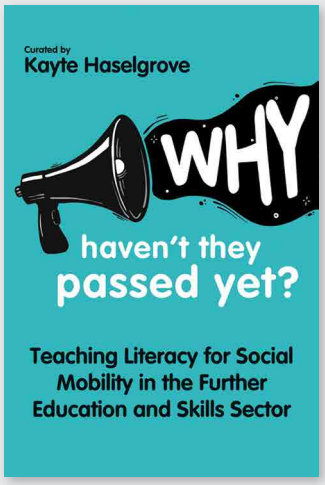
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PRESS RELEASE

"This book will resonate strongly with practitioners seeking thoughtful, evidence-informed approaches to supporting learners beyond the narrow goal of exam success."
Dr Rebecca Fisher, CEO, The English Association



Why Haven't They Passed Yet?

Teaching literacy for social mobility in the further education and skills sector

By Kayte Haselgrove

ISBN: 9781785837500
Price: £18.99
Published by: Crown House Publishing
Date of publication: November 2026

Invites teachers to look deeper - beyond grades, targets, and accountability measures to the real barriers learners face in developing literacy.outcomes or a step up the ladder.

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Why haven't they passed yet? Perhaps we're asking the wrong question.

The government's latest commitment to give colleges greater flexibility in English and maths teaching for young people returning to education is a welcome opportunity to rethink how we support learners who have struggled.

FE Week[1] reported last week that Lucy Powell's proposals could allow more personalised support, including one-to-one and small-group teaching, as part of efforts to re-engage young people not in education, employment or training (NEET).

But isn't changing teaching hours only part of the answer?

For many young people, returning to English lessons is daunting. It can mean confronting years of disappointment, frustration and the feeling that they aren't good enough.

In *Why Haven't They Passed Yet?* curated by Kayte Haselgrove, the focus moves beyond exam results to explore the experiences, confidence and identities that learners bring into the classroom.

Repeated failure shapes how young people see themselves as learners. Rebuilding the confidence that they have lost is just as important as developing the skills needed to pass an exam.

If we are serious about helping more young people remain in education and progress towards employment, we must look beyond qualifications alone.

Greater flexibility could be an important first step. But meaningful change begins when we stop asking why learners haven't passed and start asking what they need from us, so that they may succeed.

Essential reading for the Further Education and Skills professional development market, aimed at English and literacy teachers working with post-16 learners who are resitting qualifications or struggling to engage with traditional approaches to learning.

1 See here: https://schoolsweek.co.uk/why-this-gcse-system-is-no-longer-fit-for-purpose/

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PRESS RELEASE

"For leaders, practitioners and policy-makers alike, Why Haven't They Passed Yet? is both a challenge and a call to action."
Danny Metters, Principal and CEO, Bishop Burton College and Riseholme College

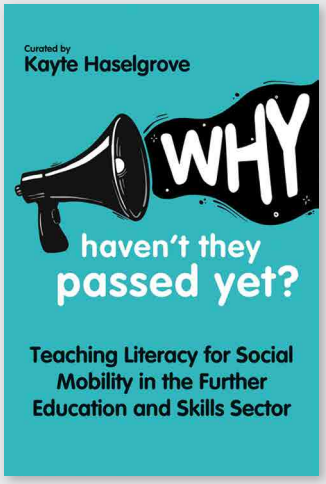
About the author

Kayte has worked in the FES sector since 2009, starting with a career in tutorial and pastoral care, before moving in to teaching functional skills and GCSE English and leading maths and IT. Kayte has held a number of roles across several general and specialist FE colleges, including advanced practitioner for English, English subject leader, head of department for English and maths, aa well as head of teaching and learning and teacher training.

Articles and interviews available

Kayte is available for interview, expert comment or by-lined articles on a range of topics, such as:

- Why Haven't They Passed Yet? Perhaps We're Asking the Wrong Question
- Beyond GCSE Resits: Why Rebuilding Confidence Matters as Much as Passing Exams
- Breaking the Cycle of Failure: Rethinking English Education in FE
- A Second Chance at Success: How Can We Better Support Disengaged Learners?
- More Than a Qualification: Why FE English Needs a Different Approach



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