

Noticeboard

Children and Young Peoples Services

In this week's edition

This electronic communications bulletin is
available on the North Somerset Website at
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/noticeboard

Vacancy Bulletins

The [Schools Vacancies Bulletin](#) for this week will be available on the website from
Wednesday 5 October 2011.

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Update from the Learning Exchange



National Updates:

Federation Leadership: Ofsted have published a [report](#) on leadership of more than one institution.

Consultations: New this week:

- Ofqual has launched a consultation on how to implement the GCSE Reforms that the Secretary of State has decided to make. Details are available [here](#).
- There are proposed changes to allow qualified teachers from further education and from the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand to become permanent teachers in English schools. Details are available at <http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/>

Arrangements for KS2 statutory assessments 2012

The QCDA have now provided further information on the arrangements for the 2012 statutory assessments at KS2 which can be found on the [October 2011](#) web page.

[Paul Jacobs](#), Assistant Director, Learning & Achievement

Bereavement Guidance

Please look out for the copy of "A bereavement in your school community" being sent to your school. The guidance has been updated as part of the TAMHS project. Further copies are available from the Vulnerable Learners' Service at a cost of £6.00.

[Gabrielle Stacey](#), Professional Lead for Educational Psychology and Interim Practice Development Lead - VLS

Closure of Creative Learning Agency (CLA)

The following is the official statement regarding the unexpected cessation of the Creative Learning Agency.

It is with regret that we announce the closure of Creative Learning Agency. We have been informed that the Board took the decision to close the organisation in August 2011. Consequently the CLA website will close in the near future.

CLA was set up in 2001 by South West Arts (now Arts Council England) with Bath & North East Somerset Council, Bristol City Council, North Somerset Council, and South Gloucestershire Council. Its remit was to provide arts education advisory services to artists, schools and arts organisations via an online information resource and register of artists. CLA operated for 10 years from 2001-2011 and had an office in Bath provided by Bath & North East Somerset Council.

We thank and acknowledge the energy and commitment of Donna Baber, Manager from 2004-2011, and Jackie Price, Administrator from 2006-2011, as well as other valued colleagues who have worked for CLA – Paula Daly, Annie Warburton, Annie Beardsley and Liz Milner.

The under-signed are arts officers for the local authorities which funded CLA, and were members of the CLA Steering Group until CLA became an independent company in January 2011:

Ann Cullis - Bath & North East Somerset Council

Katy Noakes - Bristol City Council

Mark Trego - North Somerset Council

Alison Catlin - South Gloucestershire Council

Many North Somerset schools have benefited from accessing artists, advice and guidance from the CLA for a number of years. In particular, the CLA has supported many of our Arts Mark schools with the process of obtaining this status and promoted the Arts Award in the area. Their services will be very much missed and we wish those who worked at the CLA well in the future.

Mark Trego, Music Service Manager

FFTLive

Key Stage 1 estimates have been available on FFT Live for the last 3 months. The number of users accessing the report has increased significantly over this period and overall feedback has been very positive. Although the KS1 reports are still in the development area on FFT Live, their use continues to grow. Therefore, please see the KS1 briefing paper outlining detailed background information relating to the model itself along with the accuracy and reliability of the estimates on the [October 2011](#) web page.

The document also includes further advice to users regarding the effective and appropriate use of this data.

Darren Parker, Directorate Web Officer

Supporting Anti-Bullying - Questionnaire

It is important that all schools feel able to support their pupils and families in issues around bullying behaviour and that colleagues also feel secure with guidelines and policy on anti-bullying. We are able to offer core support in strategic planning and additional training as part of traded services to support this work. Information is required from all schools so that we are able to review and support anti-bullying practice and policy, in order to meet an inspection framework and meet the needs of your school.

Please will all Headteachers **complete the questionnaire** on the [October 2011](#) and email it to me at maggie.dickinson@n-somerset.gov.uk.

