

14-19 NEWSLETTER



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Happy Christmas to everyone

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Learner Entitlement

Schools in South Gloucestershire continue to be active in embedding the principles of the Learner Entitlement, including Curriculum, IAG and the Environment, in their day to day activities and in strategic planning. Good work was shared at an Entitlement Workshop in July, held at UWE, when students from five schools presented how they are approaching this process. This in itself was a great demonstration of student voice in action, as pupils from Year 7 upwards described what they have been doing in their schools and then went on to plan with their teachers the activities they would take forward into 2008-2009. Each school is focusing on a different aspect of the Entitlement and activities undertaken so far included:

Mangotsfield School: using a video of learners discussing what they thought of lessons and how to improve their learning at a staff INSET day.

Filton High School: a School Council has been convened to look at school uniforms, the new school building and bullying.

Downend Secondary School: the School Council is currently working on a new plan for the dining room and a virtual gym.

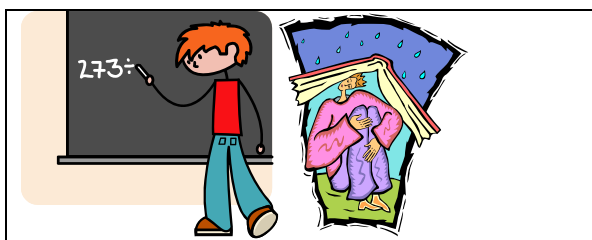
Patchway Community College: focus groups for each of the three strands have been established:

- Curriculum: observing lessons
- IAG: designing a help booklet for Year 9 pupils
- Environment: looking at health and safety, behaviour and the school site.

Bradley Stoke Community School: making a video for the New Year 7s so they don't feel so nervous moving up from Primary School and an anti-bullying PowerPoint. The School Council also sits on interviews for new staff.

The Learner Entitlement document will be reviewed for September 2009 and proposals for an online version will be the subject of a further Workshop on 26 January 2009.

Jez Truelove will be in touch with schools before the end of term to confirm arrangements





Vocational Developments

The huge increase in Vocational provision in our schools over the last 2 years is beginning to make a significant impact on our KS4 5 A*-C results which should be evident again in July 2009. Increase in vocational provision is continuing although some have now been replaced with the new Diplomas. Vocational data currently being produced will be available from early January 2009.

We have recently secured funding from LSN for over 30 days consultancy support in 11 vocational areas. Resources resulting from this work will be showcased and available at an event on 16 July 2009 at BAWA.

In addition, the KS4 Achievement Programme, Managed by Sue Morgan, is also supporting those vocational areas where there is no LP/AST available to support our schools.

Work is also taking place with SENCOs, PRU and Travellers Service to identify alternative accredited vocational qualifications that can be delivered in short periods of time. These will be presented in the afternoon of the SENCO conference on 12 February.

For further information please contact Pam Hayes.

Foundation Learning Tier

Work continues on the 'gap' from Entry to level 2 in the form of the FLT. By 2010 a revised set of credit-based units and qualifications will be in place with clear progression routes through Entry Level and Level 1 to Level 2. The purpose of the FLT is to raise participation and achievement amongst learners and help them to progress through work and life.

Diploma Update

Concorde

Gone through Gateway 2 and from Sept 2009 have approval to run:

Construction and the Built Environment
Engineering
Creative and Media
Business and Finance

Approval to run Land based Studies and Society Health and Development from Sept 2010.

Applied through Gateway 3 to run:

Hair and Beauty
IT
Travel and Tourism
Sport and Leisure

Kingswood

Already started running first 5 lines (Creative and Media, Engineering, Construction, IT and Society Health and Development). Over 400 learners now engaged in new diploma programmes.

From Sept 2009, approval to run Business and Finance, Hair and Beauty, Land based Environment, Manufacturing, Hospitality and Catering.

Applied through Gateway 3 to run the following from Sept 2010:

Public Services
Retail
Sport and Leisure
Travel and Tourism

Yate/Sodbury

Applied through Gateway 3 to run the following from Sept 2010:

Manufacturing
Hair and Beauty
Creative and Media

Outcomes of Gateway 3 will be known by March 2009.

Employer Engagement

Caryl Nurse - newly appointed Teaching and Learning Adviser (Employer Engagement and WRL)

Working with employer groups, eg Federation of Small Businesses, Business West.

Working strategically with large employers such as Rolls Royce, Axa, MoD, to develop a coherent approach to working with schools, training providers, FE Colleges and HE to minimise the demand on their time in this economic climate.

