

Avon Fire and Rescue School visits

Avon Fire and Rescue Community Fire Safety Officers in South Gloucestershire delivered our Arson educational presentation to 2,981 year 8 and 9 students during 2007 -2008 academic year to the following schools.

- The Castle School
- Brimsham Green School
- Chipping Sodbury School
- King Edmund Community School
- The Ridings High School
- Culverhill School Special
- Bradley Stoke Community School
- The Grange School and Sports College
- Hanham High School
- Mangotsfield School



Photo: Sir Bernard Lovell School Sept 2008

The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 places fire prevention at the heart of Fire and Rescue Service activity to support fire prevention work, including community fire safety, arson reduction and work with children and young people. Fire and Rescue Services aim to achieve a 10% reduction in deliberate fires by 31 March 2010 from 104,500 in 2001/02 to 94,000 (National Framework Document 2008 -11). Avon Fire and Rescue Service's way of contributing towards these objectives is through education, to raise awareness of the devastating consequences of arson.

We have received very positive feedback from groups that have seen the presentation. Whilst we understand the importance of adhering to the education timetable and curriculum, we have ensured that the presentation covers a number of National Curriculum aims and objectives, particularly in the fields of Citizenship and Personal Social Health Education (PSHE), as well as addressing the Every Child Matters initiative.

It is Avon Fire and Rescue Service's aim to deliver the Arson presentation on an annual basis to all educational establishments involved with young people. We endeavour to revisit previous establishments in order to reinforce this message, as well as offer the same insight to new cohorts within the target age range.

Stuart Matthews – Risk Reduction Community Safety Officer

South Gloucestershire Avon Fire & Rescue

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AVON
FIRE & RESCUE

Choice Advice

It has been another eventful year for the Choice Advisors, in June we attended the first Choice Advice Conference which was held at Westminster University in London. There were presentations from a mixture of rural and city based authorities. For example Tower Hamlet a London Borough compared to Plymouth where the families are predominately from a naval background and many new to that area. It was very interesting to see the comparison in needs and how the other authorities deal with such a variety of queries.

In June and July we contacted all the Primary schools in South Gloucestershire with information about Choice Advice and information leaflets were given to all year 5 pupils. This proved to be very successful as this led to further requests to meet with parents/carers who needed more in depth advice.

We also visited and held information sessions at the Sure Start Children's Centres, Pre-schools, Playgroups, Day Nurseries and Parent Toddler Groups in June, July and August. These sessions were very well received and as a result we have been asked to arrange more over the coming months.

September and October has been a very busy time as the four Choice Advisors, Jeannette Edwards, Kath Davidson, Claire Featherstone and Scott Brooks have been attending all the Secondary School Year 7 Open Evenings. During this term we have spoken to over 500 parents amongst those, seven who did not have English as a first language. Five of those parents made an appointment to speak to us again and we were able to help in more detail. We arranged meetings at The One Stop Shops and in the CYPIS office at Riverside Court. We were also able to speak with several parents who live in rural communities and explain transport entitlement. We assisted three parents who had a child with special educational needs, ranging from mobility and hearing needs. Visits were arranged with the schools they were interested in and where the SENCO discussed the specific needs of the child, followed by a tour of the school and the facilities which they could offer.

We have seen a rise in applications for a school place from parents/carers from Eastern European countries, in particular from the Polish community, we are very fortunate to have a translator who works in Riverside who is able to assist with translation.

The aim of Choice Advice is to target:

- Parents/carers of children transferring to secondary school who do not complete an admission application form
- Disadvantaged parents/carers who have difficulty navigating the school admissions system and need support in maximising the likelihood of successfully securing a place in a school which best meets their child's needs. Such support may also include explaining factors, which may restrict parental choice.

Of these parental groups targeted they are likely to include parents/carers of children in Year 6 of primary school who themselves may:

- Find it difficult to engage with the current primary school
- Experience problems with their own reading and writing
- Are parents of children in care
- Have English as an additional language
- Are new arrivals to this country
- Are frequent movers
- Live in areas of deprivation and self-refer for help

By offering this service to parents/carers we aim to help families optimise their school choices. This will ensure parents are more likely to get the best place for their child and should also result in the reduction of late applications and appeals.

Kath Davidson

'Starting Year 7' DVD

During the summer holidays the Children and Young People Department posted a DVD to every child leaving primary school, to help them prepare for 'Starting Year 7'.

Funded in part by a Government grant, the DVD aims to ease concerns for both pupils and their parents in this time of change.

Philip Matson, Extended Schools Strategy Manager for the Learning & School Effectiveness Service said,

"We hope parents and their children watch the DVD together and discuss some the issues it raises about the important transition from primary to secondary school."

Julie Embury, DVD Project Manager, said:

"The DVD has been very well received by both parents and children. There is a new website, www.startingyear7.info, which includes online games and activities to help children get ready for year 7 and links to other useful information including your new school's website, local libraries and much more!"

