



THE VIRTUAL SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN IN CARE NEWSLETTER No. 13 Oct 2012

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✉ Virtual_School@bathnes.gov.uk

🌐 Webpage www.bathnes.gov.uk/virtualschool

We're back!

The school year is now well underway and we hope it has started well for you and your children in care. There are quite a few changes this year – this newsletter contains the most immediate ones, more on the way soon.

Excellent results 2012

We're delighted with the results our children in care achieved this summer. In KS2, 67% achieved level 4 or above in English and Maths. In KS4, 71% made expected progress in English and 60% in Maths. Almost all of our 16-18 year old care leavers are in education, training or employment. Looked after children in Bath & North East Somerset now make progress in line with their peers and are being given opportunities to succeed. Thanks to everyone for your support!

Virtual School administration support

Our brilliant administrator Sarah Candy left in August to train to be a teacher. A new one will be joining us on November 5th but for now please bear with us! We wish Sarah all the best in her training and thank her for her excellent work for us.

New website

The Local Authority has launched its new website. The Virtual School has a more detailed site and can be found at www.bathnes.gov.uk/virtualschool.

Quick designated teacher checklist:

- Do you know who your CiC are?
- Have they got a key adult in school?
- PEP dates in diary?
- Tracking progress and intervening if needed?
- In touch with carers and social workers?
- Sent report on CiC progress to governors?
- Using the Pupil Premium to raise standards?
- Report on Pupil Premium on school website?

Read Ofsted's report on the Pupil Premium [here](#).

Are you a new designated teacher?

Please let us know: Virtual_School@bathnes.gov.uk
Do call us if you need any help in your role.

Training 2012-2013

Foster Carers and Adopters Education Conference
Wednesday October 24th, 10.00am to 2.30pm, at Fry's Conference Centre, Keynsham. Further details and booking from Sue_Scullard@bathnes.gov.uk.

Bath Spa University Master's Level module on Attachment and Learning

This action enquiry based course will be running again in 2013. Details to follow soon. E mail Michael_Gorman@bathnes.gov.uk if you'd like more information when it becomes available.

Louise Bomber Attachment Training day

Friday January 25th 2013, Fry's Conference Centre. Following the huge success of Louise Bomber's training day in May, we've booked Louise again for a day full of practical steps schools can take with children with attachment difficulties. Please note that due to popular demand Louise will be running the same session she ran in May – lots of people have said they wished they'd come, so here's your chance! E mail Virtual_School@bathnes.gov.uk for details and booking form.

Coming soon...

In Care, In School teaching and training pack

This exciting PSHE teaching pack and staff training programme will be published nationally in November 2012. All B&NES schools and academies will receive a free copy.

Children Looked After Data Tracker

We are switching to a new web based tracker developed by Essex County Council from term 2. Details will be sent to all schools soon.

Nationally we're expecting an Ofsted survey report on Virtual Schools soon, and possible new DfE policies. Watch this space...

The Virtual School is:

Mike Gorman (KS4-5)
Lynne Whitfield (EY-KS3)
Have a good term!