

Noticeboard

Children and Young Peoples Services

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

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From the Director

Dear Colleagues

Last week I re-read my letter to you from this time last year and reflected on the many changes that have happened in between. Some of you now lead academies, many of you have led your schools through successful Ofsted inspections and all of you have contributed to improving children's life-chances.

The year hasn't been without its challenges but we've all responded to them through mature debates and arrived at creative solutions. Relationships between schools and local authorities vary hugely across the country and since May 2010 they have been tested - here in North Somerset I am proud to be part of a community that continues to have a shared commitment to its children and young people - structures and funding may change but our positive, 'can do' attitude remains constant.

On a more individual level I'd like to thank you for your support at various points during the year, particularly around the time of the ex-teacher's court case.

I hope you have a relaxing Summer and to those of you who will be pursuing other life ambitions from September I send my very best wishes for your future happiness.

See you next term.

Sheila Smith, Director of Children and Young People's Services

Provisional Headline Results for GCSEs and 'A' Levels

The provisional headline results for GCSEs and 'A' levels will be requested as usual from each Secondary and Special School on the results days. These will be compiled and used to feed back to schools and to provide a press release from the council. A pair of forms will be emailed to Heads and Examinations Officers on 19th July, with a request to complete and email back one to me on each results day. In schools with 6th Form would you ensure the appropriate person is aware of the 'A' Level request please.

If you do not receive these forms by 20th July or have any questions about this collection please contact me on 01275 884274.

Malcolm Lane, Management Information Manager

School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document 2011

Earlier this month the draft School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document 2011 was made available to Local Authorities.

The main proposed changes to the STPCD 2010 are:

- Provisions to enable a non-consolidated payment of £250 to unqualified teachers on points 1, 2 and 3 of the unqualified teachers' pay spine (and part-time unqualified teachers on points 1, 2 and 3 of the pay spine to receive the £250 payment, appropriately pro-rated).
- The introduction of new provisions relating to head teacher's pay discretions
- There is new text to explain the different categories of unqualified teacher.
- Directed time is 194 days, 1258.5 hours, with 189 days of contact time to allow for the school to be closed on the day of the special bank holiday to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Tuesday, 5 June 2012 (see separate Noticeboard article).
- No Round 12 Threshold Guidance to be published as Round 10 Guidance remains relevant

The final version of the Document will likely be published during the summer holidays.

Schools HR intends to circulate a short Briefing relating to the changes in the final version of the Document in September through *Noticeboard*.

[Piers Hartridge](#), Schools Human Resources

Amendment to the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document – Supply Teachers' Pay

The purpose of this article is to brief you on the implications arising from the additional Bank Holiday in June 2012 due to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and the resulting change to national regulations, given the financial implications in respect of supply teachers

Basically, the implications are the same as those of the extra bank holiday in connection with the Royal Wedding: the additional Public Holiday will reduce the minimum number of sessions for the school year 2011-2012 from 190 days to 189 days. This will result in a reduction in the number of days a teacher employed full time must be required to work from 195 to 194 days, a reduction in the number of days they may be required to teach pupils and perform other duties from 190 to 189 days and a reduction in the number of hours during which a teacher employed full time is required to perform their duties from 1265 to 1258.5 hours.

These changes will have implications for part-time teachers in that part-time teachers' directed time is a proportion of full-time teachers directed time.

Implications for Supply Teachers

Supply teachers' (those engaged on a day-to-day basis or other short notice basis) hourly rates will be based on a full time working year of 1258.5 hours rather than 1265 hours in the academic year running 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012. This means a small increase in hourly rate (an estimated average increase of £1.00/day in a supply teachers pay based on the supply teacher working a full day).

Payroll are aware of this change and intend to pay supply teachers who are paid through North Somerset the extra sum to which they are entitled at the end of the academic year (in August). The reason for this is that for technical reasons it will be impractical to reset the pay rates on the

system to facilitate altered payments on a month by month basis. Any queries relating to this aspect should be addressed to Payroll.

[Piers Hartridge](#), Schools Human Resources

Agency Worker Regulations and September Briefing Sessions

The Agency Workers Directive will be implemented on 1 October 2011 through the Agency Workers Regulations 2010.

