

Worcestershire Virtual School News

Issue 11

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Post 16

Exciting News!

The Virtual School have appointed two new Area Learning Advocates for Post 16

They are Jill Peplow and Jess Francis - Jill is currently PEP Coordinator for The Virtual School already and Jess is a Post 16 NEET Advisor within WCF.

They are really looking forward to working on this much needed area and further updates will follow in the next newsletter.

CLA Awards Nominations

Thank you to all who took the time to complete a nomination form for their Worcestershire CLA; we have received a record number of nominations and are delighted that so many of you took the time to think about the positive achievements of our CLA. We are really looking forward to delivering the certificates and finally being able to come out and see you. Expect us to be turning up at reception at some point in the week commencing the 12th of July.

Psychological First Aid Training

On Monday 22 February, Public Health England (PHE) launched a new online Psychological First Aid (PFA) training course on how to provide practical and emotional support to children and young people affected by coronavirus, or other emergencies or crisis situations.

The course will equip those completing the training to better identify children that are in distress and provide support to help them feel safe, connected, and able to take steps to help themselves. Prior knowledge or experience is not required as this introductory course will teach you the key principles of giving PFA to children and young people in crisis situations.

The course is free and available for all frontline workers such as teachers, health and social workers, charity and community volunteers and anyone who cares for or is regularly in contact with children and young people aged up to 25, including parents and caregivers.

It takes about three hours to complete (split into three sessions that the learner can complete at their own pace) and no previous qualifications are required.

On completion, participants will have an understanding of what Psychological First Aid is, be able to identify who would benefit from support and how best to give help across the different age groups and also for those who might need extra support because of different needs.

Sign-up for the training on the Future Learn website:

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/psychological-first-aid-for-children-and-young-people>

Inclusion Plan for Previously Looked After Children

A reminder that the inclusion plan to support all **Previously Looked After Children** can be found on the Virtual school website under the Previously Looked After Children tab.

This is a partnership agreement between home, education setting and any other professionals to ensure everyone has an awareness of a child/young person's early experiences, developmental trauma, and any potential triggers. It allows for a collaborative discussion and agreement on actions needed to ensure effective provision and an inclusive environment.

This document is good practice and ideal to support with upcoming transition meetings.

[Previously looked after child inclusion plan | Previously Looked After Children Advisor \(Virtual School\) | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Artslink

A note to let you know that our online Disney project is now available for all Virtual Schools to access if you haven't already. We've created 2 show pages (*Frozen* and *Beauty and the Beast*), with filmed-live performances of the shows plus accompanying activities commissioned from West Midlands artists, including singalongs and crafting.

If you'd like to share with your young people, carers, etc. you can download the Disney flyer at the bottom of our Flyers page:

<https://www.artslinkwm.org.uk/flyers>

We are here to support you and our children looked after/previously looked after. Please call or email, using the details below or visit our website.

Virtual School Helpline 01905 844913
[**virtualschool@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk**](mailto:virtualschool@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)