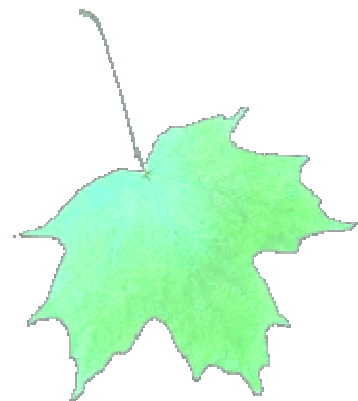
The department commissioned the Knowle West Media Centre to make the DVD. Penny Evans, Moving Image Programme Manager at the centre, said:

"We are really pleased to be part of such an exciting project working in partnership with the excellent team from Children and Young Peoples Service. A lot of hard work and energy went into the production and we know many of the participants will be eagerly looking forward to seeing it!"

Included with the DVD was a chance for the pupils to enter a prize draw by returning their completed evaluation forms. Over 230 evaluations were returned and there were 25 lucky winners of gift tokens. Everybody who returned a form will receive a small gift as a token of gratitude.

Jeannette Edwards, Manager, Children & Young People Information Service and also part of the project team, said,

"We hope that parents will find the information on 1Bigdatabase (a web based resource of activities and support in South Gloucestershire, Bristol, Bath and North East Somerset) and the Children & Young People Information Service helpful when looking for support with their children. We would also like to thank the library service and the Bikeability project for their support in this project", she added.



New Diplomas

The Diploma, which will be offered at Foundation, Higher and Advanced levels, is a new qualification which combines practical experience with theoretical study. The aim of the Diploma is to provide young people with:

- essential knowledge and skills that employers and universities look for (eg teamwork, self organisation, critical thinking)
- opportunities to experience different styles of learning in school, college, workplace, with emphasis on practical activities and an integrated curriculum
- opportunities to experience work in one of the main employment sectors
- flexibility and choice with options to pursue their interests, whether this is further study or employment
- an insight into what work is really like without committing them to a career too early on

Diplomas will cover 17 areas of study, referred to as lines of learning and should be available to everyone by 2013. Each Diploma will comprise an integrated programme of study made up of:

- Principal learning – sector specific programme of study
- Specialist/additional learning – to compliment the Principal Learning (BTECs, GCSEs etc)
- Functional skills - a minimum standard in English, Maths and ICT
- A Project (extended project at Advanced level)
- 10 days work experience in an area related to their Diploma.

Those following the Foundation and Higher diplomas will be able to advance to the next level of Diploma, take a different type of qualification, eg GCSE, A level or Apprenticeship, or go into employment with training. An Advanced Diploma can lead to university or employment.

In South Gloucestershire, the Kingswood and Concorde Partnerships are offering the following programmes at Key Stage 4:

Kingswood Partnership – From September 2008	
Creative and Media – Levels 1 and 2	
Construction and the Built Environment – Levels 1 and 2	
Engineering – Levels 1 and 2	
Society, Health & Development – Levels 1 and 2	
Information Technology – Levels 1 and 2	
Kingswood Partnership – From September 2009	Concorde Partnership – From September 2009
Business Admin and Finance – Levels 1 and 2	Engineering – Level 2
Hair and Beauty – Levels 1 and 2	Construction and the Built Environment – Level 2
Land based environment – Levels 1 and 2	Business and Finance – Level 2
Manufacturing – Levels 1 and 2	Creative and Media – Level 2
Hospitality and Catering – Levels 1 and 2	

For further information see web link: www.dfes.gov.uk/14-19/index.cfm?go=site.home&sid=47&pid=381&ctype=No

Steve Rogers

Building Schools for the Future

The Government introduced the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) capital investment programme in 2003, with the aim of transforming secondary education through the replacement or substantial refurbishment of all secondary schools over a 15 year period commencing in 2005-06. Following the launch of the first six 'Waves' of BSF, the Government has now asked Local Authorities (LA) not already in the programme – and that includes South Gloucestershire - to review and re-submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) in order that an updated list of priorities can be identified.

Timescale

Guidance has been issued by the DCSF and a revised and updated EOI must be submitted no later than 5pm on 30 November 2008. Following assessment, the DCSF will announce next Spring, the format and priority for the remaining programme, along with a invitation to high priority LA's to join the programme on a phased basis.

Background

Following an initial analysis of LA data, the early waves of the programme were prioritised and selected to address those projects in LA's which had significantly high levels of need in terms of social deprivation and poor educational standards. There are now 80 LA's in the BSF programme. South Gloucestershire was initially assessed to be in Wave 13 -15 (last wave) and in light of the distant timescale for entering the programme, it was agreed that the LA would embark upon a process of master planning for all secondary school sites. This work is reaching its final stages and as well as helping secondary schools with their Development Plans, the information is being used to inform our updated EOI to join the BSF programme.