The purpose of the Regulations is to provide temporary agency workers with equal treatment in terms of basic working and employment conditions as if they had been employed directly to do the same job. This will normally mean that agency workers will be entitled to the same rate of pay as a comparable employee and some (but not all) of the terms and benefits that the comparable employee gets after an agency worker completes a 12-week qualifying period.

Under the Regulations Agency Workers will also be entitled from day one:

- to be treated no less favourably than a comparable worker or employee in terms of access to collective facilities and amenities and
- to be provided with information about any relevant job vacancies that would be available to a comparable employee or worker.

These regulations will apply to agency supply teachers and support staff and will therefore affect schools and the agencies that supply staff to schools.

Government guidance specifically relating to supply teachers is due shortly.

Once this guidance is available, Schools HR will be issuing a Briefing to schools on the Agency Workers Regulations and their implications for schools.

We will also be holding two Briefing sessions for schools on the Agency Workers Regulations:

Briefing 1: Tuesday 13 September 2011 (12.00 – 1.00 pm) at Castlewood (Room G08)

Briefing 2: Wednesday 14 September 2011 (12.30 – 1.30 pm) at the Campus

These sessions are aimed at those in schools who make decisions regarding the recruitment and use of Agency Workers, including Agency Supply Teachers and Support Workers.

Please let us know if you wish to attend by posting or e-mailing the form (available on the [July 2011](#) web page) to me at piers.hartridge@n-somerset.gov.uk **as soon as possible and by Tuesday 6 September 2011 at the latest**

[Piers Hartridge](#), Schools Human Resources

Flexible Working

Please be aware that parents of any children under the age of 17 (or 18 if the child is disabled) have the right to request flexible working.

We have updated the wording of our Flexible Working Policy accordingly. Please find the updated version on our [July 2011](#) web page.

[Piers Hartridge](#), Schools Human Resources

Revised School Admission Arrangements for 2012-13

Head Teachers and Chairs of School Governors were invited to respond to the consultations on the proposed admission arrangements for all schools including Admission Numbers, over-subscription criteria and coordinated admission schemes for 2012-13.

The consultations have now ended and the final admission policies for all Voluntary Aided, Foundation (including Trust) schools have been set by their respective governing bodies. Since being set it has been necessary for some schools to alter their arrangements to ensure compliance with the School Admissions Code. Legislation requires that you are notified of these revised arrangements as they are set.

To view the revised arrangements for the following school(s):

- Gordano
- Corpus Christi Catholic Primary
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary
- Priory Community
- Tickenham CE Primary
- Worlebury St Paul's CE Primary
- Wraxall CE Primary

please use the following link:

<http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Admissions/201213admissionarrangementsandpolicies.htm>

The page will be updated with the revised arrangements set by admission authorities as they are received. Paper copies are available upon request.

If you have any queries please contact me.

[Bill McEntee](#), School Admissions Policy Officer

The Learning Exchange

Excellence and Equity

Headteacher meetings' schedule - The meetings schedule for the next academic year has now been approved by the Chairs of the Headteacher Associations and is available on the [July 2011](#) web page. Our three key 'all headteacher' meetings next year will be a Big Meeting in the Autumn, the HANS Conference in the Spring and the Leadership Dinner in the Summer. We have also put in three dates for 'briefings' for Headteachers and Governor representatives. We would aim to use these for key updates on national and local policy developments.

Progress Data - Schools leaders will be aware that there is increased significance to schools performance against the national progress measures in English & Maths. The official progress measures for 2010 are confirmed as:

Primary:

North Somerset English - 82%

National English - 84%

North Somerset mathematics - 81%

National mathematics - 83%

Secondary:

North Somerset English - 73%

National English - 70%

North Somerset mathematics- 60%

National mathematics - 63%

DfE News – The Coalition has published new guidance for teachers on discipline, a new definition of persistent absence and a response to the Munro review of Child Protection. (<http://www.education.gov.uk/inthenews>)

And finally.... At the end of this school year, we are saying farewell to three of our colleagues. Jenny Fennell has been an inspirational adviser who has made a significant contribution to school leadership and coaching in North Somerset. Maralyn Alder and Helen Southon have provided crucial support to our service in recent years. We thank each of them for their contribution to North Somerset and wish them every happiness and success in the future.

