

Brighton & Hove Virtual School for Children in Care

This outlines our training and activities offer for 2015/16

For Designated Teachers and other school staff

Attachment Lead training days

An exclusive offer from the Virtual School for 24 education professionals from local schools to access an intensive 7 day course with attachment and education expert Louise Bomber

9th September

7th October

11th November

9th December

22nd January

26th February

22nd April

Loxdale Centre – Portslade

Contact virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details or to book on.

DT's training day

For all **new** designated teachers (or those who have not received introductory training or feel in need of a refresher) we are offering a half day opportunity to meet with the Virtual School to discuss the key issues around their role, meet with other new Brighton & Hove DTs and to share experiences.

November 10th – Moulsecoomb Hub Great Hall

12 - 4.00pm

Contact virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details or to book on.

DTs networks

Primary and secondary networking opportunity for designated teachers to meet with the Virtual School and discuss key issues for the education of CIC both locally and nationally.

3rd November Secondary, Special and 16+ - Dorothy Stringer School

5th November Primary – City Academy Whitehawk

Contact virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details or to book on.

Conference

The annual 'Brighton & Hove Virtual School for Children in Care Conference' with keynote speaker addressing key educational issues of the moment for CIC.

16th June 2016 Sussex University

Contact virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details in 2016.

Attachment support group

Our offer for DT's to meet as group for half termly support with attachment issues from Louise Bombers and Claire Langhorne. These groups are now established but there could be a new 'beginners' group if enough interest was expressed to form one.

Teachers & SENCO / Senior Managers: 8/9, 3/11, 12/1, 23/2, 12/4, 7/6

Key Adults -Beginners: 15/9, 10/11, 19/1, 1/3, 19/4, 14/6

Key Adults-Intermediates: 22/9, 17/11, 26/1, 8/3, 26/4, 21/6

Key Adults -Advanced: 29/9, 24/11, 2/2, 15/3, 3/5, 28/6

Venue: Downs Park School, Foredown Road, Portslade, BN41 2FU. Tel 01273 417448

Contact virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details or to book on.

Attachment Aware Brighton: 1 day course

Open to all professionals working with B&H children in care and part of the programme of increased attachment awareness delivered by Educational Psychologist Abigail Bickford-Smith.

20th October 2015

26th November 2015

23rd February 2016

Contact abigailbickford-smith@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk 01273293565

Attachment aware school: 2 day courses

A 2 day course available getting your whole school to be attachment aware delivered by Educational Psychologist Abigail Bickford-Smith.

5.10.15 and 2.11.15

18.1.16 and 1.2.16

Contact abigailbickford-smith@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk 01273293565

For Home Tutors

Tutors + VS training

An opportunity for tutors to meet with the Virtual School and fellow tutors working with CIC and to hear about the current changes in assessment and curriculum.

16th September – Sussex University meeting room

13th January 2016– Kings House Room 328

23rd June 2016– Moulsecoomb Hub South, Conference Room 5

Contact virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details or to book on.

For the Young People

CiC raising aspirations day

Following on from last years inspirational trip with B&H CIC to Cambridge University there is this year an opportunity to experience life as it might be at Sussex University and to see what great incentives are available to CIC.

9th October @ Sussex University

Contact virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details or to book on.

Awards ceremony

Our annual extravaganza in association with FST will once again this year celebrate the achievements of 50 B&H CIC in this exclusive setting

6th Nov - Thistle Hotel

Contact virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details or to book on.

Virtual School clubs

Virtual School funded and assisted weekly activities for CIC enabling them the opportunity to socialise and receive expert tuition in sport and leisure activities.

Dance Club – Thursdays 6:30-8:30 Patcham High School

Athletics club – Thursdays 4:30-5:30 Withdean Stadium

Table tennis club – Mondays 5:30-7 St John the Baptist Church, St George's Terrace, Kemptown, Brighton, BN2 1AP

Drama club –Tuesdays 4-6 FST Unit, Moulsecoomb

Contact virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details or to book on.

For Social Workers

Social Worker training

An offer to social workers to attend a 2 hour training session with Virtual School Headteacher Mark Storey, Key Stage Advisor Rob Caddick and Senior Educational Psychologist Sarah Ahmed to discuss education matters such as curriculum, assessment levels and SEN.

16th December 2015 9:30-11:30 – TBC

16th March 2016 9:30-11:30 – TBC

13th July 2016 9:30-11:30 – TBC

Contact virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details or to book on.

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For Foster Carers

Foster Carer Training

An opportunity for Foster Carers to develop awareness on how to support CiC with SEN and Under 5's learning and development. Courses delivered by Virtual School Senior Educational Psychologist Sarah Ahmed and Virtual School Advisor Rob Caddick.

20th January 2016 – 10:00 AM – 2:30PM Special Educational Needs, Resources & Making the most of PEPs: Valley Social Centre, Whitehawk Way, Brighton.

27th January 2016 – 10-12 - Early Learning – How to Give your Child the Best Start - Valley Social Centre, Whitehawk Way, Brighton.

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/cypworkforce then go to: 'Foster Carer Programme' – see pages 35 and 37.

Carers book themselves on directly (all outlined in the link).

Foster Carers Conference

An exciting opportunity for all foster carers to come together with the Virtual School to discuss key issues pertaining to their role in the education of young people in their care.

15th March 2016

10-2pm – Sussex County Cricket Club (TBC)

Contact virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details or to book on.

For Adoptive Parents

Adoptive parents attachment aware drop-in

Our offer of drop in sessions for adoptive parents and led by Anne Henderson & Louise Bomber

Tuesday 29th September 1-3pm at Downs View Link College

1. 'Settling to Learn'

This session will focus on how we can help our children settle into their new class at the start of the new school year. How we can encourage and support them with practical strategies and attachment based advice.

Tuesday 17th November 1-3pm at the Loxdale Centre, Portslade

2. 'Friendships and Play'

Vulnerable children who have experienced a difficult or unsettled start in life, sometimes find it hard to form and sustain positive relationships with their peers in school. This session looks at how we can support our children to develop peer relationships within the school setting.

Tuesday 9th February 1-3pm at the Loxdale Centre, Portslade

3. 'Taking control'

It can be hard for troubled pupils to follow adult instructions within the school setting. This session focusses on the role of key adults, mentors and support assistants. We will look at the strategies they may use to help our children build and develop trusting relationships.

Tuesday 22nd March 1-3 at the Loxdale Centre, Portslade

4. 'Introducing and staying Calm'

This session focusses on strategies we can use to help children who have experienced trauma or are experiencing anxiety to settle and calm alongside a key adult. We will share and practice practical strategies such as the calm box, sensory breaks and the creation of a 'safe' space.

Tuesday 10th May 1-3 at the Loxdale Centre, Portslade

5. 'Moving to Secondary'

This is for parents of children making the move from Primary to Secondary school. We will focus on the demands this can place on troubled pupils and consider practical strategies to support them and help them make a smooth transition.

Tuesday 28th June 1-3 at Downs View Link College

6. 'Starting School'

This session is for parents and carers of children who will be starting nursery or reception in September. We will consider the needs of our children making this new start and share practical strategies to support them make a smooth transition.

Contact Nicola.frost@brighton-hove.gov.uk for further details or to book on.