

Extended Services Progress Report

Autumn 2009

Malvern Cluster

This report aims to provide schools across Malvern with an update on extended services developments both countywide and within their communities during the autumn term 2009/10.

Countywide Update

Malvern's Extended Services Team consists of one Extended Services Co-ordinator (Julia Hallam) and two Early Intervention Family Support Workers (Nichola Wilson and Allan Poyner). Julia is managed by Rachel Denton (Cluster Manager) and Nichola and Allan are managed by Jo Gandy (Team Co-ordinator)

Julia Hallam joined Extended Services in September and is supporting the schools across the Malvern Cluster during Maria Roger's maternity leave. She has been out to visit almost all the schools to update their progress towards the Full Core Offer of Extended Services, and to introduce herself. She has also met with many partner organisations and is looking forward to working on some very worthwhile projects over the coming year.

During meetings with schools Julia has encouraged Head Teachers to recommend that appropriate Governors attend the Governor training sessions which have been arranged to help embed extended services developments into school improvement. The Malvern training takes place at the Three Counties Showground on 22nd March. **To book a place on the training please contact Becky Cash on 01905 728719 or via email rcash@worcestershire.gov.uk**

Julia has also been promoting the following opportunities which support the Extended Services Core offer:

- **Share Training**

Share is an innovative family learning programme. It is a great way for families with children aged 3 to 13 years to share time together, learn and have fun. St. Matthias completed the training this June, and Madresfield have expressed an interest for Summer 2010. If any other schools are interested in taking up the next round of training, please contact Helen Reeves-Webb at HRwebb@worcestershire.gov.uk for more information.

- **The Family Information Officer for Malvern Hills**

Val O'Connell is happy to attend appropriate school events to offer free impartial information for families with children aged 0-19 years on childcare, leisure activities and support services for families.

Cluster Update

1. General

1.1 Identify a project to improve writing in schools across Malvern (SEF Categories: B1.26 Parental Support, A4.4 and A4.5)

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The aim of this project is to improve skills and confidence in the writing process and build enthusiasm for writing through practical activities with parental involvement.

Progress: Following consultation with Literacy advisors a writing project is being planned to take place from February to July 2010 involving the following four schools: Malvern Parish CE Primary, St. Matthias CE Primary, Great Malvern Primary and Madresfield CE Primary. It will involve KS1 children and their parents.

Initially one day of training will be provided by a literacy consultant to inspire teaching staff and parents by engaging them in the writing process. Additionally the training will develop expertise in the writing toolkit. This will enable participants to train further parents, teachers and teaching assistants to ensure future sustainability.

After the training, each school will invite parents of the selected year group into their setting for practical experiences with their children to inspire writing. This will be followed by an off site visit involving parents and children of all four schools to further reinforce their confidence towards writing. Throughout the project, the children will record their progress in individual family scrapbooks.

At the end of the project a showcase event will be held, to celebrate and share both the children's and parents' achievements. The project will be concluded with a reflective workshop, attended by representatives from each school, in order to evaluate the project and look to future planning.

The first planning meeting has taken place, and a second is booked for January.

1.2 Continue to support the Malvern Inclusion Project to prevent exclusion, improve confidence and attitude to learning in identified young people(SEF Categories: B1.26 Other, A4.5, A4.6)

Progress: Led by Kay Poole in partnership with the Play Rangers, this project involves nine traveller young people from the Chase High School and one from the Riverside School attending a weekly session during lesson time at the Youth Centre in Malvern. During the sessions they have been working on projects together which aim to improve their self esteem and attitude to learning, celebrate their culture and raise their aspirations. This term they have been working towards making a DVD to showcase their culture.

2. Childcare (SEF Categories: B1.25 Childcare)

Julia facilitated a meeting between Councillor Penelope Morgan, the Early Years and Childcare Service and the school to support Great Malvern Primary School to investigate setting up a breakfast club to meet the needs of their families. It was agreed that Great Malvern Primary would carry out consultation with parents and produce a cash flow projection for the first twelve months of the club. This would then be used to apply for PCT funding, with the support of Councillor Penelope Morgan. Penelope will inform the group when she hears the date of the next funding meeting, so that the group can meet again to prepare their planning application

3. Varied Menu of Activities including study support and play

3.1 Support the joint planning process for the Sport Unlimited agenda (providing 5 hour of sporting opportunities for children and young people) (SEF Categories: B1.26 Other, A4.5)

Progress: Julia has met with the Sports Development Officer Mark Hammond, his assistant Dave Knapper, and Jo McGrath, Partnership Development Manager, Worcestershire West School Sports Partnership, to gain an understanding of their work so far, and to discuss their plans for the Joint Delivery Programme of sports' provision into year 3 of the project, following a school consultation carried out by Jo.

3.2 Investigate the need to pilot a community music club to increase access to music (SEF Categories: B1.26 Parental Support Including Family Learning, A4.5, A4.8)

Progress: This Folk Music club is up and running based at Great Malvern Primary School. The group is led by Advanced Skills Music Teacher Allyson Craigan. The weekly after school club is a collaboration between Worcestershire Youth Music, Extended Services, Great Malvern Primary and The Grove Primary. The group consists of children from years 5 and 6 and their parents, learning together through music making. There are currently 8 enthusiastic members; two fathers, two mothers, three boys and a girl. There is capacity for more. The focus for next term is performance as the group prepare to perform at the Malvern Music Centre concert.

Further evaluation will be gathered at the end of this term.