On behalf of the Learning Exchange team, I would also like to thank all our colleagues in schools for your support through this challenging year. We are delighted that the rich history of partnership working in North Somerset continues and we look forward to working together further next year through the Learning Exchange. We wish you a restful and refreshing summer break.

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

National Scholarship Scheme to Support Professional Development 2011/12

This scheme has been introduced by the TDA in response to the Schools White Paper, 'The Importance of Teaching'. The scholarship enables teachers to choose professional

development programmes and activities to support and strengthen their subject knowledge or specific knowledge and skills relating to supporting pupils with SEN.

This scholarship funding is intended to be used for Masters level development, or other highly valuable opportunities, such as subject specific seminars. The TDA state "We would welcome applications from teachers hoping to register for this kind of development". The TDA are focusing the scholarship scheme on four priority areas: mathematics, English, science and special education needs (SEN).

Any teacher that has qualified teacher status (QTS) and works in one of the following types of eligible schools in England can apply for a scholarship:

- Maintained schools (including Special Schools),
- Non-maintained Special Schools,
- City Technology Colleges,
- Academies,
- Free Schools
- Pupil Referral Units (PRUs)
- Local Authority peripatetic (centrally employed) teachers with QTS are also eligible.

The closing date for applications is the end of September 2011. You'll find out whether your application has been successful by December 2011.

Please see the flier on our [July 2011](#) web page or links below for more information, download the application form from: www.tda.gov.uk/pdscholarship

For any further queries, please e-mail nationalpdscholarshipscheme@tda.gov.uk or call 0800 389 2500.

Guidance for Headteachers, Assessment and English/Mathematics Leaders

The documents posted on our [July 2011](#) page provide guidance on how an overall English level is calculated at KS1 and at KS2. They can be used to provide the information necessary for you to calculate progress from KS1 to KS2 in English and determine the percentage of children making the nationally expected 2 levels progress.

If you require any further support please contact Lorraine Woollven, Learning and Teaching Adviser, **Tel:** 01934 427562 **Email:** lorraine.woollven@n-somerset.gov.uk

Boomfest – World Record Attempt Volunteers Needed!

Boomfest is an exciting new 3 day festival for children, young people and families and will be held from Friday 19th – Sunday 21st August in Weston-super-Mare.

The FREE festival will offer a variety of performances and workshops for all ages including live music, dance and free running, theatre, film, comedy, performance poetry, graffiti, BMX-ing, skateboarding and art exhibitions.

One of the festival headline acts is Weapons of Sound and we will be working with them to create **a new record for the World's Largest Junk Orchestra!**

We hope to break the current world record of 617 and create of a new world record of 750!

To help us meet the criteria laid down by Guinness World Records we need 15 - 20 responsible adult volunteers to be independent supervisors between 3.30pm – 5.30pm on Saturday 20th August in Clarence Park, Weston-super-Mare.

Their responsibilities would include submitting a signed statement confirming;

- the number of people attempting the record within their allocated grid (a maximum of 50 people in each grid)
- all the participants within their grid actively took part in the record attempt
- all the participants were proficient musicians

Registration for the record attempt will take place throughout the day at Boomfest and participants will be allocated their grid in advance.

Guided by the Main Stage MC the participants will then move to their 'grids' in front of the Main Stage and this is where the independent supervisors will undertake their responsibilities under the guidance of a designated overall Independent Supervisor.

If you want to join us for this amazing event please contact Andy Jeffrey at andy.jeffrey@n-somerset.gov.uk or call 07775 027468.

Information Communication Sheets

Full copies of these documents and any attachments for the month of July can be accessed on our website at [July 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>.

- 1011/0043** ICT Newsletter – Term 6
- 1011/0044** Primary School Admin Changes from September 2011 for School Census 2012
- 1011/0045** Secondary School Admin Changes from September 2011 for School Census 2012
- 1011/0046** Special School Admin Changes from September 2011 for School Census 2012
- 1011/0047** Local Authority Headteachers' Meeting Schedule 2011/2012
- 1011/0048** Broadband Upgrade Project for Primary and Special Schools and PRUs

Yeo Valley and Rural Outreach Children's Centre Summer Activities

- Tuesday 26th July 10.30 - 12pm Stay & Play session at Yeo Valley Children's Centre (based on St Andrews Primary School site, opposite Congresbury pre-school) for 0-4 year olds and their families/carers. Older siblings are welcome.
- Tuesday 23rd August 10.30 - 12pm - Children's Centre Picnic @ Chew Valley Lake (meet outside tea rooms). Please contact Debbie to reserve a place - 01934 426643

See also the poster on our [July 2011](#) web page.

