

The Looked After Children Education Achievement Team

Welcome to the sixth issue of the LACEA Team newsletter.

New Statutory Guidance

The government has recently agreed new statutory guidance which supports provisions made under section 52 of the Children Act 2004. This places a duty on local authorities to promote the educational achievement of looked after children. The new guidance describes the essential actions which local authorities are expected to take in order to raise achievement for this vulnerable group and narrow the gap in attainment between LAC and their peers. This includes ensuring that LAC of school age have effective personal education plans. Guidance can be viewed on the LACEAT website:

<http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/Services/EducationLearning/LookedAfterChildrenEducation/LACEASchools.htm>

PEP training for designated teachers and social workers

After a very positively received first run, Lancet's second programmed of Effective Personal Education Plan (PEP) training will run from 10th January until the 28th March 2006. There will be fifteen sessions that will aim to:

- Familiarise professionals with the statutory guidance that informs the content of the PEP
- Provide guidance on how to complete a good quality PEP
- Clearly define roles and responsibilities in preparing, writing and reviewing PEPs.

To secure a place on the training please contact Gurmeet Khurana on Tel: 020 7926 9958, by fax: 020 7926 0751 or by email: gkhurana@lambeth.gov.uk

LAC School Audit

From the 19th January 2006, the LACEA team will be carrying out an audit of all LAC currently attending Lambeth schools. This is a repeat of the exercise carried out in 2005. We want to ensure that we have up to date and accurate information on *all* LAC in Lambeth schools regardless of their home borough. Schools will receive an audit sheet containing current information held by Lambeth CYPS. We would greatly appreciate the co-operation of schools in updating the audit sheet and returning it to us by 22nd February 2006.

Event for Lambeth foster carers and social work teams – 23rd February 2006

The LACEA team will be holding an education information event for foster carers, residential care workers and social work teams. The event will provide the opportunity for professionals to improve their knowledge of the education system and education support services available in Lambeth. The day will also act as the launch a new 'Guide to Education' for foster carers, social workers which has been produced by LACEAT. The event will be held on **23rd February 2006** in the Assembly Hall, Lambeth Town Hall

New Team Member

The LACEA team would like to welcome Simisola Dabiri-Fregene. She has many years experience as a social care team manager in Lambeth. Simi will have a key role in promoting the work of LACEAT to professionals and assisting social work colleagues to meet their statutory responsibilities within education.

Further Information

For more information about anything you have read here, please contact LACEAT on 020 7926 9958 or cdoyle@lambeth.gov.uk