



Every Child Matters update

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Issue 67

Think Big!

Last week, O2 launched Think Big – a new campaign bringing together environment and community activity with a particular focus on supporting young people who want to make a positive difference in their local area.

Think Big wants to hear from young people aged 13 to 25 with bright ideas for projects that will bring people together and benefit their community.

Successful applicants will receive a £300 grant for their project, as well as a day's training so that they can learn the skills needed to get it up and running.

For more information about Think Big, go to: www.thinkbig.co.uk

Please pass this publication on to colleagues with an interest in outcomes for children and young people.

If your organisation or colleagues do not have access to email or the internet, or would like this update in another format, please let us know. You can call us on **0113 395 0247**.

Live release of the Leeds Every Child Matters Survey 2010

Since September, Education Leeds has been working with Leeds Learning Network and a new survey provider to develop a new and improved survey. After consulting partners and carrying out a successful pilot, the new version is more child friendly and accessible.

The Every Child Matters Survey will be available for all Leeds schools to complete from Monday 19 April until the end of the summer term 2010.

This free survey is anonymous and available to all pupils in years 5, 6, 7, 9 and 11. Schools will be able to use their results as evidence for the school self-evaluation, National Healthy Schools and to report on the Ofsted wellbeing indicators.

If your school would like to participate in the Every Child Matters Survey, please download the registration form from the Every Child Matters Survey page on the collaboration zone or from InfoBase Quicklink code **D3320**. Once we have received your completed registration form you will then receive further information about how you can start preparing to take part.

If you would like to discuss any aspects of the Every Child Matters Survey in more detail then please contact Laura Webb, phone: **0113 247 5015**, email: ecmsurvey@educationleeds.co.uk.



Turning commitment into practice

My first month in Leeds has flown by! I'm now getting a better feel for our many strengths, as well as opportunities to do things better. Conversations with many of you have been integral to this, and I've valued your balance of realism, optimism and honesty.

I've said before that I'm hearing similar messages from different places. Speaking to people working in schools, health, the police, children's centres and the voluntary sector recently emphasised that again. We all need to work and think in ways that are multi-agency and co-ordinate how we meet children's needs, but the pace and pressures of the 'day job' can often challenge us to maintain this outlook.

What I've heard encourages me that the commitment to this in Leeds is strong. Now we must take opportunities to translate more of that commitment into practice. Building on the strength of practices such as locality working, common assessments and our new intervention panels, we must ensure they make a collective impact. Better support for one another will provide the best support to children and young people.

Eleanor Brazil
Interim director of children's services

Children Leeds



ContactPoint
because every child matters

New online directory of children's service professionals

ContactPoint is the new easy-to-use online directory of professionals working with children and young people.

This new directory is proving to be a very valuable tool for supporting professionals who dedicate their lives to helping children and young people to come together with other like-minded people across sectors.

To support people in getting the most out of ContactPoint, free training is being offered throughout April and May.

Tuesday 6 April, 1st floor Merrion House, 8.30am to 1pm

Friday 9 April, 1st floor Merrion House, 12.15pm to 5pm

Wednesday 21 April, Derek Fatchett CLC, 8.30am to 1pm

Thursday 22 April, Derek Fatchett CLC, 12.15pm to 5pm

Friday 7 May, 1st floor Merrion House, 8.30am to 1pm

Tuesday 11 May, 1st floor Merrion House, 8.30am to 1pm

Tuesday 18 May, 1st floor Merrion House, 12.15pm to 5pm

Wednesday 19 May, 1st floor Merrion House, 8.30am to 1pm

To book contact the ContactPoint team, phone: **0113 395 0900**, email: contactpoint@educationleeds.co.uk

Inspiring families to make a change

A child-led Change4Life fun day at Middleton St Phillip's Primary School, has encouraged 60 families to make small pledges in their lives that will help to improve their health.

The innovative idea gave children from the school the opportunity to run the day's activities, which were developed by Jan Burkhardt, health improvement specialist for NHS Leeds, and colleagues from NHS Leeds and Education Leeds.

Jan said: "By having a child-led event, parents and siblings became more aware of the eight messages behind the Change4Life campaign. With support from professionals, the children learnt about these messages and we hope they will pass them on to their parents by challenging their knowledge about healthy lifestyles."

Free course to get families healthy

Families in Leeds are being offered free places on a fun programme that will help them to become fitter, healthier and happier.

The MEND programme is the largest national scheme for tackling childhood obesity. Children and families who have previously participated have achieved tremendous results.

MEND stands for mind, exercise, nutrition...do it! The course helps children between the ages of 7 and 13 who are over the healthy weight range for their age and height to become healthier with the support of their parents or carers.

The programme will run after school twice a week for 10 weeks, between 19 April and 30 June 2010, at Leeds Trinity University College in Horsforth.

For more information or to register for the programme, families need to contact Gill Hooper, phone: 0113 283 7100 (extension 351) or email g.hooper@leedstrinity.ac.uk

This is your publication...

so let us know about the great work you are doing in your organisation. How are you including children and young people in the changes you are making? We all want Leeds to have the very best children's services to make sure that every child matters.

Please send all your comments and suggestions about this update to the children's services unit, email: children.leeds@leeds.gov.uk, phone: **0113 395 0247**.