

Children & Young People's Trust

Learning 14 +

Welcome to the new Education 14 Plus Newsletter.

The Diplomas are Coming

Work on the new Diplomas is gathering pace in Brighton and Hove. Since gaining approval to pilot the Diploma in Society Health and Development from September 2008. The Diplomas are a new style of learning & qualification aimed to enhance work-related learning and to challenge students to develop skills so that they are prepared for the world of work.



Learners, parents, governors, councillors and teachers attended an evening event at the Old Court-house last week with speakers from the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DfCSF). Practitioners from the schools and colleges involved in the pilot will be developing schemes of work and resources during this academic year.

The 14 -19 Development Consultant, Lindi Galloway will be giving verbal feedback to the DfCSF, via Cambridge Education Ltd, on an agreed date in late October/November, of the progress made to date on the Creative and Media and Construction and Built Environment Diplomas. In addition, the deadline for submission of the phase 2 Gateway applications in five further lines of learning for which the 14-19 Partnership Board has decided to apply is December 2007. If you would like more information regarding Diplomas please look at the Brighton & Hove Learning Partnership website.

3 new Diploma lines have been launched for implementation in 2011—these will cover Humanities, Science and Languages

Where to get more information on Diplomas go to <http://yp.direct.gov.uk/diplomas/>

Diplomas in Brief

There are 17 lines of learning which will be available to all students nationally by 2013

From September 2008
 Construction & the Built Environment
 Society, Health & Development
 Information Technology
 Engineering
 Creative & Media

From 2009
 Business Administration & Finance
 Environmental & Land Based Studies
 Hair & Beauty
 Hospitality & Catering
 Manufacturing & Design

From 2010
 Public Services
 Retail
 Sport & Leisure
 Travel & Tourism

From 2011
 Humanities
 Languages
 Science

14-19 Partnership Board has a new chair

Andy Schofield, Headteacher at Varndean School, is the new chair of the Partnership Board that is leading the local 14-19 reform agenda. Considerable headway has been made by the Board in working collaboratively to implement the Diploma entitlement by 2013, in all 17 lines of learning. In the coming year the focus of our energies are the issues of transport and timetabling to effectively enable students to move between the various institutions involved delivering the Diplomas.



Effective Engineering from the EBP

Therese Cole, the Education Business Partnership Consultant has managed to engage 3 local engineering firms who all want to work with our City's schools and colleges supporting engineering courses. This is fantastic news for the planning of the Engineering Diploma and for learners across the City.

Motivating Modern Foreign Languages

As a school with a specialism in Modern Foreign Languages Hove Park Secondary School has an impressive language lab and choice of different languages to study. As part of the Enterprise Education activities the EBP organised for 14 different businesses to come in and run activities showing 350 students how modern foreign languages can be used within the workplace.

Lunching and Learning

At the beginning of October the EBP will be organising a Lunch and Learn session for EDF Energy and other businesses, in conjunction with our schools advisors for Literacy and Numeracy. Over 40 people are interested in learning about how they can volunteer in local primary schools to provide one-to-one mentoring and joint activities to support the new Personal Finance Education. 20 volunteers participated in an event in January and are currently volunteering in schools across the City.

If you would like more details about the EBP please contact [Thérèse Cole](#)

14-19 Workforce Training package developed

Mark Whitby, Principal at the Alternative Centre of Education, and his team have developed a package of training support materials that 14-19 providers can access for free thanks to Local Intervention Development (LID) Funding from the LSC. It will enable staff to be better equipped to work with young people with a variety of additional educational needs, including social and emotional difficulties.

Further information can be gained by contacting Mark mark.whitby@ace.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Engaging young people

The DCSF have provided the City with funding for a KS4 engagement project and students will be placed into new learning environments from October 2007.

The Co-ordinator, Kirsten Trussell, will be responsible for managing 300 places which have been negotiated with a range of providers in subject areas including art and design, sport leadership, music technology, construction, brickwork, carpentry, catering, plumbing, motor vehicle and engineering and landbased studies.



The programme aims to engage Yr 10 & Yr 11 students who are currently not achieving within the school curriculum and provide them with opportunities to learn practical subjects in non-school settings. Schools are currently getting applications to Kirsten and then places will be allocated with courses starting, in general, after half term.

For more information about the project please email [Kirsten Trussell](mailto:Kirsten.Trussell)

Providers have also begun to develop additional vocational provision in some key curriculum and employment areas. Seven new Level 1/Level 2 courses began this year in subjects including Retail, Creative and Media and Engineering with over 100 young people enrolled on these courses in September.

