

Children's Services Newsletter

Spring 2010

Introduction from John Collings, Executive Director of Children's Services (acting)

As the Chair of Newcastle Children's Trust Board, I am delighted to start a consultation process with you on the draft Newcastle Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) for 2011-2014.



This is only the first part of a much bigger process and focuses on:

- the vision for children and young people living and growing up in the city
- the principles which will underpin our work; and
- the possible priorities that would be at the heart of the plan.

The 2011-14 CYPP will set out how partners will work together to make a difference to the life chances and outcomes of children and young people in Newcastle.

It covers all children and young people in Newcastle aged 0 to 19 years old and some groups of young people up to the age of 25 who have learning difficulties and or disabilities. It includes children and young people from other areas who are attending Newcastle schools or college, and those in the care of the local authority who live outside the area. It builds on what has been achieved since our first plan was published in 2006 and refreshed in 2009 and 2010.

In developing this draft for consultation, we looked at what the data tells us about Newcastle. We asked children and young people and parents and carers what their priorities were. We spoke to people who work with children, young people and families. From this, we identified our vision for Newcastle, the principles for how all agencies in our city will work together and 12 draft priority outcomes for improvement.

We are inviting you to tell us if you think these are the right priorities, whether there are too few or too many and what we might have missed that you think is important.

On our website: www.newcastlechildrenservices.org.uk we have published a short consultation paper and questionnaire. You can complete the questionnaire online or send it back to us by email or by FREEPOST.

Introduction

On behalf of Newcastle Children's Trust Board, thank you in advance for your comments on our draft vision, values and priority outcomes. We will consult again in the autumn on further developments and actions that partners will deliver to take the priorities forward.

Regards,



Be Healthy

Teenage pregnancy rates fall

According to latest figures, teenage pregnancy rates in Newcastle fell from 58.0 women per 1000 in 2007 to 50.5 per 1000 in 2008. The overall number of conceptions to women under the age of 18 fell 14% to 229.

Newcastle PCT and the City Council are continuing work with partners on a number of joint initiatives aimed at further reducing teenage pregnancy in Newcastle:

- a teenage pregnancy support team working in particular to reduce the numbers of second pregnancies.
- Teenage Kicks, an outreach team working particularly in areas where there are greater numbers of teenage conceptions.
- Streetwise is a young people's project based in the city centre of Newcastle with contraception and sexual health drop-in services staffed by nurses.
- Mint, an award-winning magazine aimed at young women to give them the information they need to make informed choices about their future in a fun and relevant way. A young men's edition will be published later this year.
- the new Croft Centre, a sexual health centre in the heart of the city improving access to access to local sexual health services for young people.

The Targeted Mental Health in Schools (TAMHS) Project by Suzanne Payne, Project Manager

What is the TAMHS Project about?

TAMHS is a DCSF initiative that aims to transform the way Mental Health Services are delivered to children and young people between the ages of 5 and 13 years.

How do you expect it to make a difference?

This initiative will support staff based in and around schools to identify, support and manage children, young people and families who are at risk of, or who have mental health difficulties, at the earliest possible stage of any difficulty emerging.

- Children, young people and families will feel their difficulties are being recognised and the appropriate support given promptly.
- Those children, young people and families requiring a more specialist mental health intervention will have improved access to services and the impact of any work undertaken there can be supported back in school, home and the local community.



Be Healthy

How did you get into this role?

I have worked in child and adolescent mental health for the last 18 years and since 2005 have spent increasing amounts of time based in and around schools. It became clear to me that children and young people with mental health difficulties have particular challenges to overcome in school and that their mental health has a significant impact on their learning and achievement. What was also clear was the vast amount of skills, dedicated staff and range of supports based around a school community setting.

The TAMHS Project offered the opportunity to support school staff to identify children and young people with difficulties at the earliest stage and to access appropriate support, with some specific resources to deliver and measure the impact of our work so we are able to make clear recommendations about service delivery and design for the future.

What are the challenges?

There haven't been many challenges with this project. The commitment not only from the schools but also from the agencies that work into the schools has been fabulous. We have a strong multiagency steering group and clear aims and outcomes that we are working towards.

The biggest challenge has been in keeping the project a manageable size so we can evaluate its impact. Whilst we are limited in this by our pathfinder status and resources, we are trying to offer as much of the training and resources as widely as possible where we can. Information about these extended opportunities will be communicated with schools either via this newsletter or at school cluster meetings.