Maggie Dickinson, Senior Lead, SEAL

Safeguarding in Education Officer

We are pleased to welcome Sarah Mellor to the Integrated Workforce Development Team. Sarah has recently been appointed as the Safeguarding in Education Officer. This role supports safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures in schools across North Somerset.

Sarah's initial work programme covers:

- Continuing the delivery of Whole School Basic Awareness Safeguarding Training for all school staff. This training should be completed by every school every 3 Years.
- Updating the Model Safeguarding Policy for circulation to schools next term. Guidance on Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education (Appendix 3 Page 83) stipulates that this policy should be reviewed annually and that every member of staff has access to and understands it. This guidance is available [here](#).
- Making training available for Governors in relation to their roles and responsibilities relating to safeguarding. Devising specific training and support for Designated Teachers. Details will be announced shortly and all staff who are in this role will be asked to attend.
- Providing quality assurance and guidance to schools and Governing Bodies of safeguarding issues. The Annual Safeguarding Audit is being updated and will also be circulated to schools and Governing Bodies next term.

Please contact Sarah if you have any questions relating to Safeguarding or if you would like advice on your current Policies and procedures.

Sarah.Mellor@n-somerset.gov.uk

07795 812249

01275 885507

Richard Blows, Service Leader (Strategy & Improvement)
Dawn Newton, Childcare Co-ordinator

Schools Liaison Officer

In August 2010 North Somerset Council entered into a partnership agreement with Agilisys and Liberata to work together to deliver a portfolio of services moving forward; North Somerset schools are a key part of those services. Under the traded services umbrella schools buy back services such as, but not limited to HR, Payroll, Finance and ICT.

To date it is recognised that the engagement with schools by our partners has not been as good as it should be. The Schools Liaison Officer role will be a key resource for the partnership in providing communications, value, engagement and sharing the benefits the partnership can bring.

The Schools Liaison Officer will provide schools with a key contact and route of escalation around the partnership services you currently receive. The officer will keep you fully informed and up-to-date about any changes and benefits your services can offer making sure your voice and requirements are dealt with in a timely and effective manner.

The partnership is delighted to welcome Laurence Marsh from the Commissioning, Contracts and Funding Team into the role of the Schools Liaison Officer. Laurence will be in contact with all schools to arrange individual, cluster and wider group meetings over the coming weeks. Chris Mcfall, Partnership & Business Improvement Team and Emma Whitehead, Commissioning, Contracts and Funding Team Manager will be supporting Laurence.

If you would like more information or would like to book your visit now please contact Laurence Marsh on 01934 426790 or Laurence.Marsh@n-somerset.gov.uk.

[Chris Mcfall](#), Partnership & Business Improvement Team

ParentPay

A reminder to primary and special schools that are interested in ParentPay, that the deadline to return your form for funding is **21 October**. This funding will be provided on the condition that schools would go live at the beginning of term 3 and take all of their official income through the system by the end of term. This funding will pay for the first two years subscription and training.

If you would like to take up this opportunity, please complete the funding form, which can be downloaded [here](#), and send it via email to CCF@n-somerset.gov.uk. Please also then send a signed copy to the address at the bottom of the form. These will be collated and passed on to ParentPay where a representative will be in contact with you to discuss the details further.

Schools will be asked to pay the invoice from ParentPay and then will be reimbursed at the end of the term they have gone live if they meet the conditions for the funding.

If you have any questions about this funding or ParentPay then please get in contact with me on 01934 426790.

[Laurence Marsh](#), School Liaison Officer

News from Churchill Primary School

International Award

We are thrilled to hear that our International Award application has passed the test! Our extensive work in school that covers cultures, traditions and lives around the world has been recognised by this special award as outstanding. All the staff have worked really hard to achieve this goal, especially Mrs. Humm who works with the modern foreign language student.

