

## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS & EDUCATION

COUNCILLOR TONY HUMPHRYS

PORTFOLIO CO-ORDINATING  
DIRECTOR: LISA BIBBY

DATE: 1<sup>st</sup> November 2012

### SCHOOL INSPECTIONS (OFSTED)

Ofsted have inspected the following schools since the last Council Forum meeting:

- Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School (w/c 24/09/2012)
- St Michael with St John (w/c 24/09/2012)

The 'overall effectiveness' of both schools was judged to be 'good'.

### NEWLY APPOINTED HEADTEACHERS

Since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 sixteen newly appointed Headteachers have taken up post in BwD schools, with 10 of these starting at the beginning of the new school year in September.

All 16 were invited to an Induction Day on 26<sup>th</sup> September, and were welcomed to the Borough personally by Harry Catherall (Chief Executive), Cllr Tony Humphrys (Executive Member for Schools and Education) and Mebz Bobat, Head of Service (Schools). The day was led by the School Improvement Team.

Headteacher		School
Susan	Aldred	Audley Junior School
Keith	Ballard	Our Lady and St John Catholic Arts College
Noreen	Collins	St Albans RC Primary School
Hilda	Harries	Ashworth Nursery School
Fiona	Jack	Darwen Vale High School
Dominic	James	Tockholes St Stephen's
John	Lawson	Hawthorns Junior School
Ian	Maddison	Crosshill School
Jean	McGrath	Hawthorns Junior School
Judith	Peel	Turton Belmont Primary School
Cherry	Ridgway	Pleckgate High School
Angela	Stott	Turton & Edgworth CE/Methodist Primary School
Andrea	Thomson	St Mary and St Joseph RC Primary School
Joanna	Williams	St Luke and St Phillip's CE Primary School
Ros	Wilson	Longshaw Nursery School
Debbie	Withey	Brookhouse Primary School

### ANNUAL NEWLY QUALIFIED TEACHER NQT CONFERENCE

50 Newly Qualified Teachers from both primary and secondary settings attended the two day residential conference at the Dunkenhalgh Hotel on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> September. They enjoyed a very busy two days to support them at the start of their induction year. The conference started with 'Team Building Games and Developing Learning Outside the Classroom' first, followed by a session on 'Strategies for Learning'.

Practical activities were provided as strategies for developing a work/life balance at this very demanding point in their career. Further sessions followed on 'Moving Learning On'

and practical hints and tips for developing an appropriate learning environment through good classroom organisation and management.

The second day focused on 'the Critical Difference – Positive approaches to Managing Behaviour, which everyone found very useful and many were keen to try the strategies outlined in school on Monday.

## **STAYING LONGER IN LEARNING - RAISING THE PARTICIPATION AGE**

Those young people who have entered year 11 this September, and who will mostly be taking GCSEs in 2013 will be the first young people who need to stay in learning longer, due to the new regulations on Raising the Participation Age. For one year group only, this will be for a further academic year (until June 2014); for subsequent years (those in year 10 and below), they will stay in learning until they are 18.

The Young People's Learning Service is working with partners to reach and engage the last 5% who do not move into learning options at 16, and to help improve retention for those who have already chosen learning. This work includes:

- Working across all partners to make moves across learning provision easier post 16 (so fewer are lost at 17)
- Development of a tool to identify those at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training), in order to target council, schools and Connexions resources towards supporting transitions for these young people at 16 - this tool is now being adopted by Durham, Hartlepool, Blackpool and Bolton
- Increasing apprenticeship opportunities through working with colleagues in Regeneration, the Prosperous Group, the National Apprenticeship Service and other employer bodies (the recent NW Apprenticeship Awards were held in Blackburn at the Youth Zone as a result of this joint working)
- Bringing together those working with gypsy, roma and traveller communities to develop practical learning offers
- Working with the providers of the new, government funded, Youth Contract for 16 and 17 year olds (Groundwork Trust and the Prince's Trust) and Connexions to engage young people in learning

## **DARWEN VALE HIGH SCHOOL / BALFOUR BEATTY TELESCOPE PRESENTATION**

Ian Tyler, Chief Executive of Balfour Beatty, formally presented a £5,000 telescope to Darwen Vale High School on 3rd October to mark the school being the 50th PFI/PPP contract. Prior to the presentation, a day of spectacular science shows were arranged for the pupils.