How will the scheme develop?

- Over the next 18 months the project will deliver training to the 21 schools involved on a range of mental health issues.
- We also intend to develop a Mental Health Champion for each school to act as a resource for staff and families.
- Counselling services will be put into the schools that will deliver individual work, work with small groups and work with families.
- We are currently exploring ways to involve children, young people and families in shaping the project further and other services and events will follow as the project progresses.

Anyone wanting to discuss the project or find out more please contact me on suzanne.payne@newcastle.gov.uk or alternatively on 0191 277 4458.

Start4Life

Start4Life is a new national campaign to support pregnant women and parents of babies to give their baby a healthier start in life. It is part of Change4Life, launched a year ago, and focuses on the Under 2's.



Start4Life centres around 6 'building blocks', based on infant health research, to help parents know what's right for their baby. These promote the benefits of breastfeeding, give advice on weaning and how to give babies a variety of food to stop them turning into fussy eaters or having a sweet tooth, and why it's important for all little ones to be lively and active.

If you work in health or childcare, visit the Start4Life website for more information and resources and also promote it to the parents you work with: www.nhs.uk/start4life

Be Healthy

Alcohol awareness

A DCSF commissioned report summarising all the current evidence on the harms and benefits of alcohol consumption for children and young people has been published:

www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DCSF-RR067.pdf

The report reviews all existing literature around the risks associated with alcohol misuse, the protective factors that inhibit alcohol misuse, and both the adverse and positive consequences of drinking alcohol.

The findings highlight the important role of parents and carers in educating young people about the effects of alcohol, as those who first use alcohol in a home environment are less likely to misuse than those who begin experimenting with peers. It also emphasizes the role of other adults who retain good relationships with a young person, characterised by appropriate levels of support and control, as also likely to be protective. And that delaying the time of a young person's first drink may reduce the risk of harmful drinking.

The government's latest campaign (see: <http://whyletdrinkdecide.direct.gov.uk/>) aims to:

1. raise young people's awareness of the consequences of drinking, such as making them vulnerable to unwanted pregnancies, road traffic accidents and poor marks at school
2. support parents and carers to work with their children to establish a safe and sensible relationship with alcohol

The interactive website has specific areas for parents and for children and young people and is supported by cinema and TV advertising as well as games for young people to play on Facebook. It also includes resources for practitioners to use in talking to children and young people about alcohol, and leaflets to give to parents and carers and to children and young people to help them to talk to each other about it.

Successful HPV campaign protects against cervical cancer

National figures released by the Department of Health (March 2010) show that over 89% of all girls aged 12 to 13 in Newcastle have had the first set of three HPV vaccine jabs that will give them protection from cervical cancer. This compares to 78.4% across England.

Last year the government also rolled the programme out to 17 to 18 year olds to ensure that more girls can be offered protection against cervical cancer earlier. 58.5% of all girls aged 17 to 18 in Newcastle (31.1% nationally) have had the first jabs.

The campaign has now been extended to protect all girls aged 12 to 18 against cervical cancer. For info on getting the vaccine call 0191 219 4816.

The Truth is out there

Theatre group Gibber are currently touring Newcastle secondary schools staging a play which explores the approaches used by the tobacco industry with follow up interactive workshops for the pupils. The Truth looks at issues such as smoking in the movies, additives in cigarettes, third world marketing and the environmental impact of smoking.

Be Healthy

By communicating with young people in a way that is both informative and fun we are working toward a long term goal to prevent young people from starting smoking at all. There is significant evidence, particularly from the USA, that one of the most effective ways to tackle smoking by young people is through drawing their attention to these negative practices.

At last week's tenth annual Northumberland and Tyne and Wear smoke free school awards, 51 schools across Northumberland and Tyne and Wear received a standard award and 16 schools the gold award. The awards contribute to helping prevent young people from starting to smoke, helping smokers to stop and reducing exposure to second hand smoke. Congratulations to Christ Church C of E Primary School in Shieldfield, which obtained the gold smoke free school award and to all the other schools.

DCSF 'Be Healthy' consultations

There are currently three national consultations on key outcome areas relating to Be Healthy:
www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations

- Teenage Pregnancy Strategy: Beyond 2010 – closing date 20 May 2010.
- Sex and Relationships Education Guidance (SRE) for maintained primary, secondary, special schools and pupil referral units (PRUs) – closing date 19 April.
- Draft Regulations and Associated Statutory Guidance, for Local Authorities to Provide Short Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children and Young People – closing date 26 April 2010.

