

NEW DEAL: NEW HORIZONS

Charity Number 4582937
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Minutes of an Education Theme Group Meeting held at the Blakenall Village Centre on Monday 30th October 2006 at 7.00pm

In Attendance

- Mick Taylor - Education Theme Chair / Patch 4 Representative
- John Jones - Patch 3 Representative
- Graham Morris - Patch 11 Representative

Officers

- Bob Marsh - Education Theme Manager
- Gail Beeley - Youth Worker
- Claire Bissell - Administrator

Partners

- John Price - Walsall Education Business Partnership
- Pauline Peagram - College of Continuing Education
- Jan Owen - ContinYou
- Sue Wedgwood - Education Walsall

2. Apologies

- Debbie Marshall - Patch 12 Representative
- Roy Jones - Patch 13 Representative
- Mervyn Stonnard - Patch 7 Representative
- Jean Jevons - Community and Voluntary Sector Representative
- Tom Perrett - New Deal Chair

Agenda Item		Action
3.	<p>Notes from the previous meeting</p> <p>The notes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.</p>	
4.	<p>Matters Arising from the notes</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the notes.</p>	
5.	<p>Project Reports</p> <p><u>Access to Learning in the community</u> Pauline Peagram delivered a report from the College of Continuing Education. She reported that Linda Fisher had now taken early retirement and that they would be in a position to recruit a new project leader and 2 learning mentors by January 2007.</p> <p>Statistics had just been received and PP reported that college-wide 61 enrolments were from the ND:NH area.</p> <p><u>ContinYou</u> JO delivered a report from ContinYou. With regards to computer courses, the BiC group had grown and therefore had to be split into two separate groups.</p>	

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	<p>The Stan's Surfers group was also over-subscribed.</p> <p>With regards to targets, the carer's course now had 9 registered and it was hoped that this would link up to the City and Guilds course.</p> <p>PC asked about ContinYou presence at Smith and Thomas House. JO reported that there had not been a large enough response to run a course there, but people had been referred to other courses,</p> <p>GB reported that she had received positive feedback on ContinYou's work at Rivers House.</p> <p><u>Data Project</u> BM reported on the encouraging data that had been received for the Key Stages.</p> <p>The group were very pleased about the results and that targets were being met. JJ suggested a large article on the front page of the ChTatter. PC to follow up suggestion.</p> <p>In relation to this JP reported on feedback from the NEET's project run by Walsall Education Business Partnership.</p> <p><u>School Improvement Fund</u> BM gave details of progress on the School Improvement Fund. A long term evaluation was to be set up with Wolverhampton University and that the effects of the project would begin to be seen in next years Key Stage results.</p> <p>SW reported that the headteachers had reported that ND:NH interventions were having a positive effect. She also highlighted the importance of intangibles and this was echoed by BM who said giving children a greater breadth or experience would have a knock on effect in other areas, for example they would have a larger vocabulary.</p> <p><u>'You Can Do It!'</u> A report has been received from Prospects, however the information is not what was requested. ND:NH are in dispute with Prospects regarding data which has still not been received.</p>	
6.	<p>Update on project development</p> <p><u>"Access to ICT in Schools phase II"</u> BM reported that this project was out for appraisal.</p> <p><u>Wiring up the BVC</u> This is ongoing, Elaine is in discussions regarding installment.</p> <p>BM also reported that the Borough are interested in carrying out a pilot wireless scheme for local areas.</p> <p><u>Homework Club and Transitions</u> BM reported that these projects were under development.</p> <p>MT asked how the Homework club would work and BM explained that it would work in partnership with schools and would employ a tutor through the LEA to</p>	

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	provide help, guidance and supervision.	
7.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p><u>Castle Special School</u> PC informed the group that the money allocated to Caste Special School could not be used as eligible match funding. He asked for a group consensus on whether or not they should still receive the money.</p> <p>MT pointed out that there were New Deal children that attended this school and also that it was a small amount of money. The consensus was that they should still receive it and use the money for other expenses associated with special school status.</p> <p><u>Performance Management Review</u> PC asked the group when they would like to hold their Performance Management Review, the consensus was that this would take place during the next Theme Meeting on Monday 8th January 2006.</p> <p><u>Outward Bound Week</u> JP reported that the Mid-Counties Co-op had provided a £5000 sponsor for 40 young people from the ND: NH area to attend an outward bound week.</p>	
8.	<p>Date and time of the next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Education Theme Group will be held on Monday 8th January 2006 commencing at 7.00pm at the Blakenall Village Centre.</p>	