

# Southend Virtual School

## Newsletter



September 2017

### Training and Meetings

#### Virtual School Forum

MONDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017

TICKFIELD CENTRE

13.00pm to 15.30pm

#### Kate Cairn Associates Training Sessions

##### BEHAVIOUR AND THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

MONDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017

TICKFIELD CENTRE

09.00am to 13.00pm

##### TRANSITIONS AND VULNERABILITY:

##### DEVELOPING RESILIENCE THROUGHOUT THE SETTING

MONDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2017

TICKFIELD CENTRE

09.00am to 17.30pm

##### MANAGING BEHAVIOURS

MONDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2017

TICKFIELD CENTRE

09.15am to 16.15pm

Training/Forums are open to schools in Southend or those schools out of borough accommodating a Southend LAC child as well as Social Work staff working for Southend Council. Please confirm your attendance on-line through the Southend Learning Network or if unable to book online email [MariaBasharan@southend.gov.uk](mailto:MariaBasharan@southend.gov.uk)

**The Virtual School Forum is also open to Foster Carers.**

### Education Drive Launch

We are launching our Education Drive on 28<sup>th</sup> September. We are inviting Foster Carers, Social Workers and Supervising Social Workers for the morning and the Years 11s will join us at 12.30 for a shared lunch with their Designated Teachers or Key Workers.

GCSE Pod will be there to give out logins to young people in the afternoon and to deliver the training to all who attend.

James Howarth, Motivational Speaker from Legacy 123 will be there to support the Virtual School.

### Awards Ceremony 9<sup>th</sup> October

The Virtual School's Looked After Children Awards Ceremony is held annually to celebrate the academic achievements and personal growth of children that are within the care system.

We hold this event so that our young people see that their efforts are publically acknowledged and that the communities they represent are proud of their outcomes.

This event was a huge success last year and George Sampson (winner of Britain's Got Talent 2008) attended and the children and young people absolutely loved him! The Awards Ceremony was attended by 125 people. We are still awaiting confirmation of this year's special guest.

We have received some nominations this year however we do need a few more. If there are any children/young people you would like to nominate for academic year 2016/2017 please email [MariaBasharan@southend.gov.uk](mailto:MariaBasharan@southend.gov.uk) with details of names and why you think they should be nominated. Closing date for nominations is the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### Reminder - New in Care

If children were taken into care towards the end of last term or over the summer holidays they will require a PEP within 20 school days. This also applies to children in transition years when starting their new school. Social Workers allocated to the young people have responsibility for generating the PEP. Social Workers should work with schools to arrange the meetings and start the process.



## Cirdan Trust - Sailing Voyage

10 young people from The Southend Virtual School and Young Carers as well as 2 volunteers attended a residential off shore sailing trip during the summer holidays. The adventure involved our young people becoming part of the crew and joining in with all aspects of operating the ship and life on board.

The young people successfully sailed from Poole along the south coast over the course of 7 days at sea. This included a challenging night sail when all those on board were responsible for navigating through difficult rough seas. The young people's attitude was outstanding throughout the trip, working effectively as a team, building resilience and overcoming personal challenges. The trip was a great success and enjoyed by all.

Feedback from our young people:

- I would like to say one big thank you to everyone who did this trip because I have met wonderful people. If I had the option to come back I would.
- It was fun but scary in an adventurous way.
- I enjoyed it a lot and would like to do it again
- I learned how to focus and work hard
- It was good fun
- It's difficult but a really good experience
- It was very educational and enlightening



## KS2 and KS4 Results

We are delighted to announce the **provisional** results for Looked After Children (LAC) as follows:

### KS2 Results

LAC Greater than 1 year - **33%** for Reading Writing and Maths (last year 20%)

All LAC - **29%** (last year 14%)

### KS4 Results

LAC Greater than 1 year who achieved 4 to 9 in English and Maths - **25%** (last year 14%)

All LAC - **20%** (last year 10%)

The above provisional results are a significant improvement to last year. Well done to all.

## ePEP Deadline

The deadline for ePEPs this term is the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017 in order to qualify for Pupil Premium payment.