Summer Holiday Activities and Courses for Children at Backwell Summer School

Monday 25 July - Friday 29 July 2011

Who needs to go away, when fun things are happening on your doorstep! For the adventurous - an excellent selection of activities including climbing, abseiling, water sports and other outdoor pursuits.

An all time favourite are the Soccer Fun Days with **Bristol City Soccer Club**, or join the **Cycle Safety** course with Life Cycle.

Be creative and join us for one of our many and varied **arts, photography** and **cooking** workshops, and we are even offering a **MacMusic** course this year.

Sign up for a fantastic week of fun!

To receive our full programme, please contact Marie Davis at Backwell School, Backwell BS48 3BX by telephoning 01275 465942 or email: mdavis@backwellschool.net

EYFS CPD Courses for 2011/2012

We are organising a programme of courses for 2011/2012. The full list will be sent out in early September, however the first event, which is already available for booking on CPD online, is the Autumn Leadership Cluster which is repeated on two separate dates:

- Tuesday 13th September - EYFS Leadership Cluster - 3.45 - 6pm at Nailsea School
- Wednesday 14th September - EYFS Leadership Cluster - 3.45 - 6pm at Nailsea School

[Heather Kirkpatrick](#), Senior Administrator for Early Years and Transforming Learning

Network Meetings for Designated Teachers for Children and Young People Looked After

Dates: 10th November 2011, 9th March 2012, 8th June 2012

Time: 2pm – 4pm

Where: 10th November and 8th June – The Campus, Weston-super-Mare
9th March – Clevedon Community School (TBC)

These sessions now form part of the Statutory Training for Designated Teachers for children and young people in care, and are facilitated by Kaye Case and Norman Tyson, Head Teachers of the Virtual School.

The sessions will be very informative and responsive to your needs and will support the work of Designated Teachers in school, sharing latest information, enhancing resources and equipping you with the knowledge and skills to enable Looked After Children to lead successful and fulfilled lives.

To book a place please use CPD Online or contact the School Administrator, Becky Farler, on 01934 421900 or becky.farler@n-somerset.gov.uk

[Kaye Case](#) and [Norman Tyson](#) – Headteachers, Virtual School.



We are delighted to be able the following opportunity: **Coaching for Progress – 2 day Training Programme.**

Wednesday 9th November 2011 & Thursday 19th January 2012

This course has been designed in Partnership with Judith Tolhurst a well respected and published Coach who will co-lead the two day training.

This two day course offers an introduction to using Coaching skills in Schools. In particular it looks at how Coaching can be used in one to one situations to support the academic progress of pupils, including vulnerable learners. The training also offers strategies to use that support pupils in developing their self awareness and understanding of themselves as learners, as well as encouraging them to take increased responsibility for their own learning.

Attendees will:

- Develop Coaching skills that they are able to use in the workplace
- Develop Coaching techniques and strategies to use with pupils that will support their learning and progress
- Increase their understanding of the barriers to learning faced by vulnerable learners.

Bookings to be made via CPD online – Limited places so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Cost £250 per person for all Learning Exchange members, lunch and refreshments provided.

For further details please contact [Neil Harris](#), Lead Adviser (Vulnerable Groups)

Early Notification of Availability of Learning Exchange Courses

The CPD courses and networks for English, Mathematics, Support Staff and Assessment, as outlined at the Headteachers' meeting in June, are now available for booking CPD online.

Further information will be included in Noticeboard in September. If you have any questions please contact **Penny Boardman** Learning and Teaching Adviser on Tel: 01934 427361 or Email: penny.boardman@n-somerset.gov.uk or **Lorraine Woollven** Tel: 01934 427562 Email: lorraine.woollven@n-somerset.gov.uk