In anticipation of the need to update and re-submit an EOI, a number of stakeholder workshops and seminars have taken place regarding the need to keep people informed on BSF progress and to seek contributions to the development of a vision for transforming secondary education in South Gloucestershire. Additionally a steering group of head teachers, officers and advisers has met a number of times to provide support to the development of a draft Strategy for Change.

What we need to do

The early BSF waves were aimed at LA's with areas of significant deprivation and low standards of attainment. The latest guidance has widened the local criteria that can be used for ministerial consideration, however LA will still be expected to consider and address social need and standards as a priority in any new bid.

Projects must have educational transformation at their heart, and should also consider (in no particular order):

- social and educational need, including:
- National Challenge schools;
- less well performing schools;
- areas of deprivation;
- building need, (suitability and/or condition);
- contributing to local or regional regeneration, including opportunities for collocation with other public services;
- school reorganisation;
- sustainable communities, and new housing and population

LA's are required to consider the prioritisation of schools to be included in the programme and to identify phased groups based on an overall cost package; Phase 1 up to £80million and future phases between £80million -100million.

It should be noted that the overall funding to be made available to the LA will formula funded and based on 50% new build; 35% significant refurbishment and 15% minor refurbishment. It should also be anticipated that new build provision will most likely be provided through a private finance initiative contract.

Clare Medland

South Gloucestershire September Guarantee Success

The national September Guarantee is a guarantee that all young people should have an appropriate offer of education or training in place by the end of September. Last year this applied to all Y11 students and this year expanded to include all 17 year olds. It is the role of Connexions to ensure that every young person has a September Guarantee status recorded and to make sure that those without an offer are given information, advice and guidance. At the time of writing all young people in the groups above (in excess of 5,000) have a status recorded and 95% of Y11s and 89% of 17 year olds have an appropriate offer of education, training or employment with training. This puts us well within the top national targets (above 90% and above 85%). Connexions Personal Advisers will continue to work with those without an appropriate offer (many of them going into work but without recognised training) and to increase the positive outcomes.

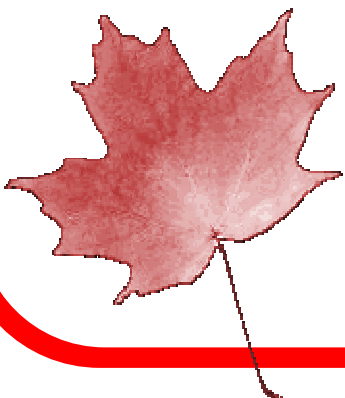
An important aspect of the Guarantee is to ensure adequate local provision in education and training for all young people. A panel has been meeting weekly, chaired by Connexions, bringing together representatives from education and training and from the LSC. The panel successfully gets behind the statistics to concentrate on the needs of individual young people. The commitment from all partners, in both time and enthusiasm, is great and has had a positive impact on many young people.

The Panel felt that a way of helping these young people was to show opportunities available to them through an event where young people and their parents/carers met with representatives from Filton and City of Bristol Colleges, KTS, Apprenticeships on Line and the Connexions Engage Project. The LSC spoke of the range of opportunities available within the construction industry and the current employment situation. Those who attended gave very positive feedback and felt that they had a better understanding of the industry they were trying to enter. Although numbers were small all those who attended have now started, or have an offer to start, relevant training. Connexions will maintain contact with them to increase chances of successful progression from their courses. There are plans to organise similar events for a wider range of vocational areas in the future.



Young People and parents finding out about opportunities in construction industry at the September Guarantee Event

The September Guarantee is only one part of the ongoing work to further reduce the numbers of NEET (not in education, employment or training) young people in South Gloucestershire but the commitment and energy of all those involved in making it a success is much appreciated.





On October the 6th October the South West Grid for Learning launched Merlin. Merlin is the foundation for school learning platforms in the South West of England and forms part of the broadband provision for schools in South Gloucestershire.

Merlin represents one of the most exciting changes in the way schools can engage students in reaching their full potential. With 24/7 availability students can access their learning anytime, anyplace empowering them to work at their own pace and in an environment they are comfortable with. Teachers can create and share learning resources allowing students to submit their work online. It also allows parents to support children in any learning which takes place outside school, communicate more effectively with teachers and engage with wider school issues through online communication and shared spaces; all in a safe secure environment.

Schools taking part in the pilot have identified one of the following areas to focus on; these top level headings highlight the strengths of Merlin in supporting schools with their implementation of:

- Learning
- Teaching
- Management
- Assessment
- Partnerships

As schools start using Merlin, the Schools ICT Management and Support Service have fully trained staff to provide first line support via the ServiceDesk. Over the coming months we are arranging training for our service technicians so they can support schools with any of their queries. If you would like further information please contact us at smarss@sgcyp.org.uk

Andreas Burt

South Gloucestershire Council Work Experience



Max Cooper

My name is Max Cooper and I am in year 11 at Brimsham Green School.

I have been doing work experience with the CYP Communication team at Riverside, Bowling Hill. I have enjoyed doing work experience here and have learnt a lot about what it is like to work in an office as part of a team.

