

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 30 November 2011.

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Advice on Coding if Schools are Closed or Partially Closed due to Industrial Action

Registration Code Guidance was updated by the DfE in September 2011 and guidance on using the Y code was included as stated below:

Attendance Code "Y" - enforced / partial closure – not counted in possible attendances will be collected in each Census. The code will be used when a pupil is unable to attend the school because:

- the school site, or part of it, is closed due to an unavoidable cause; or
- the transport provided by the school or a local authority is not available and where their home is not within walking distance; or
- a local or national emergency has resulted in widespread disruption to travel which has prevented the pupil from attending school

This code should therefore be used when your school is closed or partially closed and a proportion of pupils are unable to attend. This was endorsed on the [DfE website](#) on 18 November.

Recording attendance when schools are closed

If a school is forced to partially close where there is industrial action, sessions for those pupils unable to attend should be marked in the register using the Y code, which will mean it is not counted as a possible attendance.

If your school remains open or partially open and pupils are expected to attend, then any absence of these pupils should be coded in the usual way.

[Sara Griffiths](#), Locality Leader (Weston South/East)

Strike Action - Weekly Staff Absence Return

Notification of Employees on Strike on Weekly Staff Absence Return

Please could we remind you to send to Payroll (for the attention of Cath Smith) a copy of the Absence Return form for the week including the strike as soon as possible next week and by Thursday 8 December.

Please include on the Weekly Staff Related Absence Return form the names of staff not attending for work due to strike related absence using the attached Weekly Staff Absence Return form and entering the code 'N' for industrial action. For convenience, the Weekly Staff Absence Form and guidance notes are on the [November 2011](#) web page.

[Piers Hartridge](#), HR Advisor

Update from the Learning Exchange



Briefing for Headteachers and Chairs of Governors 24 November 2011

The pack handed out at the briefing for Headteachers and Chairs of Governors is now available to download from the [November 2011](#) web page.

2012 Assessment and Reporting Arrangements (ARA)

The assessment and reporting arrangements documents for the Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 are now available to download from the Department for Education website. Follow the link in the ARA document on the [November 2011](#) web page.

Key Stage 4 RAISE

We have received the following update from Ofsted:

We would like to update you on the previously communicated proposed release dates for the publication of 2011 Key Stage 4 unvalidated data. Due to the high number of changes to Key Stage 4 data measures and new reporting, release dates have slipped. New publication dates are:

- **6 December 2011** evening for **interactive data**
- **9 December 2011** evening for **summary report** (formerly known as the 'full report')

Ofsted Annual Report

Ofsted have published their latest [Annual Report](#) on their website.

WJEC English - strategies for raising attainment at GCSE

Course outline

- Preparing students for modular exams
- Controlled assignments - focusing on grade boundaries at D-C and B-A - A*

Date: Thursday 1 December
Time: 14.00 - 17.00
Venue: Nailsea School
Cost: £70 one delegate; £100 two delegates for Learning Exchange members
Book: [CPD Online](#)

For further information, contact [Marie Horton](#), LE Adviser (14-19 Partnerships).

The Local Leader of Education Programme

Local Leaders of Education (LLEs) are successful headteachers who provide coaching support to headteachers of other schools. LLEs enable partner schools to build capacity for sustainable improvement. The LLE model is a partnership model with local authorities, enabling the LA to create a pool of LLEs that are then deployed flexibly to schools causing concern and satisfactory schools.

As an LA, we have fully deployed our LLEs into North Somerset schools from January 2011 for half a day each week.

If you are interested in finding out about the requirements for you to become a Local Leader of Education, visit the [National College Website](#) for more detail and the selection criteria. The next round of applications will open on Monday 28 November 2011 and will close on Friday 6 January 2012.

I would like to encourage you to think about becoming a Local Leader, as we know the benefits to both the host school and to your own school will be significant.

Please contact [Sue Ivermee](#), Principal Adviser, if you would like to discuss the role further in the context of North Somerset schools on 07769 163962.

One to One Tuition Funding September 2011 - March 2012

All schools will shortly be receiving a letter to confirm One to One funding arrangements and organisation for the period September 2011 - March 2012. Please contact [Neil Harris](#), LE Adviser (Vulnerable Groups), if you require further clarification.