Audit Commission findings on “Giving children a healthy start”

This report discusses the impact of government funding on health outcomes for the under 5s; how effectively local bodies manage their resources, and the extent to which they are providing good value for money. It examines local service planning and delivery, including priority setting, and how local bodies can improve service delivery and access for vulnerable groups such as black and minority ethnic (BME) communities, lone and teenage parents. And it provides recommendations for national and local bodies as well as examples of notable practice:

www.audit-commission.gov.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Downloads/201002-Childrens_health_Summary_WEB.pdf

Canteen biggest barrier to healthy eating

New research by the School Food Trust has shown for the first time that poor quality canteens are the biggest barrier to children's uptake of school food. This includes cramped canteen layouts, poorly managed queuing systems, inefficient payment methods and high noise levels. They found that even small changes can make young people eat more school food.

Their new 'Canteen Rescue' competition offers five schools the chance to win a professional makeover for their canteen. The deadline for submissions is 10 April 2010.



For more on this see the website: **www.schoolfoodtrust.org.uk/**

Stay Safe

Information sharing and CAF training dates

New dates have been added to the website. For more information see:
www.newcastlechildrenservices.org.uk/node/12298

Missing Children and Young People protocol

Newcastle's Missing Children and Young People protocol refers to situations when children go missing from home or when children who are looked after by the local authority go missing from residential or foster care. It defines the roles and responsibilities of agencies and staff concerned with safeguarding children and young people.

The protocol is available at:
www.newcastlechildrenservices.org.uk/node/12002

Private fostering

Private fostering takes place when someone who is not a close relative cares for someone else's child for over 28 days. A child is a young person under 16 or under 18 if they have a disability. This includes teenagers who've had a row with mum and dad and gone to live with a friend and children who because of family circumstances such as separation, illness or parents working away are sent to live with friends or neighbours.

- Has someone else started collecting a child from school on a regular basis?
- Has a child mentioned to you that they are staying with someone else or that their parent(s) have gone away for a long time?
- Is there something unusual or unclear in the child's administration file?
- Does the carer seem vague about the child's routines (bedtimes etc.), their health history, development checks and immunization record?
- Has someone in the neighbourhood suddenly got a 'niece' or 'nephew' who is staying with them for a little while?

Legally, the parent and the carer must notify the local authority where the child is going to live so that they can ensure that the child is being properly looked after. This includes providing information, advice and support - essential welfare checks for the children, advice on claiming benefits, parenting support and advice, and help in bringing families in crisis back together

If you think you may know of a private fostering arrangement, please contact the Initial Response Service on 0191 277 2500.

Think Family and Family Intervention Projects (FIPs)

Since April 2009 all local authorities have received increased funding to support the introduction of:

- Think Family practice - making sure that the support provided by children's, adults' and family services is coordinated and takes account of how individual problems affect the whole family.
- Targeted support for parents and families - such as Family Intervention Projects and Parenting Early Intervention programmes designed to provide evidence-based support to families experiencing problems.

Stay Safe

DCSF has developed a range of guidance and protocols to support and reinforce the local implementation of the 'Think Family' approach to delivering services. These call for adult and children's services to work more closely together and take a whole family approach to secure better outcomes for children from families with complex needs.

For more information see the Think Family website at:

www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/strategy/parents/ID91askclient/thinkfamily/tf/

Family Intervention Projects (FIPs) work with the most challenging families and tackle issues such as antisocial behaviour, youth crime, school absenteeism, drug and alcohol addiction, domestic violence, poor mental health and inter-generational disadvantage. Families are supported by a dedicated 'key worker' who coordinates a multi-agency package of support and works directly with family members to help them overcome problems.

Results from national evaluation of the Anti-Social Behaviour FIPs show positive improvements across a wide range of measures:

- involvement in anti-social behaviour (ASB)
- families facing one or more housing enforcement actions
- families with education and learning problems
- families experiencing truancy, exclusion and bad behaviour at school
- families in which there were concerns about child protection
- families affected by a mental health problem
- families in which domestic violence was a concern
- families with drug & alcohol problems declined.

The first data on outcomes from the youth crime and child poverty FIPs will be published later this year.

Children and young people's experiences in care

The Children's Rights Director, Roger Morgan, and his team listen to what young people tell them about the way they are being looked after and the services they receive. His reports are provided to Ofsted and the government to consider when inspecting social care services or making policy decisions. Several reports have been published in past few months at his website:

www.rights4me.org

These include children and young people's views on:

- rights and responsibilities
- planning, placement and review
- getting advice
- Keeping in Touch
- Children's Care Monitor 2009.