The people I have worked with have all been helpful, which has made the experience more enjoyable for me. I have also learnt new skills, such as mapping and how to make a web page.

Plus, I have learnt that the council does a lot more than what I had first thought.

The Early Years Foundation Stage



The Early Years Foundation Stage came into force on 1st September 2008, giving provision for our youngest children the same legal status as already exists for the care and learning of older children. So what does this mean for our under-fives, their families and the hundreds of schools, pre-school settings, childminders, play-schemes and out-of-school organisations who care for them?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets out a wide range of requirements for all who

provide childcare for children up to the end of the first year at school. In this sense, “childcare” means more than simply looking after children and keeping them safe and happy – it also means promoting their learning and development. The EYFS applies to all children from birth, regardless of their individual backgrounds, circumstances or needs. It supports the larger national agenda, set out in the Childcare Act 2006, to improve the lives of children and their families, by helping to tackle disadvantage and underachievement from the earliest stages of a child’s life. The introduction of the EYFS is further supported by a major national drive to increase the levels of qualifications held by practitioners in early years childcare. Significant grants are available to help settings recruit, train and retain higher qualified staff, because we know that this makes a difference.

In South Gloucestershire a huge number of people are involved in caring for children in their early years: 305 childminders, 85 schools, 145 pre-school groups, 61 out-of-school clubs or creches. These are generally known as “settings”. Everyone who cares for the under-fives must comply with the basic requirements of the EYFS. They also have an obligation to commit themselves to continuous improvement – meeting minimum requirements is a starting point, not a goal in itself.

Despite all the high profile announcements and training programmes, the vast majority of the EYFS is not actually new. Over the past ten years or so, various legal requirements and guidance documents have been issued which set out the standards of care which settings must provide and describe what children’s learning and development should look like as they grow and mature through their early years. Increasingly, however, guidance on learning and development covers not only what children should learn, but also the ways in which their learning should be promoted. This is a major feature of the EYFS.

So in one sense, the EYFS simply brings all the existing law and guidance for childcare together in one place and gives it a more secure legal status, but its importance is far greater than this. After several years of national focus on ensuring that there is enough childcare in every community, everyone’s attention is now firmly fixed on continuously improving the quality of what is on offer. The EYFS represents a very clear statement of intent – that every child, regardless of background, circumstances and individual needs gets the best possible start to life. This is a goal which South Gloucestershire readily endorses and which has been set out in some detail in the policy document Quest for Quality. It is also the principal focus for the training which the local authority provides and promotes.

Article continued overleaf...

The Early Years Foundation Stage...continued

So what exactly does the EYFS cover? All schools with under-fives and all registered childcare providers must meet the basic Welfare Requirements. This encompasses aspects such as safeguarding, health and safety regulations, suitably qualified staff, inclusion for all children, insurance and record-keeping. Settings must also be able to show that they work as well as they can to support children's learning and development. This means respecting the uniqueness of each child, promoting positive relationships, establishing a supportive and stimulating indoor and outdoor learning environment and having a thorough understanding of what learning and development should look like at different stages of a child's early life. They are inspected against all these requirements by Ofsted and (for all except schools) must demonstrate to Ofsted that they at least meet minimum standards before they can even start operating.

Over the past two years the Local Authority and its partners have been working hard to prepare all settings for the Early Years Foundation Stage. There is active support for new settings, a wide range of training experiences, visits to settings by expert staff and an increasing range of opportunities for practitioners to come together and share their best practice. All the signs are that our settings are ready for the challenge. The basics are in place and many are already providing really good quality, but we are all ambitious for our youngest children and will continue to work together to make provision in South Gloucestershire as good as it can be.



Martin Wood
Senior Adviser (Early Years)
01454 863355 or
martin.wood@southglos.gov.uk

Other key contacts: Alan Thomas (Finance and Business) 01454 868113;
Jane Lund (Early Years Inclusion Support) 01454 863324;
Chris Spittle (Early Years Training) 01454 868118;

Children's Playlink (welfare requirements, organisation and committee support) 01454 865631;
Julie Marks (Childminding Development) 01454 868008.

Consultation on Draft Youth Service Future Strategy 13 October 2008 – 9 Jan 2009

We have recently completed a review of Youth Service provision in the context of the overall Youth Offer. Proposals from that review are contained in the Draft Youth Service Strategy which is now subject to consultation. The draft document proposes what the key contribution by the youth service should be in the context of locality working and an overall offer of opportunities and services to young people (the 'Youth Offer'). It also makes proposals for additional provision in localities where gaps have been identified, the development of a centre of excellence in each locality and a more strategic approach to the deployment of resources based on need.

