

Making it Happen

The Community Learning Newsletter - Autumn 2019
Focusing on Adult Learning in West Berkshire

Tutor Forum 2019

The annual Community Learning Tutor Forum took place in November to support the professional development of West Berkshire adult and family learning providers and tutors.

This year's programme focused on three key areas:

- i) The new [OFSTED Education Inspection Framework](#)
- ii) Informal and formal learner pre-assessment
- iii) Embedding of functional skills within the teaching and learning process.

Donna Fox, Principal Adviser for School Improvement, gave an insight in to the Council's aims and priorities and the importance of Community Learning providers in the targeting and delivering of courses that address local needs.

The session also highlighted what tutors should reflect on when

planning their courses in relation to need, content and delivery. This item is explored in more detail under the heading of New Ofsted Framework on page 2.

For further information on this year's forum contact the Community Learning team on 01635 519060 or acsteam@westberks.gov.uk



Working hard at the tutor forum



New Ofsted Framework

Introduced in September 2019 the new OFSTED [Education Inspection Framework \(EIF\)](#) focuses on the design, delivery and impact of the curriculum and courses.

Tutors are an important part of this new approach and the Community Learning team has come up with the following key questions that tutors and providers may want to reflect upon.



For more information on the Ofsted framework contact the Community Learning team on 01635 619060 or email acsteam@westberks.gov.uk

Intent

- What is the aim/intent of your course?
- What is your course designed to give your learners?
- Does your course support all learners, even those with SEND or high needs? How does it cater for differing levels and abilities?
- Is the course content relevant, ambitious and challenging?



Implementation

- What is your course plan?
- Do you have good subject knowledge and how is that benefiting the learners?
- Are you presenting your subject matter clearly and appropriately for the learners in your class?
- Do you use a variety of assessment methods to check learner understanding?
- Do you provide clear and direct feedback?
- Are you able to demonstrate that you have adapted your teaching methods/content in response to learner needs and abilities?
- Do you create an environment that allows learners to focus on learning?
- How good are the teaching materials and resources? Are they well planned and implemented? Are they varied?
- How do you develop your learner's Literacy and numeracy skills?



Impact

- Do your learners develop detailed knowledge and skills and as a result, achieve?
- Do learners leave your course ready for the next stages of learning, or the next level of the subject?
- Does your course allow your learners to go on to destinations that meet their interests, aspirations and intentions?

Lifelong Learning Reviews

There are currently a number of government reviews in to post 19 education and training under the heading of lifelong learning. These reviews may provide a new focus,

revised funding and create new opportunities for the CL service provider: [Liberal Democrats](#), [Labour](#) and the [Education Select Committee](#)

Community Learning Partnership

The Community Learning Partnership brings together West Berkshire based learning providers and community organisations to provide a high quality, accessible, safe and varied community learning programme for adults and families across the district.

Members include adult and family learning providers, local apprenticeship and training organisations, funding bodies and local communities groups and services. The Community Learning Partnership is open to any organisation involved in the delivery of post 19 education and training within West Berkshire. To become a member go to www.westberks.gov.uk/clp and complete the online registration form.

The Partnership has recently elected Debbie Ferguson as the new Chair responsible for representing the local community learning sector over the next three years.



*Debbie Ferguson,
Community Learning
Partnership Chair*

Debbie is an experienced senior manager within further education with an in-depth knowledge and understanding of curriculum development and management across community learning, functional skills (maths and English) and the employability agenda.

The next Partnership meeting will take place at **10am on Thursday, 12th March 2020 at Shaw House.**



Sharon Pearce Profile

Sharon Pearce is the new manager of the Central Family Hub in Thatcham.

Previously the Senior Family Support Worker at the West Family Hub Sharon brings to the role a huge amount of knowledge and experience in supporting families and delivering adult and family learning.

She has a real commitment to education which is reflected in her own achievement of gaining her teaching qualifications and achieving QTLS whilst working full-time and being a mum to her two children, Josh and Becci.

Sharon is a strong believer in achieving a healthy work life balance and enjoys rugby, swimming, walking and reading.

For more information on the courses delivered at the Central Family Hub and the range of rooms and resources available to rent contact Sharon on email: Sharon.Pearce2@westberks.gov.uk or telephone 07824 408456



Sharon Pearce, Central Family Hub Manager

Community Learning: A Year in Numbers

Last year was another successful year for the West Berkshire Community Learning service with new providers and a wide range of exciting new adult and family learning projects and courses.

The range of provision continues to support Council priorities around employment and further learning, supporting families, developing communities and supporting good health and wellbeing.

With around 2,000 adults enrolled on 268 courses in 32 different venues the service worked with 22 different education providers across West Berkshire.

For more information on the community learning service contact the aciteam@westberks.gov.uk or telephone 01635 519060.

Community Learning Data Profile 2018/19

32 Community venues

343 Learners aged 60+

22 Individual learning providers

1963 Adults enrolled on a course

268 Courses delivered in West Berkshire

29% Learners have a learning difficulty/disability

Learner Achievement Awards

The 17th annual Learner Achievement Awards were held in June at Shaw House, Newbury. The awards celebrate the success of adult and family learning in West Berkshire and cover a wide range of courses and projects across the district.