Click Clever Click Safe

A survey, conducted by Young Poll, found that over a quarter of young people say their parents never talk to them about how they're spending their time online - which can leave a child more vulnerable to cyber bullying, people accessing their personal information and witnessing potentially harmful or upsetting content.

Stay Safe

Young people spend an average of 8 hours online each week – with the majority of time spent on social networking and gaming sites, and the average 6-14 year old communicates with over 1,100 people online in a year. Only 34% of young people have met in 'real life' all the people they speak to online.

This survey highlights some of the issues the government hopes to address through **Click Clever Click Safe**, the first UK Child Internet Safety Strategy. The strategy has three aims:

- creating a safer online environment
- giving everybody the skills, knowledge and understanding to help children and young people stay safe online
- inspiring safe and responsible use and behaviour

Released alongside the strategy is the campaign **Zip it, block it, flag it**, which encourages children to keep safe online by keeping personal information private, blocking messages and reporting inappropriate online behaviour. This new digital code is intended for use by schools, retailers and social network sites, and aims to be the 'green cross code' for internet safety.



View the strategy at: www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/news/click-clever-click-safe

View advice for children and young people, and parents and carers about using the internet safely at: <http://clickcleverclicksafe.direct.gov.uk>

Violence against women and girls (VAWG)

The Home Office has published a strategy 'Together we can end violence against women and girls' at: www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/vawg-strategy-2009/index.html. This includes a range of actions for the police, councils, health agencies and government departments across three areas: prevention, provision and protection.

When the NSPCC released the first major study of domestic violence among young people, it showed that 25% of girls aged 13 to 17, and 18% of boys have been physically abused by their partners. A third of girls had been forced into sexual acts they didn't want. Girls with much older boyfriends were found to be especially at risk. The research also showed that teenagers were reluctant to talk to adults about the violence they were experiencing and most would never report it at all.

The DCSF set up the Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) Advisory Group in July 2009 to provide advice to Ministers on how schools can most effectively tackle the issue of violence against women and girls, as part of the development of the cross government VAWG Strategy. The Group has now reported and made recommendations on new strands of work to ensure schools' impact on preventing and tackling violence against women and girls is maximised.

To read the VAWG Advisory Group report, see:

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-00281-2010.pdf>

The government has confirmed it will act in full on the recommendations:

- all schools to receive guidance to help prevent and respond to violence against women and girls

Stay Safe

- all young people to be taught about gender equality and VAWG in PSHE as part of the national curriculum
- teachers to be given clear advice on how to deal with suspected cases of violence against women and girls in their schools and referring young girls at risk to support services
- all parents and carers to have access to support and advice to help them discuss violence against women and girls with their children, and to signpost parents of girls experiencing violence to further advice and support.

An advertising campaign focused on violence and abuse within teenage relationships is currently showing on TV.

DCSF Consultation: Transition to adulthood for looked after children

DCSF are consulting on the entire suite of regulations and guidance for this policy area until 26 March 2010:

<http://leavingcareconsultation.dcsf.gov.uk/>

Enjoy and Achieve

Breaking the link between special educational needs and low attainment

Over recent years, school standards have risen steadily and substantially at all Key Stages and in all main subjects of the curriculum. But this masks the relative underperformance of the very large proportion of school-aged children: 21 per cent, or 1.7 million – who are currently identified as having special educational needs (SEN).

This document considers what works well for local authorities and schools in improving outcomes for children with SEN. Key principles and guidance are suggested in areas of collaboration, leadership, teaching strategies, engaging parents, and wider wellbeing such as anti-bullying:

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/00357-2009.pdf>

Improving the attainment of looked after children in primary and secondary schools

For many children in care, school life can be challenging. They may find it harder to trust adults, their educational experience may have been disrupted, and their capacity to build and maintain friendships may be impaired. They need good schools, with good staff who understand how to support and challenge them. These guides capture the experience of schools that have worked well to support children in care. It is hoped that spreading their good practice could benefit many more children across the country.

Primary guide:

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/01047-2009.pdf>

Secondary guide:

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/01048-2009.pdf>

Enjoy and Achieve

Opportunity for free laptops for low income families

The Home Access programme will help low-income families to get access to a computer and the internet to get online at home. It is aimed at families in receipt of certain benefits with children in Years 3 to 9, who haven't already had a computer through another grant programme.