For further details on these proposals and to respond to our online questionnaire, please visit www.southglos.gov.uk/youthservicefuturestrategy

Gerri Palfreeman, Head of Locality Services (Kingswood), 01454 863152

Developing the 2009-2012 Children and Young People Plan

The Children and Young People Plan or CYPP is the single overarching plan that sets out the priorities to improve the outcomes for children and young people living and growing up in South Gloucestershire.. It steers the work of the Department and provides the hook for linked partnership plans and is the basis for our divisional and sectional operational service plans. The council is legally required to produce a CYPP and our early adoption of this process and commitment to joint working have enabled strong progress on the issues identified as our priorities. The JAR judged our CYPP to be a good expression of our shared vision with ambitious targets and good strategic planning.

The current CYPP finishes in March 2009 so we are now preparing the new three year plan. This is the second three year CYPP to be produced following the original plan produced for 2005-2006. Many of the priorities identified in the current plan could not be progressed without the enthusiastic involvement and engagement of schools and other settings, other council departments, public sector bodies such as the health service, police and fire services, the voluntary sector, children and young people, their parents and guardians. The CYPP is the backbone on which detailed plans of the council and other partner agencies are built and it enables coordination and monitoring of all actions relating to children and young people.

The new three year CYPP will be produced with reference to a wide range of data, plans and survey results, interpreting the national agenda for children and young people locally. The Charter for Children and Young People, the Sustainable Community Strategy and Council Plan, the Local Area Agreement, the feedback from the Joint Area Review inspection, Annual Performance Assessment and other inspections and consultation with partners and service users are all used to inform the writing of the plan.

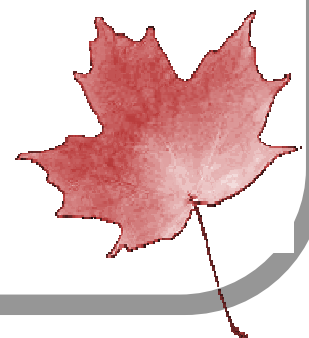
We have undertaken a comprehensive data audit and needs analysis and key themes and priorities are being identified. Lead officers for each theme have organised expert working groups in order to develop a more sophisticated understanding of the issues. Discussions within these groups will take place between August and October to develop each of the themes, along with meetings of the heads executive groups, locality steering groups, members of the voluntary sector, governors, Local Safeguarding Children Board, the Strategic Partnership, the Departmental Managers Network (DMN), Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Senior Managers Network (SMN).

On October 9th expert group lead officers and the project board meet to share information and to write each section of the draft plan. This is also an opportunity for the project team to discuss consultation requirements for the plan, locality analysis and any implications arising from the themes.

Full consultation on the draft plan begins in November and will take place for 90 days in accordance with the COMPACT agreement. This will include an online questionnaire, young people's event, youth summit, South Gloucestershire Viewpoint Panel, headteacher conference and voluntary sector event, as well as a focus for meetings of the Select Committee. There will be feedback to all consultees to ensure that any questions raised are replied to.

Writing of the implementation plan for the new CYP Plan begins once the three year plan has been agreed at the highest level.. A consultation report is scheduled to be published in March 2009. The CYP plan will be finalised early February to ensure it is ready to be submitted for executive decision by council cabinet on the 2 March 2009 and Council for final approval on the 25 March 2009. The approved final plan will be published in June 2009 and then promoted to ensure the priorities are firmly embedded in all services.

For further information visit our Children and Young People Partnerships website, www.sgcp.org. Click on 'Vision' and 'CYPP 2009-2012'.



South Gloucestershire Joint Area Review (JAR)

Final Report

These are the main findings of the report. Inspectors found that in South Gloucestershire, outcomes for most children and young people are good. This is what they wrote about each of the areas they looked at.



Service Management

Service management is good. Ambitions are clear and challenging and driven by strong leadership and good strategic planning. Engagement with parents, carers, children and young people in shaping priorities and services is good. Resources are allocated effectively to priorities. Capacity and value for money are good.

Safeguarding

There is strong inter-agency partnership work to ensure that the most vulnerable children receive effective services and those in need of protection are identified and receive a prompt and appropriate response. Services to support young people's health and well-being are generally good.

Looked after Children

Services for looked after children are good with timely and effective care planning, good stability and good quality care. The quality of social work with children and parents is also good. Health support needs are well met. Excellent education support ensures very good school attendance. Services for care leaves are good with effective pathway planning.

Learning difficulties and/or disabilities

Services for children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are good. Good multi-agency working ensures that children with more severe and complex difficulties are identified early and receive good assessment and support. The Learning and School Effectiveness Service provides very strong support. Inclusion is very well supported, transition planning is effective and high numbers of young people post-16 years are in education, employment or training.

You can read about what we have done and plan to do to address these areas in our post JAR action plan at www.southglos.gov.uk/jar

Teenage Pregnancy

The quality of the partners' strategy for addressing high levels of teenage pregnancy is good and based on thorough analysis. Activities are appropriately targeted and well co-ordinated. Partnership working at all levels is effective with good involvement of children and young people.

Participation

The impact of the partnership on empowering children and young people to contribute to service provision and to the development of their local community is good. A strong culture of participation, underpinned by a good strategy, ensures a good range of opportunities for children and young people, including those who are more vulnerable, to give their views and influence service delivery.



