

NEW DEAL : NEW HORIZONS

Minutes of a Education meeting held at the Blakenall Village Centre on Monday 2nd July 2007 at 6.30 p.m.

In attendance

Mick Taylor - Patch Representative4/Theme Chair
Graham Morris - Patch Representative 11
Roy Jones - Patch Representative 13

Officers

Bob Marsh - Education Theme Manager
Diane Jones - Theme Administrator

Partners

Sue Wedgwood - Education Walsall
George McQueen - Education Walsall
M Jose - Education Walsall
Jan Owen - ContinYou
Pushpa Vaeadia - College of Continuing Education
Rita Thornbery - Headteacher Sandbank
John Price - Walsall EBP

Guests

Jo Gardner - Hoshin
Phil Smith - Hoshin

1. Apologies

Jean Jevons
John Jones
Colin Bedford
Gail Beeley

Agenda item		Action
1.	Introductions MT welcomed everyone and introductions were	

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www.walsallnewdeal.org.uk

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	made round the table.	
2.	Declarations of Interest None were declared.	
3.	Minutes of Previous Meetings These were accepted as a true record. Proposed: Graham Morris, seconded: Jan Owen.	
4.	Matters Arising None.	
5.	Reggio Emilia Approach to the Curriculum RT gave a presentation to the group showing how the Reggio Emilia Approach works and how it has been applied into the Sandbank school. Sandbank school was recently judged 'Outstanding' by Ofsted. Rita was thanked for her interesting presentation.	
6.	Project Reports (i) c. Data Project – GMcQ gave a verbal report of the success that this project was now showing. . New Deal pupils are showing a stronger improvement in reading and maths in KS1 than the rest of Walsall pupils. Overall, the progress is steadily improving, and solidly working with schools and Education Walsall should show a faster accelerating improvement. Free school meals have also dropped in the New Deal area which shows an improvement in employment and sustainability in the area A more detailed report was handed out on the	

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	<p>night.</p> <p>a. Access to Learning in the Community – PV gave a brief breakdown of her report. On most of the courses, the actual numbers of people taking part on the courses are higher than was projected.</p> <p>b. Outreach & Basic Skills – JO gave a brief description of her report. Working with Work on the Horizon a successful Paediatric First Aid course was completed. I hope that they will be doing another course as there is a lot of interest.</p> <p>The Celebration of Achievement evening was a great success to everyone who attended and she hoped that there would be another evening next year.</p> <p>ContinYou also had a stand at the over 50's where they had contact with 33 people.</p> <p>At the Leamore Park event, even though the weather was appalling they still managed to engage with 31 people.</p> <p>Targets for May & June have improved from the report sent out.</p> <p>School Improvement Fund – BM gave a verbal update on this project.</p> <p>Access to ICT in schools - last years project, all have been delivered and set-up. A couple of laptops were presented to 2 children from the showman's guild site. This will enable the children to keep up with their schoolwork while they are moving about</p>	
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	<p>the country.</p> <p>Wiring Up of the BVC - the hardware is in place at the BVC, but there are issues with the general public having access, this is been sorted out.</p> <p>The broadband access - there is also a slight delay as the Telewest/Virgin Media surveys were delayed, work is now in progress.</p> <p>(ii) New Projects – Out of Schools Support this project has been delayed in starting. From September, the junior homework club will begin in the restaurant area of the Blakenall Village centre. There will be two weekly sessions Monday and Wednesday. There is need to reprofile this project and a meeting will be arranged with Sue Wedgwood and Bob Marsh.</p>	<p>BM to arrange</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Pre-NEETS Project An evaluation has been done on this project and Hoshin have passed the full evaluation report to the Employment theme. Everyone on this project is doing well. The theme was asked to recommend this project to go to Approvals to keep the continuity going. The project was recommended for appraisal and presentation to Approvals sub-committee on 17th July 2007.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Celebration of Achievement BM thanked everyone for their part in making the evening such a great success and there will be one next year. He had received an apology from Bruce Gilbert for his non-attendance and thanked Helen Denton for stepping into the role of presenter of Awards.</p>	

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9.	Valley Nursery A report received was for information only. Funding had been withdrawn from the playgroup that was held in the Blakenall Community Centre and the playgroup will have to close at the end of the current summer term. It is useful for the playgroup to continue as it makes it easier for the youngsters to integrate better when they attend nursery school. It was suggested that the playgroup could move to the Valley Nursery and continue in the conservatory. BM still investigating the reason behind the withdrawal of the funding with a view to New Deal plugging the gap if this does not constitute substitution of funding.	
10.	Any Other Business None.	
11.	Date of the future meetings Monday 22 nd October 2007 Monday 10 th December 2007	

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