



Newsletter

Issue 1 - February 2012

Camberwell Park Primary School Strike Gold

Education Business Solutions works with schools to guide them through the liP process.

Camberwell Park is a primary specialist support school which was judged as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted in May 2010. The school caters for 85 children who are aged between 2-11 years. The children who attend Camberwell all have special educational needs including severe learning difficulties, profound and multiple learning difficulties and autism.

The school were first recognised as an Investor in People in 1996. The standard was maintained until 2006 when for various reasons, they were de-recognised. As the school value liP, they re-committed to the standard in 2008. A plan was put together and they were assessed again in 2009, gaining back liP status. The assessment was a very positive experience for the whole school. The strengths were outlined, together with some development points for the school to consider.

As the school were due for review, we discussed the deeper standard and also the Health and Well Being Award, which sits alongside liP perfectly and fitted in with the direction the school were taking. They have recently been assessed against the liP Gold Standard together with the Health and Wellbeing Award, achieving both! This is well-deserved recognition for the school and staff who are going from strength to strength.

UPCOMING EVENT Breakfast Meeting - Policy into Practice

Providing/ensuring access to independent and impartial Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

Date: Friday 23rd March 2012
Venue: Salford City Stadium
Time: 7.30am - 10.00am

Why not join us for breakfast at the first in a series of events for school senior leaders and decision makers. Taking place in the new Salford City Stadium this event will provide an opportunity to consider how the recently published Education Act will impact on your school. Our guest speaker will be David Andrews (OBE), a leading national consultant and trainer specialising in CEIAG.

The event will focus on the implications and key responsibilities for schools, following the proposals in the Education Act. You will find out about how local providers can support you in implementing these proposals and what the statutory guidance on the Act says. You will also be able to put questions to a panel of experts.

There will, of course, be the opportunity to network with other school leaders from across Greater Manchester during breakfast.

Places at this free event are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment!

To book a place please email events@gmchamber.co.uk

Education Act

The end of 2011 saw the passing of the Education Act. The Act focused partly on the provision of careers guidance in schools. Schools will have a new duty to secure independent and impartial careers guidance for all pupils in years 9-11, whilst responsibility for supporting vulnerable young people to continue in education or training will remain with the local authority. Destination measures will be introduced as a way of assessing the effectiveness of new arrangements and will become part of school league table statistics. Statutory guidance on the Act aimed at school leaders, school staff, governing bodies and local authorities is expected to be published in the spring.



FLEx Plus

Following on from the success of our Key Stage 4 re-engagement programme GM Power and a successful pilot this year Education Business Solutions are pleased to announce we are opening up the FLEx Plus programme to all schools in Greater Manchester.

What is the FLEx Plus programme?

FLEx Plus is a one or two day a week programme that combines the flexible and accredited long term work experience of the FLEx programme (Foundation Learning Extended Work Experience) with a Level 1 vocational qualification delivered in a Greater Manchester Skill Centre. Learners can complete the qualification alongside their work placement over two years from Year 10 or on a condensed one year course in Year 11.

The vocational courses currently on offer are: Automotive, Construction, Administration, Childcare and Hairdressing

Who is FLEx Plus for?

FLEx Plus is suited to capable students who will benefit from a vocational context to their learning.

What are the benefits?

- Acquisition of recognised qualifications
- Increased motivation
- Added variety to a learning programme
- Enhanced personal effectiveness
- Contribution to literacy/numeracy
- Underlining the relevance of the national curriculum
- To aid transition from school to work, equip young people for working life and to instil a culture of "lifelong learning"
- Long term work experience to enhance CVs

Where can I get more information?

If you would like to refer your young people for this programme or would like a member of the work experience team to come into school to provide further information contact Kate Howlett via:

kate.howlett@eb-solutions.org.uk

Alternative programmes

For learners who would benefit from an even greater degree of flexibility to help them re-engage with education contact a member of the Work Experience Team via info@eb-solutions.org.uk and ask for more information on our FLEx and FLEx Extra programmes.

Inspiring IAG

If your school is interested in gaining recognition for its careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) provision, then you will be interested in the Inspiring IAG Quality Award. The award provides a good practice framework to help schools in meeting their statutory requirements, as well as gaining recognition for high quality provision. Over 100 organisations across Greater Manchester have achieved the Bronze/Silver Standard or Gold Award, with more currently taking part. To find out more about getting involved visit www.inspiringiag.co.uk or contact Jane Wilkinson, Inspiring IAG Project Manager. Jane.Wilkinson@career-solutions.co.uk



Are you Business Ready?



A new national quality award has recently been launched which assesses and recognises the quality of schools' involvement in developing young people's employability.