Areas for improvement

The areas identified for improvement are

- Performance management and data quality in aspects of social care
- Scrutiny of private fostering arrangements by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)
- Accessibility of information for parents and carers with learning difficulties and/or disabilities more systematic
- Feedback to children and young people who participate in consultations



You can read about what we have done and plan to do to address these areas in our post JAR action plan at www.southglos.gov.uk/jar

Investor in People Assessment

The Department for Children and Young People will be reassessed during week commencing 10 November. The Assessor will select approximately 5% of the workforce and those chosen will be advised during the next few weeks and will be invited to attend a 15-20 minute discussion with the Assessor during week commencing 10 November 2008.

This time the Department has chosen to be assessed using the Investor in People Profile which is based on the same principals and uses the same 10 IIP standards but looks into broader areas of people management and for each indicator assigns the Department one of four levels. i.e.

Level 1 represents an organisation meeting the standard and demonstrating good practice.

Level 2 represents an organisation exceeding the requirements of the Standard.

Level 3 represents an organisation significantly exceeding the requirements of the Standard.

Level 4 represents an organisation demonstrating excellent practice.

More information about the IIP process (including a realtime countdown) is available for those staff with intranet access at: <http://intranet/content/CYP/Department/EdCentral/pacs/iipArchive/iip.htm>

You can find out more about Investors in People by visiting their website at

<http://www.investorsinpeople.co.uk>

Sue Bryant



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

'LookUp' – Online e-library

Are you drowning in information? Do you always know where to find the latest report?

There is no longer any need for panic! Did you know that LookUp is our departmental e-library catalogue?

LookUp is a bibliographic database of over 2,600 titles of reports, procedures, serials and websites. For each record, information about the title, author, date, keywords and a substantial summary is provided, along with a weblink to either the intranet or the internet version of the document. Material is taken from a variety of sources including the various DCSF sites, Ofsted, and our partners' sites. Internal sources include CYP plans, procedures and policies, forms, and many other useful items that are on the intranet.

LookUp is available to staff with intranet access from the front page of the Department's intranet and once you are logged in, full instructions are given. You can do a word or subject search and once you have found the right record, you can link directly to the document, form, paper or website. It provides an easy way of searching indexed content on the intranet and internet.

How can you help...

If you have produced any publications recently and would like to add them to the ever growing collection on lookup, please send us a copy of the document and we shall be happy to add it for you. Make sure you include a document cover sheet and document reference number as this helps us to catalogue the document.

Otherwise, if you can't find the information you're looking for, please do not hesitate to contact the communication team on 01454 86 3372 and we will do our best to track down the material for you. You can also contact us for advice and help with document summary pages and document reference numbers

Annette Kayonde
Information and Communication Officer
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ext: 3372



The Care Forum – Member Benefits

There are many benefits to becoming a member of The Care Forum. You will be part of a network of local groups and individuals involved in health and social care whose collective voice helps to shape the development and delivery of community care, health and social services, housing and children's services in your area.

Any local voluntary and community group can get our newsletters, information sheets and e-bulletins, be part of our networks and influence local plans through our representation on multi-agency groups. To find out more ring 0117 965 4444, visit our website at www.thecareforum.org or download the membership form from http://www.thecareforum.org/about_us/membership_leaflet.pdf

The Care Forum Network Event - How will locality working and priority neighbourhoods improve partnerships and meet the needs of children and young people?

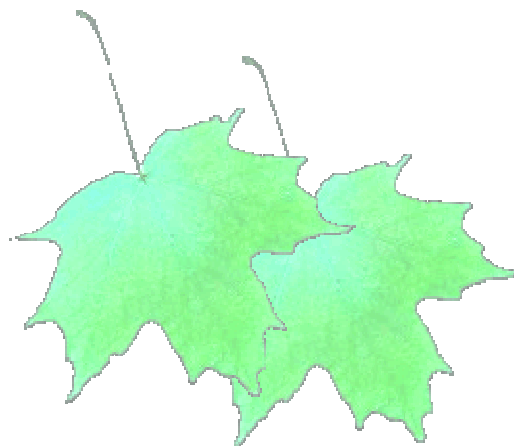
Thursday, 6 November, 9.45am-12.15pm

The Greenfield Centre, Winterbourne BS36 1NJ

A joint network event organised by The Care Forum and CVS South Gloucestershire. Geri Palfreeman, Head of Locality Kingswood at South Gloucestershire Council will lead the meeting. Attendees will be able to contribute to discussions on how this new way of working will change the way services are delivered and meet the needs of children and young people. The focus will be on how this will impact on the voluntary sector. To book contact events@thecareforum.org.uk (0117 965 4444)



The Care Forum





Children and Young People

Partnerships Website: www.sgcp.org



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Essentials

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- CIC Implementation Plan
- Integrated Working Team
- Professional Learning Community
- Safeguarding Children Board

What is the Children and Young People Partnerships Website?