3.3 Support schools in the recruitment of volunteers to increase the delivery of specialist clubs for targeted groups (SEF Categories: B1.26 Other, A 4.5)

Progress: This action was raised as a point for discussion at the PIMs meeting on 26th November. Heads raised a concern about safeguarding issues, health and safety and appropriateness of approach regarding volunteers. Julia has sought the advice of key officers and has fed back to the Head Teacher representing the pyramid.

3.4 Manage the implementation of the POW (Positive Opportunities Worcestershire) across Malvern (SEF Categories: B1.26 Other A4.4, A4.5, A4.6, A4.8)

Progress: Informal discussions have taken place with Head Teachers at audit visits, and the briefing document has been given to all Heads at visits. Launch events for schools and providers have been discussed informally followed by formal invitations being sent out to the events taking place as below:

Julia has promoted the Preferred Provider list at Local Strategic Partnership meetings and other appropriate meetings with partners. Expressions of Interest have then been emailed to those providers who have requested them. Briefing sessions for professionals have been booked at Bridgewater House for January and February.

4. Parenting Support

4.1 Support the schools to maintain their parent information points (PIPs) (SEF Categories: B1.26 Parental Support and A4.4, A4.5)

Progress: 12 schools have ordered PIPs to date.

4.2 Support St. Matthias and The Grove Primary to offer family learning taster sessions (SEF Categories: B1.26 Parental Support Including Family Learning, A4.4, A4.5, A4.6)

Progress: St. Matthias CE Primary has been supported to offer family learning taster sessions. Two circus skills workshop days took place on Saturdays this term. With the aim of engaging parents they proved to be very well supported and successful. Two further workshop days are planned for next term.

The Grove Primary is planning on running Forest School themed family taster sessions in 2010, supported by Extended Services.

4.3 Develop and deliver evidence based parenting programmes (EBPs) which meet the needs of identified parents (SEF Categories: B1.26 Parental Support, A4.4, A4.5, and A4.6)

Progress: Allan Poyner and Nichola Wilson are now established in post as the Early Intervention Family Support Workers for Malvern. They are trained in Triple P and will be delivering this parenting course in the New Year, assisted by Caren Fereday. They will be inviting referrals for this from schools. Allan has also had Family Links training, and will be looking to run a course for parents in the near future.

5. Early Identification and Support

5.1 Meet the needs of families by implementing the Early Intervention Family Support (EIFS) Project (SEF Categories: B1.26 Specialist Support Service and A4.4, A4.5)

Progress: The EIFSWs Allan Poyner and Nichola Wilson are now well established within their school bases and have made good links with the schools across Malvern. They are now carrying case loads and have received positive feedback for the work completed with families. Allan Poyner is in the process of linking up with the school nurse, to set up drop-ins with some of his cluster of schools; currently Suckley, Callow End and Somers Park have requested this service. He has also been attending parents' evenings and coffee mornings to raise his profile. The EIFSWs plan to run a Christmas Crafts session in Malvern during December for children of families they are currently working with. In addition, both are now trained in Triple P and will be delivering this parenting course in the New Year, assisted by Caren Fereday. They will be inviting referrals for this from schools. Allan has also had Family Links training, and will be looking to run a course for parents in the near future.

5.2 Provide additional targeted activities/projects to vulnerable children & young people (8-19yrs) within hot-spot areas in line with the Targeted Youth Support Action Plan (SEF Categories: B1.26 Specialist Support Service and A4.5)

Progress: Sessional workers supported positive activities in the hot spot of Pickersleigh by helping vulnerable young people organise and take part in a very successful football tournament during the Autumn term.

5.3 Support the development of a pilot project to increase communication and language skills in identified children and young people. (SEF Categories: B1.26 Specialist Support Service, A4.4, A4.5, A4.6)

Progress: Julia has liaised with the Primary Care Trust and school head teachers across Malvern about the proposed plan to run a training programme for staff and parents to start after the February half term. The programme would run for four weeks and would equip attendees from three schools with the skills to recognise speech, language and communication needs in children. The aim of this is to enable them to plan and carry out intervention groups for children with the aforementioned needs, and give them classroom strategies to help support these children in accessing the curriculum to their full potential. The initiation of the programme is dependent upon PCT staffing capacity in the New Year.

5.4 Support Sunshine and Evergreen Children Centres to develop early intervention strategies which support Foundation stage transition (SEF Categories: B1.26 Specialist Support Service, A4.4, A4.5, A4.6)

Progress: Julia has met with Sue Rogers, Manager of Sunshine Children's Centre, Claire D'Arcy, Manager of Evergreen Children's Centre, and Jo Gandy, Team Coordinator for the Early Intervention Family Support Workers in Malvern. She has discussed with them the best way to share information. Sue and Jo meet termly with The Grove head to share information. They plan to duplicate this with Great Malvern. This is working well. Julia is planning to approach head teachers at Somers Park and St. Matthias to facilitate a similar model of meetings to share information for Claire and Jo, beginning next term.

6. Community Access

6.1 Support St. James, St. Matthias and Great Malvern Primary Schools in Malvern to develop community access through the Extended Services Capital Programme (SEF Categories: B1.26 Community Access)

Progress: Great Malvern's kitchen improvements are complete, and their grand opening took place on 8th December.

Somers Park's Community room is being funded through Children's Centre capital funding.

St. James' hall refurbishment is now being managed by Becky Willetts and Nikki Dolton-Deeley.

Due to a conservation issue, the original Expression of Interest submitted by St. Matthias has been amended and no longer meets the requirements of Extended Services capital funding