This year's awards were presented by Sam Davies, local children's author, respected cartoonist and the talent behind the [Hex Vet books](#).

The awards are part of the national Festival of Learning that takes place in May-June every year. Organised by West Berkshire Council on behalf of

the West Berkshire Community Learning Partnership the awards are sponsored by Newbury College, West Berkshire Training Consortium, and the Newbury Community Resource Centre.

To view the winners photos and find out more about the Learner Achievement Awards go to: <http://info.westberks.gov.uk/laa2019>

The nominations for the 2020 Awards will be launched in the Spring term.

For more information contact Community Learning team on 01635 519060 or acsteam@westberks.gov.uk



Learner Achievement Award Winners 2019

Community Learning Provider Update

Armadillo

Armadillo Art Experience is an on the road art workshop that promotes the benefits of creative learning opportunities to vulnerable adults and children.

Supported by the Community Learning team Armadillo is currently working with Homestart to deliver a series of workshops

aimed at new mothers with post-natal depression.

Armadillo is a new organisation led by Rosie and Simon Jardine who have over 10 years' experience of teaching art in the community to a wide range of groups. For more information visit the Armadillo website at www.armadilloimages.com/



Armadillo Art Group

Autism Berkshire



Autism Berkshire will be delivering the Teen Life course in January aimed at educating parents and

carers on strategies and ideas to support and develop teenagers with autism.

Funded by the Community Education Fund the course runs for six weeks and will take place at Swings and Smiles, Lower

Way, Thatcham, RG19 3RR from Monday 27th January (12:00 to 2:30pm).

Other courses available from January include:

- Understanding Autism - Wednesday, January 22, 2020.
- Managing Anger - Wednesday, March 11, 2020.
- Sensory Needs - Wednesday, February 12, 2020.

For more information contact Sarah Brown on 01189 594 594 or visit the [National Autistic Society webpage](#)

Digging for Wellbeing

Growing2gether is a horticultural therapy and environmental education centre for adults and young people with learning disabilities, physical disabilities and mental health issues.

Based at Cottismore Garden Centre they offer a range of opportunities for people to take part in outdoor gardening and horticulture activities, learn gardening skills and how to grow their own food.

For more information email: tandcs@cfpnewbury.org



Working in the sunshine at Growing2gether

English Courses in West Berkshire

The Berkshire School of English (BSE) continues to offer a range of courses and opportunities for native and non-native speaking adults to develop their English skills.

One of the most popular initiatives is the weekly coffee morning on Thursdays at the Newbury office between 10am and 11:30am. The event often includes local community guest speakers and is open to anyone. Full details are available on BSE's Facebook page.



BSE coffee morning

For more information email: info@berkshireschoolofenglish.co.uk or call 01635 45900.

Family Wellbeing at the Corn Exchange

The Corn Exchange is delivering a Wellbeing In the Family course

over three Saturdays starting in February.

Funded by the Community Education Fund the course



provides creative activities and specialist information to help families become more physically, mentally, emotionally, socially and educationally healthy.

For more information contact Rebecca Smith by emailing rebeccas@cornexchangenew.co.uk or call 01635 582666 (option 3).

Useful West Berkshire Contacts

Ian Pearson, Head of
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Berkshire Council
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Learner Services and
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Newbury College
01635 845000
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www.newbury-college.ac.uk

U3A Newbury,
01635 524099
http://u3asites.org.uk/newbury/
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Ruth Pearse CEO,
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ruth@
parentingspecialchildren.
co.uk 0118 986 3532

National Careers Service
0800 100 900

Venues for hire

Riverside Centre, Clay Hill, Newbury

Tel: 01635 332700
Email: clayhillra@gmail.com

Adventure Dolphin, Pangbourne

Tel: 0118 984 3162
Email: adventuredolphin@westberks.gov.uk
activityteam@westberks.gov.uk

Phoenix Resource Centre, Newbury

Tel: 01635 520150

Growing2gether RG14 5SS

Email: enquiries@growing2gether.org Tel: 01635 299949

Newbury College, Newbury

www.newbury-college.ac.uk/room-hire.html

West Family Hub, Newbury

Contact: Sally Lawson - slawson@victoriapark.w-berks.sch.uk

Central Family Hub, Thatcham

Contact: familyhubs.bookings@westberks.gov.uk

East Family Hub, Calcot

Contact: familyhubs.bookings@westberks.gov.uk

Hungerford and Area Family Centre

Contact: Shelly Hambrecht
Shelly@hungerfordnursery.w-berks.sch.uk

Newbury Community Resource Centre

(Free room hire and car parking for VCS organisations) 01635 43933

West Berkshire Libraries

(Low rates for Community Learning Providers)
library@westberks.gov.uk

Contact Us:

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We are committed to being accessible to everyone. If you require this document in an alternative format or translation, please call the Community Learning Team on Telephone 01635 519060.