An information portal aimed primarily at those working with children and young people in South Gloucestershire, including the private, voluntary and independent sector. The website provides direct links to key information on developments in children's services within South Gloucestershire, as well as hosting the Local Safeguarding Children Board's web pages and the Professional Learning Communities (PLC) training programme. The website also offers private communities to enable the children's workforce to share and disseminate information including draft minutes, documents in development and other group only specific communications, thus helping to reduce e-mail overload.

Do I need a username and password?

Most of the information available from the website is available to access without a login. If you are a member of a private community, you will require a username and password to gain access. These details will be provided to you by the CYP Communications Team.

What information can I find on the website?

Information available includes details of our Children and Young People Plan, including developing our new plan for 2009-2012, our partnership newsletters published quarterly, developments in locality working arrangements and integrated working, details of our recent Joint Area Review, participation of children and young people in what we do and quick links to our key strategies, plans and policies. The homepage is also regularly updated with news, events and updates to the website.

Can I contribute to the website?

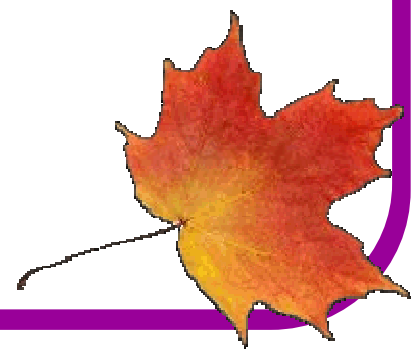
Members of the Children's Workforce in South Gloucestershire are encouraged to contribute to the website. Please contact the CYP Communications Team for further details.

Where is it?

To visit the CYP partnership website, enter www.sgcp.org in your web browser. If you have any comments about the website, please contact the CYP Communications Team (samantha.phillips@southglos.gov.uk) or telephone 01454 868949.

Simon Williams, Web Information Manager

simon.williams@southglos.gov.uk



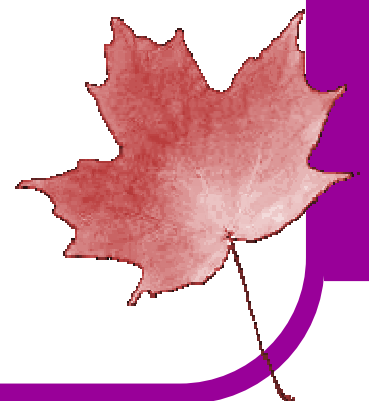
ContactPoint

ContactPoint is the new national database for all children and young people in England, it will be the quick way to find out who else is working with a child or young person, making it easier to deliver more coordinated support and improve services to children with a strong emphasis on early intervention and prevention. It will reduce the time spent trying to find out who else is working with a child or young person and has been designed to support the processes of integrated working and the Common Assessment Framework (CAF).

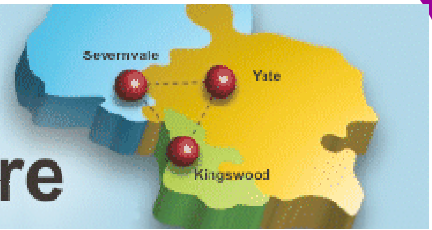
This basic online directory will be available to authorised staff who need it to do their jobs and is a key part of the Every Child Matters programme to improve outcomes for children. Before they are granted access, all users will have completed mandatory ContactPoint training and other relevant training such as information sharing, currently delivered as part of Integrated Working Training. They must have security clearance, including enhanced Criminal Records Bureau disclosure, and will need a username, a PIN, a personal security token and a password. Every access will be detailed in the audit trail, which will be reviewed regularly. Authorised users will be able to access ContactPoint through their case management systems, through a secure web link or through another authorised user.

There is a large amount of preparation work required to ensure all contributing organisations and partners which includes the local authority, PCT, Connexions, Youth Offending Team, Filton College and the Police, are ready for the deployment of ContactPoint which will be from May 2009 in South Gloucestershire. Some local authority areas which are known as 'early adopters' will have access to ContactPoint prior to this date, from Spring 2009.

If you receive any enquiries regarding ContactPoint, please direct any such enquiries to www.southglos.gov.uk/integratedworking or to the ContactPoint Team on 01454 865743.



Locality Working in South Gloucestershire



Yate Locality

The building for the new community health and children's Hub in Yate is now in progress with plans to open in autumn 2009. An artist's impression of the new centre and details of its location can be found on the South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust website: www.sglos-pct.nhs.uk

Staff groups to be co-located have been identified and more detailed planning is taking place as the building progresses.

Nick Aslett (new) Head of Locality, Yate.