The online [Area Prospectus for Brighton and Hove, East and West Sussex](#) went live on 1st October and was launched at the Sussex Skills Festival. The prospectus supplies details of all courses available for students aged 14 - 19. Publicity materials will be distributed to schools via the Connexions service. The website address is www.myfuturesussex.com

Sussex Skills Festival took place between 10th –12th October at Brighton Race Course. Stalls & stands regarding learning opportunities across Sussex were well attended by students and prospective students

The first phase introduction of the **E-ILP (Electronic Individual Learning Plan)** will be used with learners from 4 of the city's schools during 2007 – 2008 with full implementation planned for the next academic year.

The **Family Information Service** has launched its online services directory. The directory supplies details about all services concerning children/ young people and their parents/ carers. If you are an organisation that would like to be listed onto the directory please contact the family services team by telephone 01273 293545 or by email familyinfo@brighton-hove.gov.uk. The web address for the directory is www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/fis

Leading Teachers

The government first proposed the introduction of "expert" teachers to improve provision for gifted and talented students in the 2005 white paper, "Higher standards, better schools for all". Two years on this has become reality though the term has shifted to leading teachers.

From September 2007 each Brighton & Hove secondary school has had in place a leading teacher for gifted and talented education. The same applies within the primary phase but here the arrangement is for a leading teacher to work with a small cluster of schools. Their role is twofold:

- to develop effective classroom practice for gifted and talented learners
- to develop whole-school self-evaluation and improvement planning for gifted and talented provision and outcomes

The first of these is akin to the earlier role of gifted and talented coordinator but the second is a significant innovation. School self-evaluation will be facilitated by use of the recently developed Institutional Quality Standards – a set of statements describing good practice in different aspects of provision.

Leading Teachers are at the start of what should prove an interesting journey. They have undergone their first training session and already begun work to address their new role in schools. In the secondary context, this is a golden opportunity to further improve provision for the most able in not only KS3-4 but also KS5 where historically perhaps less has been done.

14-19 Strategy

The 14-19 Strategy for the next 5 years is currently in draft form and we are in consultation with the 14-19 Partnership Board, members of the City Council and the Learning & Skills Council. We hope that this publication will be available to download from the BHLP website by the end of October 2007.

Quality Assurance

For several years heads of sixth form from Brighton & Hove schools and colleges have met as a network group to discuss issues and share good practice. Over the last two years this has developed into a Quality Group, reflecting a new way of working developed in partnership by school and college, Local Authority and LSC staff.

Members of the Quality Group now have a sharper focus on further improving the quality of sixth form provision. An important aspect of this has been the development of Quality Assurance visits to schools with sixth forms by Local Authority and LSC staff. For the last two years annual visits have incorporated discussion of standards, teaching and learning, and leadership and management. This year has seen the addition of visits which include joint observation of sixth form lessons to confirm the quality of self-evaluation.

The hallmark of this initiative has been the partnership working which has seen each new stage thoroughly discussed and agreed by all parties. The intention is to maintain and further develop this joint approach – meetings are currently focused on ways of further improving Level 3 provision.

In 2006-7, the Family Learning team ran courses for about 550 Brighton and Hove families. These included speaking and listening courses for 1-3 years olds and their parents, the 'How Does Your Child Tick' parenting course, Family Literacy and Numeracy, Pre-School, National Test Literacy/ Numeracy and English as an Additional Language.

Cross county learning

We're currently co-ordinating an ESF-funded project with partners in Surrey and West Sussex in order to engage disadvantaged learners and to promote progression and achievement. In Brighton and Hove the project has enabled us to provide linked Family Learning courses at three schools so that learners can move on from an initial Family Learning course to take the National Certificates in Literacy and Numeracy. Some of these learners are now also moving on to an NVQ qualification course in order to become Teaching Assistants and are working as volunteers at their children's schools.

Going to Big School

We're also co-ordinating the roll-out of the Transition Information Sessions for parents whose children are starting either primary or secondary schools this term. Currently 50 schools in the city are signed up to the project, and will be delivering information sessions for parents and carers.

In 2007-8, we're soon to be involved in the development of Family Learning courses for Family Finance linked to the exciting new curriculum developments in this area.

