



Students Take Off For VIP Tour of London City Airport

Two groups of Havering Sixth Form College students were flying high after a VIP visit and tour of London City Airport in the Docklands.

The students, who are all studying for the BTEC National Diploma and Certificate in Travel and Tourism got a taste of life working at an airport and were able to view the latest advances in technology which gives passengers a speedy check-in.

High visibility vests were the fashion of the day as the students, who all joined the college this term, were taken landside and airside to learn about boarding procedures, security and PR. They got a chance to speak to staff in different departments, view the recently refurbished lounge area and were given an informative talk by airport managers.

The visit was held in two parts with one group of 13 students going on September 30th and the other on October 21st.

Students Hannah Markwick, Lisa Pigeon and Jessica Hampton all said the trip was enjoyable and interesting, adding that it was "better than learning out of a text book" and that "it has given us a good idea of the type of jobs you can do at the airport, including HM Customs Officers".

Travel and Tourism tutor Lorraine Barnett said: "The trip enhanced the learning opportunity for students, giving them the knowledge of real-life operations in a busy airport that they can then use in the completion of their BTEC and Airline qualifications.

"It has given them the opportunity to explore the type of careers available at the airport that are less obvious, such as work in Customs & Excise, PR and Community Relations."