Bristol Half Marathon

This year's half marathon was completed by two of Churchill Primary School Deputy Head Teachers, Mrs. Lloyd and Mrs. Grant, also Tristan Wilson the Chair of our Management Committee took part. The training and commitment needed to finish the race is huge so we congratulate them all. We now have our Senior Leadership team, Chair of Governors, Chairs of Curriculum and Management Committees 'running' our school. We wonder if any other school in North Somerset has such a team?

[Liz Folkes](#), Secretary, Churchill Primary School

Arts Award for Oak Hill Students

It is with great pleasure that I can inform you that Oak Hill students have gained the Arts Award and their success is being celebrated in the Times Education Supplement. Our Centre has been included in a full page listing in the TES to appear on the 4 November.

Trinity College London and the Arts Council England have supported the development of so many young artists and arts leaders. The Arts Award aspires to support all young people to enjoy the arts, develop creative and leadership skills and achieve a national qualification.

The awards achieved by the students at Oak Hill have contributed to the 14,400 young people who have achieved awards nationally during the last academic year.

Kaye Palmer-Greene, Head of Centre, Oak Hill & Tuition Service North Centre

Housing Benefit Surgery

The Housing Benefit Surgery provides a drop-in service at Clevedon Children's Centre from 11am - 1pm every Friday. Upon arrival people will be seen on a first come first served basis.

Elaine Mortimer, Senior Business Support Administrator, Clevedon Children's Centre

Information Communication Sheets

Full copies of these documents and any attachments for the month of October can be accessed on our website at October 2011. Copies of Information Communication Sheets from previous months can be downloaded from the website at <http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/Education/Staff/communicationwithschools>.

		Target audience
1112/0009	Pathways out of Poverty Conference 11 November 2011	School Leaders and Governors, North Somerset Council (Members and Officers), partner agencies

Primary Headteachers' Meeting

Theme: Securing Excellence
Date: 20 October 2011
Time: 8:30am – 4:00pm
Venue: Coombe Lodge, Blagdon

This meeting will provide guidance on what will be expected in terms of the new inspection framework and statutory assessments. There will be updates at a national, local and regional level. Updates will also include:

- School Improvement Strategy
- School Self Evaluation Toolkit

- Data collection
- Target setting
- SILP programme

All Headteachers will have the opportunity to join three workshops during the day on:

- Securing excellence through coaching.
- Strategic planning for improvement in light of the new Ofsted Framework.
- Year 1 Phonics/Guided Reading, the Writing SAT and teacher assessment/Level 6 tests and the statutory assessments in 2012.

Please see the draft agenda on the [October 2011](#) web page and book your place via CPD online by clicking [here](#).

[Maxine Williams](#), Business Support, Learning Exchange

Save the date: New Schools Recycling Service Workshop

This FREE training session will be held at 10am on Friday 14 October 2011 at North Somerset Council Castlewood Office, Clevedon.

The training session will provide an introduction to the new schools recycling service, including why the new service has been introduced, what the new service offers, how to use the service, pricing details, and how to sign up. There will also be a question and answer session to deal with specific school enquires. The session will be led by Sophie Clarke, Recycling Education Officer, and David Goodship, North Somerset Council Waste Minimisation Officer. Please see the poster on the [October 2011](#) web page for further information.

To register your attendance for the session, please contact me by email sophie.clarke@n-somerset.gov.uk or on 07581625747.

Sophie Clarke, Recycling Education Officer (Waste Watch)

NQT Music Support

The revised music support for NQT teachers begins in October. All NQTs who will be delivering class music lessons are able to access two seminars and an in-class support visit.

The feedback from teachers that have accessed the previous support package has been excellent. The management of a classroom full of potentially noisy instruments can be terrifying to some new teachers and this support provides the balance of strategies and confidence that is needed.

For further information or to book a place go to [CPD Online](#) and download the document [Music Curriculum Support and Enrichment Offer 2011-12](#).

