectual, aesthetic and spiritual needs"
- 'Civic' – "to understand and help in the solution of the common problems of society... thus better fitted for the responsibilities of membership in political, social and industrial organisations"
- Democratic
- Active Citizenship






# Conclusions 1919

“Adult education is a permanent national necessity, an inseparable aspect of citizenship, and therefore should be both universal and lifelong.”

“The value of adult education is not solely to be measured by increases in earning power or productive capacity or by any other materialistic yardstick, but by the quality of life it inspires in the individual and generates for the community at large...”

“We need to think out educational methods and possibilities from the new point of view ... of the adult learning to be a citizen”.





# Remit & Conclusions 2019

## To explore the role of adult education to deal with :

- **International crisis:** the unknowable future of work; climate crisis; slowing of the global economy and rising inequalities and intolerances.
- **UK Crisis:** Destruction of much of the adult and further education infrastructure, austerity, Brexit, rise of populism and intolerance, deepening poverty , failing economic and social models

## Conclusions:/ Recommendations

Education: There is much going on- grass roots / informal/ digital/ some great practice. As ever, reflecting need and interest – (see <https://www.centenarycommission.org/>)

## Key Recommendations include:

Central role of Local Authorities – ties in with devolution, community, local wealth building, co-operative approaches and different ways of livelihood building. A civic and community approach rebalancing the current system.

# What? Where? Who? The Co-operative College

*“The college should create a burning desire for **social justice**, inspire a willingness to work for it, and provide the knowledge how best to attain it. .... Our aim should be to provide **education in its widest sense**: an education for the highest purposes of life...” (1914)*

Early adult educators and adopters of student-centred learning.

Transformational! See <https://www.co-op.ac.uk/>

Learning which supports the existing and emerging co-operative movement and alternative social and economic models in communities to:

- Lead, develop and improve values-based livelihoods, organisations and work nationally and internationally
- Build identity & practice based on values & co-operation rather than competition


“a special kind of knowing that emerges when people work together ... [making] collective behaviour more economically rewarding, socially beneficial and personally satisfying.”  
(MacPherson, 2002)



# What have we been doing?

## Action, Activity, Recovery and Reset Reflection

What's going on? How do we make ourselves relevant? What are our priorities? How do we support the existing and emerging co-operative/ social movements and the wider society?

- Learning as an organization
  - Adapting / creating/co-producing – but blended!
  - Partnering and working with others
  - Scenario Planning Working Group
- 




# Co-operating together: learning to know, learning to do, learning to live together and learning to be

Adult education central to supporting and exploring:

- New ways of living, working and being – new local economy & identity?
- Learning beyond narrow employability paradigm - social justice and civic
- Need for understanding and agility for the world we are in

## **Practical**

- CMCA Co-operative Commission
  - Co-operative Councils
  - Political will
  - Rise of collective care?
  - Openness? – tech related
- 



**Discussion Questions - 15 mins**

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