CPD - Modelled and Shared Writing

Please note that the date of this event has been changed to Wednesday 7 December (13:45 - 16:30). Full details are available on [CPD Online](#). For further information, please contact [Penny Boardman](#).

Consultations:

Details	Open until
Revised Admissions Arrangements	5 December
Revised Premises regulations	26 January
Call for Evidence for the Independent Review of Early Education and Childcare Qualifications	23 December
Removing the statutory duty to deliver work related learning in KS4	4 January
16-19 Funding Formula	4 January
16-19 Study Programmes	4 January
Please click here for further information	

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

Fair Funding Consultation 4 November to 15 December - REMINDER

This is just a reminder that there is just over a fortnight left to respond to the consultation. This is the article that appeared when the consultation went live:

Consultation on the proposals for the locally determined changes to schools' funding arrangements for 2012-13 is now live and you have until 5 December to respond.

This consultation is aimed at teachers, governors, school staff, North Somerset Council staff and any other stakeholders including parents and carers and can be accessed through this [link](#).

The purpose of the consultation is to provide you with the information so that comments and feedback can be obtained from stakeholders to enable the Strategic Schools Forum to take informed decisions about implementation.

[Emma Whitehead](#), Commissioning and Contracts and Funding Manager

School Workforce Census – Autumn 2011 Collection - REMINDER

The School Workforce Census is now live and over 72% of Schools have already submitted their returns. If you have not already uploaded your SWF Census return to the [COLLECT portal](#), please could you do so by Friday, 9 December 2011.

Further information and guidance regarding the School Workforce Census can be found on the [DfE website](#).

Andrea Rogers, HR Service Centre, HRSCenquiries@n-somerset.gov.uk

Norovirus

NHS North Somerset is writing to ask Headteachers for your help to reduce the spread of diarrhoea and vomiting illness this winter. Please see the letter to Headteachers and accompanying poster on the [November 2011](#) web page.

[Karen Daniel](#), Communications Manager, NHS North Somerset

North Somerset Joins London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay Route

Five communities in North Somerset have been chosen to join others across the country as host locations on the Olympic torch relay route. There are more details in the [press release](#) for any schools wishing to get involved when the Olympic Flame travels through Flax Bourton, Backwell, Nailsea, Failand and Leigh Woods on 23 May 2012.

[Zoe Briffitt](#), Marketing and Communications Officer

School Games Update: Curriculum Competitions

Young Reporters, Photographers, Announcers, Commentators, Statisticians, Musicians and Artists

In support of the whole school engagement with the School Games, a number of competitions are being run with a particular spotlight on the programmes being run at Levels 1-3. These competitions, designed to complement learning delivered through the school curriculum, are

centred on the sporting spirit values of passion, belief, respect, honesty and teamwork. Entries to the competitions will be inspired by the activity at intra and inter sport level. Successful submissions will receive recognition at a regional and national level, with the overall winners contributing to the Level 4 School Games being held at the Olympic Park in London in May 2012.

The deadline for competition entries is early 2012. To enter, schools must have registered on the [School Games website](#). Click on the link below for more information about the competitions on offer as well as tips and techniques to maximise the impact of the School Games across the school.

Follow the [link](#) to find out more and get involved! Secondary Teacher Release colleagues will be able to share dates of competitions that may provide a platform for young reporters and photographers to apply their skills. Also see the [SSP website](#) for the most up-to-date news on local sporting events.

[Shane German](#), North Somerset SSP Manager

The New School Games Website is Coming!

In January 2012 we will be launching a new and improved www.yourschoolgames.com. All registered schools will be emailed with details to activate their accounts on the new site – giving them access to resources, updates and the chance to create their own pages. As an SGO, this new site will provide you with information about registered schools, tools, resources and more! In early January you will be sent an email to create an account. Keep an eye out for future emails on this.

[Shane German](#), North Somerset SSP Manager

Plan your 2012 – second round of applications now open

Working with the Department for Education, LOCOG are inviting members of the Get Set network to apply for grants of up to £8,800 to lead activities which encourage other schools to make the most of the London 2012 Games over the next academic year. Schools can find out more about the scheme and how to apply on the London 2012 'Get Set' website www.london2012.com/getset. The second round of applications opened on Monday 28 November 2011 and close on Friday 6 January 2012.

