Vocational Education and Training in England

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- Education system in England is split between;
 - compulsory (pre 16yrs)
 - post compulsory (post 16yrs)
- Vocational Education and Training (VET)
 - Schools responsible for pre-16
 - Post-16 picture is varied

Raising Participation Age and Apprenticeships are big government issues

- School Based Vocational Education and Training
 - Schools responsible for their curriculum with some government direction
 - New government seen as traditionalist and biased towards an academic curriculum
 - VET tends to be targeted at those seen as "not so academic"
 - Delivered in school or with local partners (especially colleges)

- Post 16 VET
 - Varied system with range of options
 - National Apprenticeship Service set up to promote Apprenticeships
 - VET delivered through colleges and training providers
 - Mix of practical and off site learning usually
 - Academic v Vocational status issues remains



- Some Statistics
 - 2009 school leavers in England;
 - 92.8% in full time learning
 - 86.5% in full time education
 - 4.9% in Government support training (10% in 1996)
 - 2.3% in other training / work (0.8% in job with no training)

But!!!

Government target of 1 in 5 in Apprenticeship by 2020!



Key Issues

- Traditional VET areas still strong
 - Trades and Crafts
- Issues with non-traditional VET areas;
 - involving employers
 - selling to parents and young people
 - access to university

Big increase in numbers taking apprenticeships in last year – interesting in time of recession



Key Questions

- How do we improve the status of VET?
- How do we involve employers?
- How do we promote to young people?
- How do we improve access to university?

Can we learn lessons from other countries?