[Caro Barrett](#), Deputy Music Service Manager

Deputy Headteacher Assistant Headteacher Leadership Network

Three network sessions have been scheduled for Deputy and Assistant Headteachers in Learning Exchange Primary and Special Schools:

- Monday 14 November 2011, 2.30-5.00pm
- Thursday 8 March 2012, 2.30-5.00pm
- Thursday 31 May 2012, 9.00am-3.30pm

Places can be booked via [CPD Online](#). Please click [here](#) for full details:

[Chris Rush](#), Learning Exchange Adviser

Health and Safety Training in Schools

Please note that the following health and safety courses specifically aimed at schools are now available on [CPD Online](#).

EVC Training (full day)

29/11/11 - Town Hall

08/03/11 - Castlewood

For Educational Visit Co-ordinators with the responsibility for managing and verifying off-site activities.

New - Managing H&S in Schools (2.5 hours)

8/11/11 - Castlewood

20/3/11 - Town Hall

Advice and guidance on H&S responsibilities within schools and implementation of the H&S Manual.

New - Fire Safety Co-ordinator for Schools (3 hours)

17/11/11 - Nailsea School (additional dates TBC)

Training for the nominated fire safety co-ordinator at each school who is responsible for managing and co-ordinating fire safety on site.

Manual Handling for Pupils with Special Needs (3 hours)

22/11/11 - Castlewood

For staff involved in moving and handling of pupils with special needs

Further information and booking details are available on [CPD Online](#). Please note that additional H&S courses available to all council staff are also accessible to schools via CPD Online, e.g. **Manual Handling, Risk Assessment and COSHH**.

If you would like to discuss any of the above courses, please contact [Nicola Watkins](#), Senior H&S Advisor, telephone 01275 884675.

Developing a Parent Council or Parent Forum

Parent Councils UK are offering forthcoming workshops to support schools in developing their work on parent participation.

Thursday 10 November 2011, Midland Hotel, BRADFORD

Friday 25 November 2011, University of Sussex, BRIGHTON

Thursday 22 March 2012, National College of School Leadership, NOTTINGHAM

Friday 27 April 2012, Institute of Education, LONDON

Friday 22 June 2012, Francis Hotel, BATH

Would your school like help with setting up or developing a parent council, parent forum or parent class meetings? Would you like to explore ways to create a genuine partnership with parents at your school?

When parents are involved in their child's learning and in the life of the school, children do better. Parental involvement is thus a key lever for school improvement. The Education and Inspections Act (2006) places a duty on governing bodies of all maintained schools to have regard to the views of parents. Ofsted inspects schools on the way in which they listen and respond to parents' views in the judgement on leadership and management.

This half-day workshop for senior leaders, teachers, parents and governors will help schools develop an effective and valuable partnership with parents. Fiona Carnie has extensive experience of setting up Parent Councils and Parent Forums having led a DCSF-funded project on this theme. Fiona's latest publication *The Parent Participation Handbook* is published by Optimus in September 2011.

Cost of workshop £90 to include refreshments. The workshop takes place from 9.30am - 13.00pm. For further information or to book a place go to www.parentcouncils.co.uk or email info@parentcouncils.co.uk or see the flyer and booking form on the [October 2011](#) web page.

Correction: North Somerset Headteacher Conference 2012 3 and 4 May at Cadbury House Hotel

The conference will take place on 3 and 4 May 2012 and not as advertised in last week's edition of Noticeboard.

Can you help?

Next year we are drawing on the world of sport for leadership inspiration. We are currently putting together the programme and would be interested to know if anyone has contacts with high profile members of the sporting community who would be available to contribute to our event. Also, we are hoping to hear from current or former North Somerset students who would be able to showcase their talents or talk about their learning journey in their own sport. If you can help please contact the Conference Chairman, Peter Treasure-Smith at stnicholaschantry.pri@n-somerset.gov.uk.