

Learning Matters

News and information for staff in educational settings

Spring term – January 11 2008

Welcome from Terry Parkin

Feature article

- Locality development update (ALL)

Articles covering national curriculum key stages as per following codes

EYF: For early years foundation

KS1: For key stage 1 staff

KS2: For key stage 2 staff

KS3: For key stage 3 staff

KS4: For key stage 4 staff

ALL: For staff across all stages

All staff

- Southwark YOT: Help us reduce youth offending (ALL)
- Children's laureate launches national reading year in Southwark libraries (ALL)
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Correspondence

Welcome to 2008 from Terry Parkin

Welcome back to what will be one of the most significant terms in our recent history – we will have our first full inspection of Southwark Council's children's services, as well as the wider inspection of the council, either side of Easter.

But it is a good time to be inspected. Four of our primary schools featured in the 100 best schools for value added – Coburg, Ilderton, Bellenden and Riverside – while at GCSE the key stage 2 to key stage 4 value added sees the borough in second place nationally, reflecting the progress being made by our secondary schools.

Although one of our key functions, the inspection will, rightly, look at much more than examination outcomes. Its focus will be on how 'the system' – the council, schools, health, police and voluntary bodies – works for the betterment of our young people. Ten young people will form the basis of an intense investigation looking at their interactions with services, and all their case files wherever they are held will be reviewed. Inspectors also have a 'right to roam'. As well as their initial focus on the more vulnerable, they can also stray into other areas and case histories they feel reveal something of how we work.

We will know in a week or so the key lines of enquiry – the so-called KLOEs – that drive the initial phase of the inspection and we will be contacting schools and governors to seek their involvement.

Although an exciting time for us to show off our progress, the inspection falls either side of the Easter bank holiday and so may feel a bit disjointed. It also comes as schools are preparing their pupils for the summer exam season. We will do all we can to keep distractions to a minimum, not least as following the borough's best ever results at 11 and 16, we would like to raise achievement even further this summer.

Thank you in advance for your support in our endeavours to continue to raise expectations and outcomes for all our young people. Your contribution to the work of our schools is significant and once again might I thank you for your hard work on behalf of our community.

I wish you a very good new year.

Terry Parkin

Deputy director children's services, education

Locality development update

Southwark children's services continues to respond enthusiastically to the challenging agenda set out by Every Child Matters.

The locality development agenda continues to move forward across the four locality quadrants and is now being lead by two locality managers from Southwark Health and Social Care and two from education with clearly defined roles and responsibilities.

The locality managers are

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|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Barbara Hills (health) | Bermondsey and Rotherhithe |
| • Vanessa Stilwell (social care) | Borough & Bankside and Walworth |
| • Tony Tarrant (education) | Camberwell and Dulwich |
| • John Robinson (education) | Nunhead & Peckham Rye and Peckham |

These managers will champion the development of integrated services and will be supported by newly established locality integrated service teams consisting of senior practitioners from the three core services. By bringing these professionals together we are laying the foundation for a fully integrated children's service that will deliver:

- universal services that provide equality of opportunity to every child and young person
- targeted services for those with exceptional needs
- work methods and practices and shared priorities that will transform the quality of service delivery.

This new and innovative approach to delivering our services in Southwark requires a major change in culture and in the way we have previously worked, but the key issue is the transformation of local services into something that makes a real difference.

Schools, governors, parents and carers and members of the wider community must believe that what we are currently in the process of delivering is better than what we had. All must sign up to a new agenda in a new world with high quality and well coordinated services to all children, that capture universal and targeted interventions with as much enthusiasm and consistency as any one component part currently does.

The locality managers are presently preparing work plans for the next phase of development which will incorporate team building, integrated service delivery, accommodation and monitoring and evaluation. Additionally an engagement plan has been developed and there is work in progress to ensure that key partners are kept fully involved in the locality development agenda.

Over the coming months we shall look to involve a wider range of agencies in the provision of services. From the beginning of 2008 the youth service, environment and housing and other specialist services and external agencies will begin to explore new ways in which they can link their work to locality integrated services teams.

Contact Denis Kelly, localities manager, 020 7525 3039

Email denis.kelly@southwark.gov.uk

For all staff

Southwark YOT: Help us to reduce youth offending

Southwark's youth offending team (YOT) works with people aged 10 to 17 years who are involved in crime, or are at risk of involvement. We're a multi-agency team made up of professionals committed to reducing youth crime. We aim to offer support and help young people and their families, enabling them to stop offending and move towards more positive futures. We also work with victims of youth crime, offering them support and giving them a voice in the youth justice system.