If you would like anymore information about Family Learning please contact [Gill Meyne](#), Programme Manager Family Learning

Community Skills & Learning

This summer has been a busy time for the community outreach team. Many of our courses came to an end in July and we have been working with learners to support them to enrol onto further courses. Some of our successes include:

- A group of six Hollingdean women who passed their national certificate in numeracy (this course was run in partnership with Family Learning)
- A group of six Ethiopian men who passed their ESOL Skills for Life national certificate are now all enrolled onto painting and decorating or carpentry courses at City College

A learner who did our First Steps course, went on to do a Skills for Life course to improve her English and was supported to attend the Friends Centre course to advance her speaking, reading and writing skills. She has now found employment in a nursery and is studying to take NVQ level 3 in childcare.

We are continuing to work with "hard-to-reach" adults, living in neighbourhood renewal areas of the city, to enable them to access learning in community settings.

For more information, please contact [Bee Pooley](#), Community Skills and Learning Manager, on 293520 or any member of the team.

Excellent Research opens the door to more

Learner Involvement in Decision Making

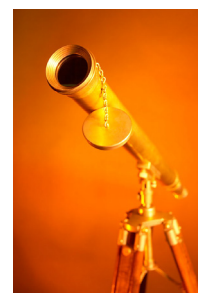
The Brighton & Hove Learning Partnership has been successful in securing a valuable research activity from the Centre of Excellence in Learning (CEL). The project *Learner Involvement in Decision Making*, was conducted by a member of the Learning Partnership Team; John Shuttle, and included the survey by questionnaire of all FE colleges across the South-East.

The report was well received by CEL who have selected the report from many submitted to be published in a volume entitled *Leadership and the Learner Voice* that will be sent across the Learning & Skills Sector, to major stakeholders, the DfCSF & DIUS, and other members of the academic community who are currently looking at this area.

The research challenges the trend for performance-driven change within institutions and places greater emphasis on values of trust, openness, care and respect as a means of forging shared values and encouraging greater ownership of all aspects of institutional decision-making.

To add to this success John has recently won a bid to run the following research project *Influencing Transformation through Student Voice*, which intends to build on the earlier research to explore relationship and communication styles within organisations and the impact of these styles on organisational change."

If you would like more information regarding the report or future research please contact [John Shuttle](#)



Adult Learning Strategy

The Adult Learning Strategy is now available for download. The strategy was created by the Adult Learning Group of The Learning Partnership and produced by John Shuttle. The document outlines how we will achieve a comprehensive delivery strategy for adult learning in the next 3 years. [Download the Adult Learning Strategy](#). Part of the strategy requires us to map provision and delivery and to achieve this the team have been working with City Stats to produce a physical map that highlight venues across the city used for learning. This will be used to feed into the capital building funding and strategic planning of provision. To find out more about the Adult Learning Group go to the [BHLP website](#).

Refreshing the LAA

Learning Partnership groups will have a key role in assisting the city to develop its revised Local Area Agreement. Between now and December Dan will be asking the 14-19, Adult and Workforce Development groups to develop business cases for activities, projects and ways of working that could be included in the final LAA. Key areas that have already been discussed include:

More formal, collaborative arrangements to the delivery of services to hard to help clients (including an outreach strategy)

The development of a single point of contact for employers to interface with education (supported by the Economic Partnership)

The **Brighton & Hove Learning Partnership** website is undergoing a face lift. Since the site was launched in 2005 a number of changes have taken place both with the team and for learning within the City. Over the next three months we will be making changes and we want your feedback. If you would like to be involved in testing new areas of the site or feel we should include other topics let us know by emailing [Tess Gill](mailto:Tess.Gill@brighton-hove.gov.uk)



Potential Funding opportunities

ESF 2008-13

The latest three year round of European Social Fund projects have been published and Dan Shelley and Neil Clarke, European Officer at the City Council, have developed a matrix for providers to express an interest in participating in the development of tenders. There are a number of 14-19 and adult skills focused tenders that the Learning Partnership is aiming to either lead or be significant partner in. For further information please contact Dan or Neil or download the outline of activities planned from

<http://www.esf2008-2011-se.org.uk/documents/Proposed%20ESF%20Activities%20SE%20Region.pdf>

Interreg IV

Interreg is a Community initiative which aims to stimulate interregional cooperation in the European Union. It is financed under the [European Regional Development Fund](#) (ERDF). BHLPP currently have a micro project submitted that will look at ways youth projects aimed at tackling disadvantage are developed and delivered here in the city and Lille in France. This will form the basis of a much larger Interreg IV application in 2008. Partners currently include Working Links and the Connexions and Youth Service. For further information on the project contact Dan or for wider Interreg information Abigail Freeman, Interreg Officer, Abigail.freeman@brighton-hove.gov.uk