Business Ready™ identifies the core attributes that schools need to offer effective support to young people to help them prepare for productive and fulfilling working lives, enabling schools to improve their practice.

'Being Business Ready™ is exactly the message we wish convey to our students, parents and business partners.'

Karen Colligan, Associate Head teacher, North Huddersfield Trust School

Education Business Solutions will be delivering the award across Greater Manchester having recently become IEBE Approved™ - an employability hub for schools and businesses, meeting the professional needs of practitioners across the area. Organisations awarded this status must comply with rigorous quality criteria and have an excellent track record in delivering services to a high standard.

Business Ready™ offers a content-rich improvement and accreditation process for schools that work with businesses to develop their students' employability. The accreditation requires the school to undertake a self-assessment and provide supporting evidence, which are both subject to external verification by an independent assessor.

If you would like to find out further information about Business Ready™ please contact Jodie McNally via Jodie.mcnally@eb-solutions.org.uk



Raising the Participation Age (RPA) and Destinations measures for Schools

From summer 2013 all young people will be required to participate in education or training until the end of the academic year in which they turn 17, and from summer 2015 onwards until their 18th birthday. The Department for Education has recently embarked on a consultation exercise seek views on elements of how RPA will work in practice - by consulting on the policies that will form the secondary legislation. It covers aspects such as the definition of residency; the definition of full-time education; any wider ways of working that (when combined with part-time study) could be considered as participating, and the amount and use of any fines.

www.education.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1694&external=no&menu=1

As part of the overall RPA strategy plans to introduce Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 Learner Destination Measures as headline indicators for performance tables were confirmed in The Importance of Teaching. The intention is that this information will provide clear and comparable information on the success of schools and colleges in helping all their students take qualifications that offer them the best opportunity to progress and ensuring they receive the support needed to prepare for and complete the transition on to a positive destination.

It is important that schools work closely with local authorities and CIAG providers to build on the annual activity survey information about destinations of school leavers to meet the demands of the new policy.

Work Matters

The Greater Manchester labour market information (LMI) website, www.wmgm.co.uk has been re-launched. The website contains new materials and resources aimed at keeping staff in schools, colleges, work based learning organisations and other providers up to date with LMI.

Resources on the site include:

- Local authority area and employment sector data in a user friendly format
- A news page to help you keep up to date with labour market developments
- Access to documents relating to labour market issues on a local and national level.

Information is regularly updated, and examples of recent articles are below:

A number of key infrastructure and development projects in Greater Manchester will provide new opportunities for the construction sector, including the major developments in East Manchester, Airport City, and Port Salford. With the likely requirements for the low carbon retrofitting of building, the construction sector will see an increase in the number of "green jobs" available.

A recent graduate jobs market study of 100 of the UK's best known and most successful employers found that these employers are expecting to increase graduate recruitment by 6.4% in 2012.

Data suggests that the manufacturing, public administration and education sectors face a particularly tough time in the coming few years, while the finance, retail, hotel and tourism and digital sectors should fare better.

To subscribe to the website please complete the sign in details on the home page or contact the Development Team on **0161 245 4871** or developmentteam@careers-solutions.co.uk

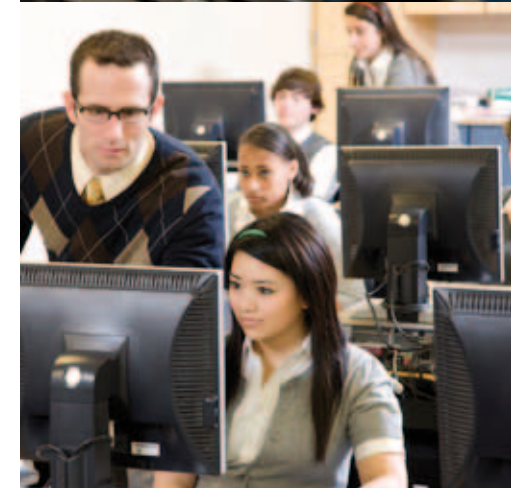
CPD

Careers Solutions offers a programme of high quality training for staff in schools, colleges, work based learning organisations and other providers working with young people. In the coming months two key conferences are being held:

- **Making it Happen:** Achieving Aspirations for young people with LDD/SEN - 15th March;
- **Contemporary Themes in the Labour Market** - 24th May.

Both events will provide an opportunity to hear from experts in the field, reflect on current initiatives and consider best practice.

For further information about these events and any of our other courses; or if you would like us to deliver a bespoke session for your staff, contact the Development Team on **0161 245 4871** or developmentteam@careers-solutions.co.uk



For more information about our services please log onto www.gmchamber.co.uk