Become a volunteer

We need men and women aged 21 and over, who live or work in Southwark to support, supervise and mentor young people on a variety of established and developing community reparation initiatives. This could be you, or it could be parents, friends or colleagues you know.

If you, or someone you know, are patient, non-judgemental, reliable and have some spare time, this rewarding challenge may be right for you. Initial and ongoing, accredited training is provided.

Our next training programme begins in March. If you would like to find out more, please come to one of our open sessions.

On: Thursday January 17 or February 14, 6.30pm to 8.30 pm

At Southwark young offending services, 1 Bradenham Close, SE17 2QA

Contact Martin Kelly, 020 7525 7895/07983 330970

Email martin.kelly@southwark.gov.uk

Children's laureate launches national year of reading in Southwark libraries

The National Year of Reading programme will launch around the country in April 2008. However Southwark will kick off with activities in January, launching with a Michael Rosen, children's laureate event at Dulwich library.

National Year of Reading?

The campaign aims to create a network at national, regional and local level, promoting partnership working, particularly between education and library services.

So, what's it all about?

Objectives of the campaign include, focusing on family activities related to reading and learning, encouraging boys to feel more enthusiastic about reading and to encourage adult literacy. These are just some of the work areas, which will be highlighted in 2008.

Throughout the course of 2008 Southwark will have a number of themed events and activities all aimed to widen participation in reading in certain groups.

Activities for the National Year of Reading 2008 will run in all Southwark libraries. Among the extensive range of events, Michael Rosen, the current children's laureate, will run sessions with local school children in Dulwich library on January 30. Michael Rosen, is a prolific author, who has written world renowned children's books, such as Hairy Tales and Nursery Crimes and Totally Wonderful Miss Plumberry.

To find out more about the National Year of Reading campaign and events please visit www.southwark.gov.uk/libraries or contact Southwark Council library service, 020 7525 2000. To find out more about the Dulwich library event

February half term family fun at the Cuming Museum

At: Old Walwoth town hall, 151 Walworth Road, SE17 1RY

Explore the Cuming Museum in February half term with activity packs, trails, dressing up, puzzles, drawing, smells... and much more!

Free craft workshops – create your own miniature market stall with colourful goods to sell on it from around the world.

For children aged 7 to 13 and their carers.

- Thursday February 21, 2pm to 3.30pm
- Friday February 22, 2pm to 3.30 pm
- Saturday February 23, 2pm to 3.30 pm

And, back due to popular demand – trails with prizes, all day Saturday 16, Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 February.

There's no need to book – just turn up on the day.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Contact 020 7525 2332 or email us at cuming.museum@southwark.gov.uk for more information

Get a foot on the property ladder

When: Thursday January 17 2008

Where: Peckham Rye, SE15

Tower Homes is presenting new keyworker show apartments at Cooperative House, Peckham Rye, SE15. There are 20 homes left available for keyworkers and six for non keyworkers living in south east London.

If you'd like to view the apartments, please call the number below to arrange a viewing time.

Please ensure you have already completed a housing options application, which you can do online at www.housingoptions.co.uk or call 0845 230 8099 for an application form.

Contact Tower Homes on 020 8294 5048

Email aagarwal@lqgroup.org.uk

For headteachers

Change at the top

Following the recent restructure of the education division in Southwark children's services a recruitment and interview process has now been completed and the following appointments have been made:

- [Christine McInnes](#), assistant director for curriculum support
- [Jane Bailey](#), assistant director for 11 to 19 year old services

For healthy school coordinators

Spud u like

The British Potato Council (BPC) has launched Grow Your Own Potatoes, a hands-on project for children to see how things grow, where food comes from, learn more about the importance of a healthy, balanced diet and is completely free to all primary schools in England, Scotland and Wales, working towards key stages 1 and 2.

Schools can register by visiting www.potatoesforschools.org.uk or by calling 01865 782276. All schools that register before February 8 will also be entered into a grand prize draw for a chance to win a Potato Day Experience at their school.

It's free for schools to take part and they will receive a growing kit containing two varieties of seed potatoes, an interactive height chart to track the progress of their plants and a £5 voucher towards the cost of the compost and a container.

Grow Your Own Potatoes is supported by a wide range of educational resources available on the website www.potatoesforschools.org.uk. Detailed guidance is provided on every stage, as well as work sheets, lesson ideas and white board presentations all linked to the national curriculum.