Research has shown that pupils could improve by two grades at GCSE if they have a computer at home, and ministers hope the scheme will narrow the educational divide between children receiving free school meals and their peers.

The grant allows families to get a compliant package consisting of a computer, internet access, service and support from an approved high street supplier. Parents will be sent a Home Access card to use in the high street which will be valid for three months from date of issue. Parents can call 0333 200 1004 to request an application pack. Or contact their local school for more information.

Congratulations to our National Leaders in Education!

Congratulations to Nicola Nelson-Taylor, head teacher at Beech Hill Primary, and David Pearmain, head teacher at Kenton School who have been named as National Leaders in Education. The schools have been named as National Support Schools by the National College for Leadership of Schools and Children's Services.

Both head teachers will now support other schools in challenging circumstances with leadership and advice, as well as advising the government on education policy. We now have three Newcastle schools with this accolade, which was earlier awarded to June Foster at Moorside.

Newcastle's outstanding schools

Three of our schools have been honoured at an event recognising England's outstanding schools.

Beech Hill and St Oswald's RC primary schools and Newburn Manor Nursery have been named on school inspectors Ofsted's annual list of outstanding schools after being given the highest possible rating in recent inspections.

Head teachers Nicola Nelson-Taylor, Karen Holmes and Celia Skilbeck were congratulated in person by the Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills, Christine Gilbert, at an event at Birmingham Botanical Gardens.

What is the Enviro Schools programme?

Since 2002 Newcastle's Enviro Schools has established itself as a key programme for supporting schools in the delivery of environmental education and environmental improvements.



Enviro Schools enables schools to access a variety of environmental resources and support. It also encourages students to participate in neighbourhood environmental activities and local decision making and gives students a chance to feedback their views on environmental issues.

Enjoy and Achieve

Newcastle now has over 110 Enviro Schools including 70 Eco Schools with 13 achieving Green Flag status, the highest amongst North East Councils. Our success contributed to Newcastle being named the UK's most sustainable City.

Priorities for 2010 include:

- Raising awareness of DCSF Sustainable Schools Framework's 8 doorways.
- Implementing our Corporate Sustainable Schools Strategy.
- Delivering activities with schools and helping schools become more environmentally aware and sustainable.

To find out more log on to: www.newcastle.gov.uk/core.nsf/a/enviroschools?opendocument

Make a Positive Contribution

Encouraging report for Youth Offending Team

The work carried out by Newcastle's Youth Offending Team was found to be "encouraging" in an inspection by HM Inspectorate of Probation.

The team's safeguarding work was rated at 71 out of a 100, ahead of a national average of 63, while its public protection work was also rated at 71, ahead of a national average of 57. Inspectors judged much of the team's work to be of a "high level of quality" – praising in particular the positive relationships built with young people, and the "excellent" work done with partner agencies such as the police.

The full report can be found on the HMIP website:

www.justice.gov.uk/inspectors/hmi-probation/1158_1163.htm

Commonwealth Youth Summit

Newcastle hosted a Commonwealth Youth Summit this week, with over 120 young people participating in debates about the state of education and of health across the Commonwealth. The young people also had the chance to have their say on topics of most concern to them in an open debate before presenting the Commonwealth Youth Summit Communiqué to city leaders.

Investing in Children Status for North East Local Sure Start Children's Centre

Sure Start North Children's Centre has been awarded 'Investing in Children Status' for their commitment to listening to and promoting change for young children.

The 'Investing in Children' Membership Scheme recognises and celebrates examples of imaginative and inclusive practice. Investing in Children members are those services that can demonstrate a commitment to dialogue with young people, where their voice influences decision making and leads to changes in the way things are done.



For further information about 'Investing In Children' status please see: www.iic-uk.org

Make a Positive Contribution

Schools fundraising for Haiti

Children in Newcastle schools have been very busy raising money to help families in Haiti to rebuild their lives after the devastating earthquake.

Non Uniform days, school fairs and other excellent fundraising ideas have helped to raise more than £8,000 so far. This amount is growing each week as more schools get involved.



The Future Leaders project

Do you want your organisation to communicate authentically with young people? To attract them, engage them and retain their interest? The Changemakers Future Leaders programme will help you.

