

## Virtual School Report

### Corporate parents

#### **VHT**

Acting Virtual Headteachers visit all Harrow CLA in Harrow and London Borough schools and colleges on a termly basis and all out of borough Harrow CLA annually to offer support and challenge to Designated Teachers. At these meetings data is collected and submitted to Education Performance Analysis who records and analyses progress. These spreadsheets form the basis of the Virtual School's pupil progress meetings which happen at the beginning of every new term and form the basis of our work for the next term. The data for the Spring term will be analysed over the Easter holiday.

The PEP form has been revised and shortened as requested and the process for the distribution and collection of paperwork simplified. There remain specific sections for SW, CLA, FC, Health and DT to complete and the expectation is for sections to be read by all parties before the meeting so that everyone can use the meeting for forward planning and to complete an effective Action Plan. PEPs are moderated by VHT and improvements have been noted in the quality of the Action Plan. Issues including Health Section ,SMART targets , contributions from CLA and Foster carers remain and are being improved in the relaunch for next term. There is a section at the bottom of the Action Plan for participants at the meeting to identify how Pupil Premium will be used.

A similar process is also in place for Pathway Plans and the recent QA has identified that work remains in the engagement of FE Colleges in the Pathway Plan process and the generation of an effective Pathway Action Plan. Tina Henley is currently working with Negus to rectify the situation and ensure that Pathway Plans are more effective.

#### **CHANGES TO PUPIL PREMIUM**

From April 2014 Pupil Premium will be available for all CLA from the day they enter Care and will increase to £1900 per year. The Virtual School will be responsible for the distribution of the money and accountable for how it is spent. A new system is to be implemented from the Summer term 2014 for schools to invoice VS for the termly allowance (£700,£600,£700) in which they will have to identify the impact of the PP on the progress of the CLA. Adopted children will also be incorporated into the system. This will enable the VS to be able to monitor more closely the effectiveness of Pupil Premium.

#### **TRAINING**

The VHT has now trained all 3 SW teams on Effective PEPs and Education Data and plan to return during the Summer term to deliver training on Progress and SMART targets. The Virtual School works especially closely with the CLA team and has attended numerous meeting about targeted CLA.

The VS has also trained Foster Carers on Educational progress data and supporting their CLA. A second training session is planned in May . We are planning to introduce Text Now which is a scheme which will enable Foster Carers to become reading coaches which will increase CLA motivation to read and their enjoyment of and proficiency in reading.

Termly designated teachers meetings have offered training in effective PEPs, attachment disorder, supporting CLA emotional needs and provided networking opportunities for multi agency work. Future plans are to have joint designated teachers meeting with the LSCB to reduce the number of meetings that Designated teachers are expected to attend and to improve the consistency and quality of training and multi agency working.

### **EDUCATION CHAMPIONS**

Of the 12 Education Champions 7 have provided a critical friend role to the Virtual school in specific relation to their Y11 pupil. They have met with the relevant Social Workers and attended a meeting with the Virtual School in February to plan for GCSE s. I plan to continue to consult with the Champions for transition and next year will plan more structure for the engagement of Champion next year.

### **CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Co-Curricular activities run by the Virtual School are funded by the grant awarded by the John Lyons charity.

A successful cookery course was held during half term when 6xCLA joined a group of young carers. The evaluations indicated that the CLA thought it was excellent or good

During the Easter Holidays we have planned a 2 day Drama workshop which addresses coping with peer pressure, developing resilience and determination, making positive life choices and taking appropriate risks. and culminates in a trip to see Matilda. There are 15 CLA signed up from Years 5-9. We also have a Camping trip organised for 8 Secondary aged CLA which will hopefully link them into a Dof E scheme. We are joining the Virtual School from Brent for the camping trip.

The Easter holiday also contains the launch of the *Look to the future* which is planned to raise the aspirations of our CLA through trips to universities. We are joining 5 other boroughs in visits to 6 universities during the next 2 years. There are 2 strands for KS3/4 and Post 16. The initial visit is to SOAS with the emphasis on languages. There are approx. 10 CLA signed up some of whom will come with their carers.

Homework Club has been slow to get off the ground but we now have 3 regular attenders, 2 of whom are Y11 students from Rooks Heath who are benefitting from extra Maths tuition. The staff of the Virtual school plus a volunteer (ex Maths teacher) currently staff the homework club