Head of Locality

Nick Aslett

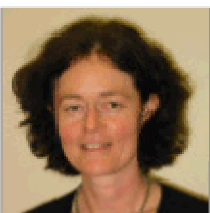
01454 863338

nick.aslett@southglos.gov.uk

Kingswood Locality

Plans for the Hub to be built on the Alma Road GP Surgery site in Kingswood are progressing well. The surgery itself is planned to be demolished and rebuilt with the new Hub closely aligned with both this and the Kingswood Civic Centre (also being refurbished). Although early in terms of planning and design, the aim is for the new Hub to be ready by late 2010. Staff groups to be co-located have been identified but yet to be finally confirmed pending finalisation of the current procurement process for a range of children's health services.

Geri Palfreeman, Head of Locality, Kingswood.



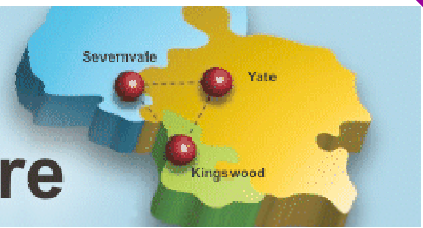
Head of Locality

Geri Palfreeman

01454 863152

geri.palfreeman@southglos.gov.uk

Locality Working in South Gloucestershire



Severnvale Locality

A site for the Severnvale Hub has yet to be confirmed with a number of options subject to further exploration. Staff groups have been identified for co-location but as with Kingswood, finalisation is subject to the current health procurement process.

Liz Crocker, Head of Locality, Severnvale.



Head of Locality
Liz Crocker

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BUILDING THE LOCALITY TEAMS

Our next priority in relation to co-location of teams in Hubs and integrated work is to build the integrated team in each locality. Managers responsible for teams who will be based in the Hubs met recently and contributed to discussions on models for future management arrangements. Follow up events for practitioners **and** managers who will be based in Hubs are planned as follows:

Kingswood	-	Tuesday 25 November (am)
Yate	-	Wednesday 26 November (am)
Severnvale	-	Thursday 27 November (am)

Further information will be forwarded to relevant staff soon.

INGEGRATED WORKING IN LOCALITIES

The Integrated Working Team has recently gone through significant changes. Jacquie Buckley left us for new pastures in July and Rachel Robinson has just begun a new position as Chief Executive of the Care Forum. Phillippa Wallis will now work full time as Co-ordinator of the Contact Point Project. We thank all three for their significant contributions to the development of CAF, Multi Agency Panels and lead professionals.

A new co-ordinator will be recruited as soon as possible. Reka Molnar Szanthy will continue to co-ordinate the CAF and Panel processes (supported by Steve Waters) including remaining training services. The chairing of Panels is being undertaken by a number of different people in the interim period.

We know the level of involvement and commitment to the Panel process by those involved is high we trust with your support that these interim arrangements will run smoothly.

If you have any queries please call Reka on 5734 or Steve on 8561.



What's been going on at SureStart recently...? Well ... Sevensvale Locality

The new Children's Centre at Conygre Road, Filton opened on Monday 29th September. The Centre stands in its own grounds and has a safe and secure outdoor play area at the back of the building containing lots of interesting and fun features. There are many activities currently taking place from the Centre including a Parent and Baby Group, Post-Natal Group and Parent Craft Group run by the community midwives and nurses and a Young Mum's Group. Stay & Play sessions run 3 times a week on: Wednesdays 10am-12pm and Fridays 10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm. A day to celebrate the opening of Filton will take place in the Autumn. Stay & Play sessions continue to run 3 times a week at Patchway, The Stokes and Thornbury Children's Centres.

Yate Locality

The Rural Vehicle continues on its rounds and visits Severn Beach, Charfield and Pucklechurch to deliver Stay & Play sessions for parents, carers and children. The vehicle visits Pilning where a Baby Café is held every other week. The 3 Stay & Play sessions held at Cranleigh Court Chapel is also supported by the rural vehicle and this will continue until the new Children's Centre, being built on a site next to Cranleigh Court Primary School, opens at the end of October. A day to celebrate the opening of Yate will take place in the Autumn. Stay & Play sessions also take place 3 times a week at Winterbourne Children's Centre and once a week at St Michael's School.



Kingswood Locality

Cadbury Heath Children's Centre held a 'Fun Day' at the end of July, where parents, carers and children enjoyed activities such as face painting, games and singing. The community police officer brought along a police van for the children to explore and everyone enjoyed story time in the outdoor play area. The community health workers continue to run breastfeeding, pregnant mums and health promotion groups from the Centre as well as groups run by Community Learning, Childminders and Mothers for Mothers. At Hanham Children's Centre the community health team hold Breastfeeding and Post-Natal groups and a Baby Clinic. Whilst Kingswood Children's Centre has been the meeting place for Adopters Coffee Mornings, therapy sessions and Pyramid. Stay & Play sessions run from all Centres 3 times a week including the Children's Centre at Staple Hill.



To find out more about the full range of services offered by your local SureStart Children's Centre, please contact the administrative team on 01454 862974 <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/NR/exeres/60bb6f62-df78-427b-95e1-08706146e2f4>

If you are interested in contributing to our partnership newsletter, please contact the editorial team on 01454 868959 or email samantha.phillips@southglos.gov.uk