This work will be about engaging them in a different way of working with schools that is beneficial to both, eg curriculum development, generation of resources, and utilisation of working specifications and materials.

EBP (Education Business Partnership) for the West of England, which was launched in July, is now fully operational and offers a brokerage service between schools and business. Please contact them for visits, visiting speakers, focused group work, etc.

Contact details: ebp@connexionswest.org.uk

The EBP continues to offer professional development places for teachers (PDPs) and these have proved very useful. Forthcoming opportunities include:

21 January 2009, Engineering - Fleet Air Arm Museum, Yeovilton

22 January 2009 - IT in the Workplace - UK Hydrographic Office, Taunton

23 January 2009 - Business and Finance in the Workplace - Clarks International, Street

3 February 2009 - Science, DT and Engineering - Western Power Distribution, Taunton

Contact details: achlebik@connexionswest.org.uk

Post 16 developments

Vocational learning Post 16

As the number of students at KS4 engaged in Vocational learning increases, so provision post 16 is having to change to address this need. We are now delivering more vocational programmes at Level 2 to 3 in KS5. Examples of recent introductions include BTEC National Qualifications in Sport, Business, ICT, Retail, Public Services, Early Years, Health & Social Care. Also introduced this year are Hairdressing and Holistic Therapies.

With the increase in participation age in the future rising to 18, provision will need to broaden even further with consideration of a 3-year sixth form becoming the norm. The BP Forum on 25 February 2009 will be looking at this issue.

Post 16 Improvement Strategy: Bristol LSC Launch date 20th January 2009

A teacher resource pack for Post 16 Improvement, has been purchased for all South Glos schools. The purpose of the pack is to raise the profile and support development of high quality teaching and learning in school 6th forms and includes vocational learning. The LSC have arranged a launch training day on 20 January 2009, further details will be sent to schools.

Achievement and Attainment Tables

New to the 2008 Achievement and Attainment tables is the KS4 to KS5 Contextual Value Added Measure (CVA). An explanation of this can be found in the 'Guide to Post-16 CVA' available on the following website: www.aatchecking.com.

Consultation on LAT Value Added Measure

The LAT VA measure has been proven to be statistically reliable and there is an intention to establish its regular use from September 2009. It is recommended that Heads of Post 16 download a copy from the following website and, where possible, provide feedback which will help inform future use and development. www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/080160

For further details contact Tracey France

Forthcoming training/events

Vocational Best Practice Forum: Severnside

5 February 2008, 1.30 – 3.30 pm

Theme: "Understanding the different vocational related qualifications"

Vocational Showcase: BAWA, Concorde Suite

16 July 2008, 10.00 – 3.30 pm.

Specialist vocational teams of teachers and students from S Glos schools will be showcasing their work and sharing resources.

Post 16 Best Practice Fora dates for 2009:

- Wednesday 25 February 2009 (venue tbc)
- Thursday 18 June 2009 (venue tbc)

Diploma support available (no cost involved):

Inside the Diploma – looking at how the various components of the Diploma work together (line specific)

Inside the Workplace – working with and engaging employers (line specific)

Bespoke training – to support teaching teams delivering the Diplomas

Contact: Kate Greet, kate.greet@ssatrust.org.uk or register online at: www.diploma-support.org and go to Training and Support.

Pam Hayes and Caryl Nurse will also be running some Diploma Familiarisation sessions during 2009.

For further details contact: Pam Hayes

Contacts

Pam Hayes, Teaching and Learning Adviser (14-19)

Email: pam.hayes@southglos.gov.uk

Tel: 01454 868928

Caryl Nurse, Teaching and Learning Adviser (Employer Engagement and WRL)

Email: caryl.nurse@southglos.gov.uk

Tel: 01454 868111

Tracey France, Teaching and Learning Adviser (Post 16)

Email: tracey.france@southglos.gov.uk

Tel: 01454 868928

Rusty Ansell, Work2Learn Co-ordinator

Email: rusty.ansell@ilton.ac.uk

Tel: 0117 9092374

14-19 Website

If you have anything you would like to be included on the 14-19 Website please contact Lorraine Morris.

<http://www.learningwithsouthglos.org/post14/index.htm>

Future editions will be available on our website

Useful Websites

BTEC Training Events: www.edexcel.org.uk/sfc/training/event-listing

Edexcel Diploma Events: <http://developments.edexcel.org.uk/diplomas/events/>

AQA Diploma Events: <http://www.diplomainfo.org.uk/diploma-events.asp>

OCR Diploma Training: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/training/>

All you need to know about the Diploma: www.qca.org.uk/diploma

Specialist Schools Trust: www.ssatrust.org.uk/14-19