CHANGEMAKERS

Newcastle City Council has recently welcomed Lusi Manukyan on a Future Leaders project to find out what young people from 'emerging communities' think of living in Newcastle and how we can make their lives better. One in six children in Newcastle comes from one of these emerging communities. They may have come with their parents as economic migrants or seeking asylum.

To find out more about Changemakers visit: www.changemakers.org.uk

Achieve Economic Wellbeing

Newcastle Child Poverty Beacon Open Day

A Child Poverty Beacon Open Day was held in Newcastle on 26 January 2010. Presentations and a copy of the draft Reducing Child Poverty Strategy can be viewed at this site: www.newcastlechildrenservices.org.uk/mcs_chilpov_beacon

Children to learn about money matters

Learning about money matters is to be taught as part of the new compulsory PSHE curriculum. Starting at primary school, pupils will learn age appropriate information.

- 5 -7s could be taught how to identify different notes and coins, and how to save money for example in a piggybanks
- 7-11s could learn about managing a bank account and savings account, and about budgeting.
- 11-14s might have lessons on how credit cards, mortgages and loans work. Or about managing personal finances including paying household bills etc.
- 14-16s could explore how money problems can have an impact on people – learning about debt and effective budgeting skills.



Achieve Economic Wellbeing

Disabled Children's Access to Childcare (DCATCH) pilot activity

Improving childcare for the families of disabled children is a national priority and an integral part of expanding service provision and choice for parents who want to balance work and family life.

DCATCH pilots around the country have helped parents of disabled children benefit from expert advice and support when choosing services for their child. An evaluation report has been published to share information and learning to date and to support Children's Trusts as they prepare new childcare sufficiency assessments for 2011 and develop strategies to expand the range, quality, and affordability of childcare available to families with disabled children. The DCATCH Programme will now be rolled out nationwide.

View the report:

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCATCH-Report.pdf>

Strategic Management and Transformation

Support for All: the Families and Relationships Green Paper

This Green Paper sets out a wide range of measures to support all families as they bring up their children and to help families cope with times of stress and difficulty. The proposals recognise that while all families need some help, there are families in our society with complex needs and others who require additional - and sometimes non-negotiable - support.

The Paper's proposals aim to influence factors that can strengthen or weaken family life, such as the choices available about balancing employment with bringing up children; and how welcoming and accessible public services are to families of all kinds.

The Paper focuses mostly on supporting family relationships by enabling families to help themselves. It also considers the position of children and other family members when family relationships have broken down:

www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations

Consultation closing date: 21 April 2010

New online children's centre website for children - DirectgovKids

The Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) has created a new online children's centre on the DirectgovKids website for children, which aims to inform five to 11 year-olds about how government supports communities through a range of services.

The logo for DirectgovKids, featuring the word "Directgov" in orange and "Kids" in black.

By visiting the children's centre, young people can discover how the roles of social workers, foster carers, education welfare officers and nursery workers can help and support them in addition to their teachers. See: www.direct.gov.uk/kids

The website also has a parents' area with guidance, downloadable sheets containing rainy-day activities to try at home, an 'I would like to know...' section for answering children's questions and useful links to educational games and websites.

Make a Positive Contribution

School staff and contact details - updated information

Please note that a number of our schools have updated information. You can view the latest school information on the Newcastle City Council site:

www.newcastle.gov.uk/core.nsf/a/schoolshome?opendocument

These include:

- A new head teacher at St Georges Primary School – welcome to Jennifer Gill
- Our Lady and St Anne's Primary School have a new fax number which is 0191 232 5498
- New Headteacher details for the Arthur's Hill Federation Schools:
 - Moorside – Ms Charlotte de Oliveira
 - Westgate Hill - Mrs Elizabeth Carrington
 - June Foster will take the role of Executive Head at both schools

And a new address, phone and fax details for Newcastle Bridges School:

Great North Children's Hospital Royal Victoria Infirmary Queen Victoria Road Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 4LP	Phone number: 0191 282 5322 Fax number: 0191 282 0618
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And finally..

This newsletter is produced to keep you informed of developments across Newcastle Children's Trust to improve outcomes for children and young people. This includes local and national news, initiatives and achievements.

This is only a snapshot of what's happening across the city. For up to the minute news and events for children's services practitioners, log on to: www.newcastlechildrenservices.org.uk

If you have any comments or contributions please contact us:

- Online via the website: www.newcastlechildrenservices.org.uk
- By email at childrens.services@newcastle.gov.uk or

Phone Lorraine Griffin, Communications and Business Support Manager on 0191 211 5307

