Healthy Sandwell is the Public Health directorate part of Sandwell Council. The team is keen to work with local businesses to improve the health and wellbeing of the Sandwell workforce. They can support you and your staff to access FREE services in Sandwell including:

- NHS Health Check (a national screening programme to review the risk of serious conditions like diabetes and heart disease)
- stop smoking support
- weight management programmes
- pre-diabetic programme
- drugs and alcohol support and much more.

Poor health at work not only affects an individual’s ability to successfully do their job, it can also affect business productivity, performance and therefore bottom-line profits.

Read more about the programme and what’s available to you online.
The best business talent and innovation was celebrated at Sandwell Business Awards ceremony. The event at Sandwell College’s Central Campus was hosted by ITV Central presenter Sameena Ali-Khan.

Adrian Bailey, MP for West Bromwich West, was a special guest at the ceremony organised by Sandwell College, Sandwell Council and the Think Sandwell team.

Son of the late Sandwell Council leader, Councillor Darren Cooper, Matt also presented an award in his father’s honour to apprentice Leah Truslove from Brandhall Primary School.

Leah said: “I would like to thank the college, council and my employer for giving me the opportunity to gain skills I wouldn’t have been able to otherwise.”

Industrial Power Units, Carillion, The Live & Work Project, Home to Home Calls, Rightio, Ker Living, Scott Arms Dental Practice, Bordesley Village Dental Practice were all winners.

Trainee of the Year went to Sandwell College’s Aaron Bell, and Apprenticeship Star Awards went to Anthony Goodall from the AA, and Kirsty Campbell from Sandwell Council’s Bereavement Services.

Sandwell College Principal Graham Pennington said: “It’s fantastic to see so many people celebrating. I want to thank all our employers and the council for the experience and support you have given to our students over the years.”

ArcelorMittal Tailored Blanks is a leading supplier of laser welded and unwelded blanks, and number 1 in this year’s Top 50 Fastest Growing Companies Index.

They offer automotive companies worldwide a manufacturing technology that improves the performance of car parts in a vehicle.

Over the last year the Sandwell company has achieved a significant growth in revenue, partly as a result of the merger of two ArcelorMittal sites, Distribution Solution in Rowley Regis and Tailored Blanks in Smethwick.

Its rapid annual growth is also due to an increase in the volume of orders by its main customers, increased machine efficiency, optimised transport costs and improved line efficiency through various means, including 5S, World Class Manufacturing (WCM) processes, cost deployment and a management team restructure.

If you would like to learn more about their exceptional growth – you can go to Think Sandwell and read their full story.
Sandwell Council will be hosting a visit from the Mayor of Jinhua and other Chinese state officials in late October. They will meet with Sandwell’s Mayor and other council representatives. As part of the visit, the delegation will go to A&M EDM from Smethwick where they will have a tour of the premises and find out more about the company’s position within the local automotive supply chain.

The delegation will also meet Paul Mountford from the Business Growth Team who will brief the group on the current business prospects in Sandwell, in addition to highlighting the regeneration plans that are changing the face of the borough.

This is not the first visit to Sandwell by Chinese delegations and future visits for 2016/17 are planned. This shows the global exposure that Sandwell is attracting and we are keen to build on the success of these relationships in realising export and inward investment related success.

Keep an eye on the news pages of Think Sandwell to find out how the visit goes.
Supertouch®

Celebrating 20 Years of Success

Entering into its 20th year Supertouch, the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Workwear specialist, is marking its birthday with the opening of a new head office at its distribution centre in Smethwick.

Founded in 1996 by Parvez Akhtar and his family, the firm was originally based in Brentwood, Essex, but made the strategic decision to relocate the entire business to the Midlands, to help support its continued growth and expansion.

Commenting on the move and anniversary, Sarah Bridge, Managing Director at Supertouch said: “The opening of the new site in Smethwick is as much a celebration of our history as it is our future. PPE and workwear has changed over the last 20 years but the safety needs of our customers remain the same. As one of the largest manufacturers and suppliers of PPE and Workwear in the UK, we’re proud of our rich heritage, our people and our new location in the Midlands.”

Read more about Supertouch’s success on the news pages.

Let’s Work Together

Sandwell Council and Sandwell College have recently embarked on a new and exciting collaborative working project to ensure that Sandwell’s businesses have access to the best business support offer possible.

Together we will be offering business support and advice to businesses of all sizes ranging from funding, property and growth to skills, training, apprenticeships and networking.

We will be working together to promote the Sandwell College Commercial Offer which will give local businesses the opportunity to access high class training to suit their individual needs. More information about this offer can be found on the Think Sandwell Business Services pages or Sandwell College’s Employer pages.

Fork Lift Truck Qualifications

Delivered in our modern, fully equipped training centre in West Bromwich, or on your company premises if you have facilities available. All courses are approved by RTITB and nationally recognised.

We offer:

- Fork Lift Conversion (up to two days) – designed for certificated operators who may be required to operate more than one type of truck
- Fork Lift Truck Novice (up to five days)
- Fork Lift Truck Experienced (up to three days)
- Fork Lift Truck Refresher (one day)

Call us on 0121 667 5018 for more information, available dates and costs.

For more information call our Employer Team on 0121 667 5018
www.sandwell.ac.uk

Sandwell College is excited to be offering the NEBDN National Diploma in Dental Nursing, in addition to the existing City & Guilds Advanced Diploma. The NEBDN National Diploma is a General Dental Council (GDC) recognised qualification to give trainee dental nurses Clinical, Communication, Professionalism and Management and Leadership skills. It can then be used as a platform to develop their career with post registration qualifications.

Applications are now being taken for the next course starting in November. Do you qualify for a free place? Call us now for more information and funding eligibility criteria on 0121 667 5018.

NEW DENTAL DIPLOMA

Sandwell College is proud to be supporting Acorns Children’s Hospice this year. We would like to thank all stallholders at our Community Summer Market, including Holly Hall Academy, and all of the local businesses who kindly donated prizes, helping us raise almost £760 for the charity.

Please contact our events team on 0121 667 5359 or events@sandwell.ac.uk if you are able to get involved in our annual Christmas Market on Monday 5 December, or would be happy to donate raffle prizes to raise further funds.

We are pleased to announce that we are offering a range of FREE qualifications for your existing employees via an Apprenticeship qualification from our Professional Services department.

Your staff can upskill and gain accredited qualifications in Business Administration, Customer Service, Team Leading and Management, whilst updating their Maths, English and ICT skills at NO cost to your organisation. This qualification is available for all staff aged 16- retirement! We have a limited amount of funding so please do call one of our dedicated Apprenticeship Team members now on 0121 667 5018 or email apprentice@sandwell.ac.uk and one of our team will arrange to come and meet with you and your staff to discuss your training requirements.