

Nassea Schools Linking Subgroup

Meeting at Trafford Council offices, Sale Waterside.

6.10.2011

Present:

Annette Nelson Trafford
Joe Flynn Manchester
John Fowler Cheshire East
Nicole Hand Stockport (Schools Linking Operational Manager)
Stephanie Longson Stockport
Sandra Nield Tameside.
Apologies;
Melanie Griffin Bury
Barbara Pickford Cheshire East
Yvonne Gibson

Overview of Schools and LA's involved.

Stephanie gave a list of the schools in the 5 LA's who are currently active in this year's Schools Linking Project. One additional school in Trafford will opt in next year and have had some funding for the project.

There are:

25 in Stockport
5 in Manchester
1 in East Cheshire
1 in Tameside
4 in Trafford

Structure of the Programme

Schools expressing interest are profiled to match to their link school. Then the Link teachers meet for the first CPD session. This has already taken place and has been well received. A clear overview was given of the 3 stages in the cycle. The built in opportunities to reflect on the work, the links and the face to face meetings were highlighted as instrumental in giving children the opportunity to reflect on the learning within the 4 themes: Who am I? Who are we? Where do we live? How do we live together?

Nicole is willing to do wider training in the schools if required, even though there might not be a class exchange through the project.

When the pupils meet at the 2 neutral venues during the year, these are always venues with lots of experience at motivating the children. They attend the CPD day with the teachers, so that the schools can choose their venue. Romiley Forum, The Manchester Art Gallery and Lyme Park offer fun experiences such as, a Wild West drama theme , work on portraits and den building

Examples of work by Pupils:

Nicole brought and shared examples for the children's work. Some of the work shown was the introductory activity work done and sent to link schools prior to the first meeting.:

A box in which pupils placed objects or photos of objects, with writing to explain why they were special.

Poems,

A fold out personal fact file

Identity books/reflection books

The children exchange ideas about their ideal schools, postcards and video presentations.

The group saw some of the resources developed by SLN (Skin Again), and some of the Fiction Books used within the project work at all key stages.

These included:

Something Else

Voices in the Park

The Lost Things

The Silence

The Island

The Silence Seeker

Annette reminded the group of the Black History Month CD circulated last year, which would also be a good source of materials.

Clarification around NASSEA/SLN / Stockport Partnership

The group discussed the real costs involved for the project. SLN have still got funding from sponsors including the Pears Foundation, but don't have local or central government funding. They are now operating with reduced staffing levels. The SLN have not given any contribution towards Nicole's salary (not funded by Stockport) Stephanie will draw up some clarification of the links between the organisations in view of the £5000 contribution from Nassea.

Supporting other LA schools linking operational managers

Nicole could be used for training if capacity to deliver outside our region was not available through SLN. SLN to cover strategic input and requests for training outside the region, or with LA's not currently involved in this tranche.

SLN Drivers/News

Angie Kotler is stepping down as CEO to do some research. The post has been advertised.

The planned regional celebration event next summer would be better placed to attract new schools if it was a market place style event with keynote Speaker. This would probably be held somewhere in Manchester, perhaps Chancellors or Gorton Monastery or somewhere conveniently central such as the Friend's Meeting House. The event would take place in May or June.

AOB/ Next meeting

Trafford Council Offices, Sale Waterside: 1.00pm 2nd February. All Nassea members are welcome.