Contact David Gough, The Ceres Partnership, 01189 475956

Email david.gough@ceres-pr.co.uk

Courses, training and conferences

Young Southwark partnership training

Available to everyone who works with children and young people, Young Southwark, has a range of training this spring, covering information sharing, common assessment frameworks and electronic information (SCOuT).

See the attached [flyer and booking form](#) for more details.

Contact Lorraine Frederick, 020 7525 3119

Email lorraine.frederick@southwark.gov.uk

One line: A new online system for recording bullying incidents in schools

Southwark schools are invited to take part in an initiative which will help them to identify, tackle and prevent bullying. Sentinel Anti Bullying software is a DCSF recommended web-based, incident management system allowing schools, local authorities and their partner agencies to record and manage incidents of bullying through to resolution. The information recorded is stored on a secure, central database, managed by Management Information Analysis. The system alone cannot reduce or eliminate bullying but provides extensive support in managing incidents of bullying.

The management tools provide the evidence and core processes to support staff at school and local authority level in:

- setting their anti-bullying strategies
- analysing the impact of anti-bullying initiatives
- understanding perceived and actual response to incidents
- supporting and documenting the management of bullying incidents.

The on-line form covers all aspects of bullying and anti-social behaviour, replacing a multiplicity of school and local authority paper-based documents and reports.

The Sentinel programme allows victims, bystanders and their parents or carers to report incidents of bullying in a confidential and safe environment.

The initiative is free to all schools and four half day training events have been arranged for staff to attend.

- January 15, 9am to 12pm or 12.30pm to 3.30pm at the CLC
- February 7, 9am to 12pm or 12.30pm to 3.30pm at the CLC

To book a place contact Deirdre Barry by fax on 020 7525 5025

Email deirdre.barry@southwark.gov.uk

Nutrition training for five to 16 year olds

Would you like to receive nutrition training for children aged five to 16 years old? Do you address nutrition through your current work or would you like to know how to address current nutrition related problems such as obesity and underweight in the above age group? Would you also like to discuss dietary guidelines and support framework which will empower health care professionals and those working with children of the above age group in dealing with these problems?

This course would benefit school nurses, teachers and other staff working with this age group.

Training will be on January 22, 9.30am to 12.30pm and again on March 12, 9.30am to 12.30pm at Mary Sheridan House.

For more details and to book a place contact Lebohang Zwane, community nutritionist, tel 020 7525 0274, fax 0207 525 0318

Email lebohang.zwane@southwarkpct.nhs.uk

Minutes and correspondence

Education management team minutes

Southwark Council children's services [education management team meeting minutes](#), December 12 2007.

Letters and documents

Letters and other documents for staff in education settings from the local authority are all available on the Southwark Council website. Please check the correspondence page regularly for new mail. We will send you a list of all new correspondence every Friday, either here within Learning Matters, or by email to school headteachers on the weeks when Learning Matters is not published.

January 9 2008

For headteachers, letter on [school improvement partners \(SIP\) spring 08 visits](#) (Word 315kb), [SIP visit spring 08 proforma](#) (Word 335kb) and [school improvement self evaluation form](#) (Word 309kb)

For PHSE coordinators and headteachers, letter on [anti-bullying software, Sentinel, training course](#) (Word 305kb)

January 4 2008

For headteachers and chairs of governors, [letter from schools finance manager](#) (pdf 40kb) regarding Financial Management Standard in Schools (FMSiS) and [assessment tool](#) (Word 470kb)

All staff, [Children's services calendar 2007-08 updated with open days](#) (pdf 66kb)

December 19 2007

Headteachers letter, [Target setting reminder](#) (Word 319kb)

December 14 2007

Senior teachers and EMA coordinators course, [Mobility Management flyer](#) December 14 (Word 299kb)

All staff letter, [Children's services free course offered to all professionals that work with children](#) (Word 299kb) and course flyer [Children's services free training flyer](#) (pdf 478kb)

Next edition of Learning Matters

Learning Matters is distributed fortnightly on a Friday.

Please ensure copy is received by 5pm on the copy deadline date to ensure inclusion.

Copy deadline	Distribution
January 22 2008	January 25 2008

We would like to hear news and information from you. If you want to share good practice, have news and information or want to celebrate achievement, please use let us know.

Email us at **childrens.services@southwark.gov.uk**

Your feedback, suggestions and any comments are always welcome.