[Shane German](#), North Somerset SSP Manager

Supportive Parents - Parent Partnership Service

Providing information and support for parents and carers of children with special educational needs. Do join us at our next drop-in support group meeting on **Thursday 8 December**, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, The Folk Hall, Portishead High St, BS20 6PR. We will be having mince pies and adding a festive feel to the evening!

[Jackie Oxley](#), North Somerset Co-ordinator

Yeo Valley and Rural Outreach Children's Centres Christmas Activities

Please see the [November 2011](#) web page for details of our Christmas activities:

Christmas Craft Morning	19 December
Christmas Forest Fun!	21 December
Christmas Fun!	22 December
Active Play Session	29 December

[Debbie Pope](#), Administrator, Yeo Valley & Rural Outreach Children's Centre

Attachment and Developing Positive Relationships

This half day course is designed for all children and young people's services staff who want to increase their understanding of attachment needs.

Date: 9 January 2012
Time: 13:00 – 16:00
Venue: Castlewood Room G.08, Clevedon

For further details and to book a place, click on [CPD Online](#)

Vulnerable Learners' Service - Advisory Teachers Networks and Courses Term 3

NETWORKS	
Primary SLCN Network 26 January 2012	This support group is for staff working with primary age pupils with speech, language and communication needs
Venue	Castle Batch Primary School
Target Audience	Schools - Inclusion Co-ordinators/SENCo/Teachers/Teaching Assistants
Cost	No Charge - <u>except for academies and non LA subscribers</u>
Dyslexia Network Support Group 18 January 2012 20 June 2012	A support group for key staff working with pupils with dyslexia.
Venue	Milton Park Primary School
Target Audience	Schools - SENCo/Support Staff/Teaching and Learning
Cost	No Charge - <u>except for academies and non LA subscribers</u>

ASD Network Meetings 25 January 2012 10 May 2012	This network is for all school staff working with a pupil with social and communication difficulties or an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).
Venue	Hérons' Moor Primary School
Target Audience	Schools - Newly Qualified Teachers / SENCo / Teachers / Teaching Assistants
Cost	No Charge - <u>except for academies and non LA subscribers</u>

COURSES	
Managing Feelings: Reducing Anger and Anxiety Training 10 January and 24 January (primary)	This training comprises of two half day workshops which will support school staff in helping pupils recognise and self-regulate their emotions more successfully
Venue	Puxton Park (no suitable North Somerset venue was available)
Target Audience	Schools - Inclusion Co-ordinators / Newly Qualified Teachers / SENCo / Support Staff / Teachers / Teaching Assistants
Cost	£125
Developing Play, Language and Interaction in Young Children with Social Communication Difficulties 11 January and 18 January 2012	A workshop exploring resources, approaches and strategies to encourage the development of play skills and promoting interactive communication
Venue	Yatton C of E Junior School
Target Audience	Schools - Early Years Professionals / SENCo / Support Staff / Teachers / Teaching Assistants
Cost	£125
Working With BESD In Mainstream Lessons (Secondary) Session 1 - 26 January 2012 Session 2 – 8 March 2012	This course will provide participants with an opportunity to consider how the learning needs of pupils with Behavioural, emotional and social difficulties can be met in mainstream lessons. Participants will identify specific strategies which match their teaching style with the learning needs of individual students
Venue	Castlewood
Target audience	Secondary Schools - Inclusion Co-ordinators / Newly Qualified Teachers / Subject Leaders / Aspect Leaders / Subject Co-ordinators / Supply Teachers/ Teachers
Cost	£150

<p>Developing Social Thinking Skills for Pupils with Autism and other Communication and Interaction Difficulties 2 February 2012</p>	<p>An overview of social communication difficulties, with an emphasis on exploring a range of strategies to develop social thinking and social skills for pupils who experience serious difficulties in this area</p>
<p>Venue</p>	<p>Castlewood</p>
<p>Target audience</p>	<p>Schools - Inclusion Co-ordinators / Newly Qualified Teachers / SENCo / Teachers / Teaching Assistants</p>
<p>Cost</p>	<p>£125</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">For further details and to book a place, click on CPD Online</p>	

[Josie Finnegan](#), Administrative Assistant