

# Every Child Matters update

Sept 17  
2009  
Issue 54

## Take on Takeover Week this November!

**11** Million Takeover Week will take place in Leeds from Monday 9 to Friday 13 November 2009. The week will coincide with the national 11 Million Takeover initiative led by Sir Al Aynsley-Green, the children's commissioner for England.

During Takeover Week schools and organisations are encouraged to get involved and allow children and young people to takeover from decision-making adults.

Education Leeds have been working with a variety of organisations across the city to provide some exciting takeover opportunities that will be available to all schools. Opportunities will include shadowing Chris Edwards, chief executive of Education Leeds. Every service working with children and young people is invited to get involved and create some opportunities of their own.

For more information contact Richard Cracknell, participation and communications officer, phone: 0113 214 4107

## GCSE students celebrate as city on course for best ever results

Over 8,000 young people received their GCSE results this summer, and although the full extent of the results won't be known until later in the year, more students in Leeds look to have achieved at least five A\*-C grades than ever before.

**"These early signs suggest this year's GCSE results could be the best the city has seen."**

Councillor Richard Harker,  
executive board member for learning

68.2 per cent of young people achieved the important indicator, up 4.8 per cent on the previous year.

46.8 per cent achieved five A\*-C including English and maths, which at 0.5 per cent less than last year's record score maintains a high standard gained through rapid rises in recent years. The number of young people gaining this achievement is now nearly 10 per cent more than in 2004.

Pudsey Grangefield School enjoyed a record year, with 72 per cent of pupils achieving five A\*-C and 53 per cent getting five A\*-C including English and maths.

**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.



## In school and achieving

It's great to see young people across Leeds realising their potential with fantastic results in both their GCSEs and A Levels. I want to congratulate everyone who has contributed to this success.

As a new academic year begins we must keep working together to build on this. Tackling the really difficult issues that impact on school achievement can only be done through partnership right across children's services.

Improving school attendance, a priority in our new Children and Young People's Plan, is one of those issues. We've already seen the positive impact we can make by targeting particular groups and schools. The Children Leeds Partnership has signed up to all parts of children's services playing their role through integrated working to make further progress. We must create opportunity to share expertise and experience from each other to ensure more young people are in school and achieving. For example, I know that over the coming year secondary headteachers and Education Leeds have agreed to focus on giving schools more opportunities to learn from each other and think creatively about solving attendance. I am especially pleased to know that this is happening.

*Rosemary K Archer*

**Rosemary Archer**  
Director of children's services

**Children Leeds**

## Dates for your diary

### Skills Yorkshire and Humber skills and careers show

Sheffield Arena, Wednesday 7 and Thursday 8 October 2009

For children and young people to find out about Leeds City College, the courses on offer, facilities and student life.

For more information about the event, to book your place and to find out about the travel bursary go to: [www.skillsyh.co.uk](http://www.skillsyh.co.uk)

### ESOL – the new approach Yorkshire and Humber launch event

St George's Centre, Leeds, Thursday 24 September 2009, 9.30am to 3.30pm

This event will explain the role of local authorities and partners in implementing the government's new policy for English language provision.

For more information contact Rachel Fraser, email: [rachel.fraser@capgemini.co.uk](mailto:rachel.fraser@capgemini.co.uk)

### Together for Peace (T4P) UN International Day of Peace

Leeds Central Library, Monday 21 September 2009, 12.15pm to 1.30pm

Hear past and present stories of peace-making.

## Education Leeds annual lecture 2009

With guest speaker Sir Ken Robinson

**W**e are delighted to confirm that Sir Ken Robinson, an internationally recognised leader in the development of creativity, innovation and human resources, and a New York Times best selling author, will deliver this year's Education Leeds annual lecture.

The landscape for learning is changing – locally, nationally and internationally.

We don't know what the future holds for the children who are starting school this year. We don't know what skills our children will need to do jobs that haven't even been invented. Teaching more of the same won't be enough to make the difference. We need a radical revolution in learning and teaching. We need to think and act differently if we want to continue to inspire our children and young people to be passionate, enthusiastic learners who can reach their full potential.

Sir Ken Robinson is a unique speaker, whose lecture will stimulate debate, challenge thinking and inspire change. Don't miss this opportunity.

The event will take place on Wednesday 25 November 2009, 6pm to 9pm at Saviles Hall, Leeds.

To find out more about the annual lecture and to book your place, go to: [www.educationleeds.co.uk/annual\\_lecture](http://www.educationleeds.co.uk/annual_lecture)

## Sex in our city – all you need to know

**T**he Leeds sexual health website is the place to find information about the local sexual health services in Leeds.

At [www.leedssexualhealth.com](http://www.leedssexualhealth.com) you can find information about sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing, contraception, pregnancy and a virtual drop-in where you can ask questions about sex and sexual health.

Any young person aged 15 to 24 can request a free Chlamydia testing kit. Local testing rates show that 1 in 10 young people in Leeds are testing positive for Chlamydia, which often has no signs or symptoms.

For free posters and lanyards for your service contact Maggie Dufton, email: [maggie.dufton@nhsleeds.nhs.uk](mailto:maggie.dufton@nhsleeds.nhs.uk)

Leeds based professionals can find out more about sexual health at the Public Health Resource Centre at Armley Park Court. For more information go to: [www.phrc.leeds.nhs.uk](http://www.phrc.leeds.nhs.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](mailto:children.leeds@leeds.gov.uk), phone: 0113 395 0247.