

The Looked After Children Education Achievement Team

Welcome to the October 2005 newsletter of the LACEA Team

Designated Teacher's Conference

The first Conference for Designated teachers for Looked after Children was held on the 28th September 2005. Over 30 designated teachers from Lambeth Schools attended to hear speakers from a number of key agencies talk about their work and how it might link better with schools. There were also practical sessions on drafting a school policy, self evaluation for external inspection, roles and responsibilities of designated teachers and new statutory guidance. Evaluations from attendees have been positive with many stating that it was a very useful and informative day. The full conference pack has now been distributed to all Lambeth schools.

New LACEAT Website

The LACEA Team have developed a website which is accessible to all via the Lambeth Internet. It includes education information for all professionals and carers working with LAC. The site is currently being developed to include information for children and young people looked after by Lambeth council.

There are a number of key documents that can be downloaded including copies of the new Lambeth personal education plan (PEP), suggested roles and responsibilities for designated teachers and a sample policy that can be amended for use in schools.

If you have any comments or suggestions about the website, please contact the team using the contact details listed on the site at:

www.lambeth.gov.uk/Services/EducationLearning/LookedAfterChildrenEducation

PEP training for designated teachers and social workers

The training programme for designated teachers and social workers began in early October 2005. The training focuses on writing effective PEPs. It outlines the importance of setting clear improvement targets and using the PEP to support looked after children's educational aspirations. The sessions also allow professionals to develop an understanding of their respective roles and responsibilities towards this vulnerable group.

The sessions last for 2 hours and are timed to run from either 9-11am or 4-6pm. They will continue to run in November and December 2005.

A full list of dates is available on the website and you can download a reply slip from the website and email or fax the team. You can also contact the LACEA team directly on 020 7925 9558.

Consultation on LAC booklets for social workers, carers and LAC

The LACEA team have developed two draft booklets that aim to improve the understanding of the education system for social workers, carers and looked after children and young people. They are currently being consulted on with key professionals and agencies working with LAC. The consultation ends on **10th November 2005** and the documents will be published and distributed in early January 2006;

Secondary School Transfer 2006

The deadline for submitting applications for transfer to London secondary schools in September 2006 is **Friday 21st October 2005**. For more information please contact the Lambeth Education Admissions Team on 020 7926 9503.