

The Partnership

January 2010

For everyone who works for children and families in Torbay

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Welcome

Foreword



Welcome to the first edition of the Children's Trust's Partnership newsletter for 2010.

Torbay Children's Trust Partnership is the body of partners who are responsible for children's services in Torbay. The Trust partners have a statutory duty to work together to improve outcomes for children and families. The Trust includes representatives from Torbay Council, Torbay Care Trust, Devon and Cornwall Police, South Devon Healthcare Foundation Trust, Schools, South Devon College, Connexions, JobCentre Plus, Probation, Exeter Diocese and Torbay Voluntary Services.

The partnership is responsible for delivering improvements against the Every Child Matters outcomes (Being Healthy, Staying Safe, Enjoying and Achieving, Making a Positive Contribution and Achieving Economic Wellbeing), and for ensuring improvements are made against the defined priorities of the Children and Young People's Plan.

The Children and Young People's Plan for 2010-13 - Priorities

After reviewing the progress we have made, taking account of the views of professionals, partners, stakeholders and the wider community, we have defined the following priorities for the next Children and Young People's Plan:

- Reduce the number of teenagers becoming pregnant
- Reduce the use of alcohol and substance misuse
- Ensure all children and young people are protected from abuse and neglect and feel safe and supported in their families and communities
- Raise attainment at all stages of education
- Improve attendance and behaviour at education settings
- Reduce the number of children and young people living in poverty

Activity plans will be developed over the next few weeks to ensure that we can evidence how we will improve outcomes for children and families in Torbay, against each of these priority areas. **Watch this space for more details!**

Allison Grant - Children's Trust Manager

Welcome

Children's Services Christmas Celebration 17th December 2009

Thank you to everyone who attended this event - it was a fantastic celebration of services for children and really showed how important these services are - not just to children and families but also to staff!

All children's services staff were invited to submit their vision for children and families in Torbay. The Children's Trust Delivery Board voted on the following winning vision, provided by Hilary Price, Governing Body Support Officer:

"Everyone working together to ensure the best now and for the future for all our children and young people".

Thank you to Hilary for giving us such a clear and focused vision to work towards for the next 3 years.

Welcome to new starters



Melissa Hayman has just joined the Council as a Bookstart Co-ordinator. She took up her post on 4th January 2010.

Melissa is employed to deliver, promote and develop the Bookstart Scheme in Torbay, working in partnership with Health Visitors and Children's Services. The role is varied and includes leading music and rhyme sessions for babies to providing training for early years workers on sharing books and rhymes with under fives.

Previously, Melissa was employed for two years as a Library Assistant at Torquay Library. She is looking forward to promoting a love of books, reading and libraries to under fives and their families and working with other early years professionals.

If you would like your new starter to be welcomed here in a future edition please email csequiries@torbay.gov.uk

Latest News

ContactPoint goes live in Torbay!

ContactPoint is now live in Torbay, and following the accreditation of the local authority children's services the first users have been trained. Managers in children's services have been invited to nominate priority staff for training and we expect to see the number of users steadily increase during the early new year. If you are a practitioner in children's services and think you should have access to ContactPoint please speak with your manager.

Work is continuing with Torbay Care Trust, South Devon Healthcare Foundation Trust and schools in Torbay to ensure their organisations are able to meet the DCSF accreditation standards required before their staff can be trained. Connexions and Devon & Cornwall Police as large peninsula wide organisations are about to begin training their own staff (with the support of Plymouth and Devon respectively).

ContactPoint is currently receiving fresh data loads from national sources such as DCSF (schools data), child benefit system (parent / carers) and GRO (births & deaths). In Torbay we anticipate loading local data from Paris and eCAF towards the end of January, and from EMS, eStart and YOIS/UMIS during the coming months although these are dependant on the IT system suppliers.

As always if you have any questions please contact the ContactPoint Team at contactpoint@torbay.gov.uk

Home Access - Free computers and Internet connections for families

An important announcement for those who can answer yes to these 2 questions:

1) 1) Do you have a child in KS2 or KS3? (In Years 3 to 9)

2) Are you claiming Free School Meals for your child?

OR

Is your income level such that you would be able to obtain Free School Meals but currently don't claim them?

If you are able to answer yes to these questions and have not already received a government funded computer package, **from January 2010**, you will be able to apply for a grant.

If successful this will enable you to provide your family with an approved computer package. This package will include a computer (Desktop, laptop or netbook), software including antivirus, 1 year's internet access, service and support and parental control software.

This is a national programme and there will be further information about how you can apply, if you think you qualify, in the next few weeks.

As soon as we have further information on how to apply, we will make this available to you, but there will also be announcements nationally and locally.

Alcohol and Cannabis Use in Young People - 1 day course

This course aims to equip attendees with the knowledge and confidence to act appropriately and effectively when working in a front line setting with young people who use cannabis or alcohol. By the end of this training, participants should be aware of:

- the different types and effects of cannabis
- cannabis and the law
- how to help cannabis users to cut back or quit
- the changing patterns of alcohol use in young people
- the effects of mixing alcohol and drugs
- how to educate young people about alcohol

This training is relevant to front line workers (voluntary or paid) working in a young person's service in Torbay who:

- have contact with young people where alcohol or cannabis use is a feature, and:
- have little or no previous drugs and alcohol training or experience

Dates:

2 February 2010 9.30am - 4.30pm

3 February 2010 9.30am - 4.30pm

4 February 2010 9.30am - 4.30pm

To book you must complete a booking form and return to the training department via email or at the address below. To contact the training department at Torbay Care Trust, either phone 01803 210574 or email training.torbaycaretrust@nhs.net

Torbay Care Trust Training Department, Bay House, Riviera Park, Nicholson Road, Torquay, TQ2 7TD

Torcom

Torcom is a central Communication Network for Voluntary and Community groups and other interested parties in Torbay.

Please visit Torcom at www.torcom.org.uk and/or follow the links for the latest news including:

Matching Surplus to Need

In Kind Direct re-distributes new goods donated by some of Britain's best-known manufacturers and retailers to hundreds of voluntary organisations working in the UK and abroad.

Local & affordable training from Cascade - February 2010

Financial Management Demystified - Tuesday 2nd February (Taunton)

Strategic Planning for Trustees & Senior Management - Tuesday 9th February (Taunton)

Managing Conflict - Wednesday 17th February (Taunton)

Managing Performance & Dealing with Poor Performers - Wednesday 24th February (Exeter)

School Furniture for Free

Surplus items of school furniture available at the open day 20th January 2010

Minister promises greater Compact scrutiny at critical time for Compact

Angela Smith yesterday appeared before Parliament, apologising for breaching the Compact.

Precedent Charity Give-away

Enter Precedents Charity Give-Away competition, open to all UK charities big or small, for the chance to win a prize, which is the equivalent of more than £30,000 of Precedent's time, get to work with their team of specialists to develop an online strategy, deliver a new website, provide training on digital marketing, search engine optimisation, writing for the web and lots more.

50% recycled

NHS

building blocks for a better start in life



It's never too soon to give your baby a better start in life. What you do when they're little really does help them grow up healthy and can help protect them from illness when they're young, and diseases like type 2 diabetes later in life.

Start4Life has put together the latest guidance on nutrition and activity to help you give your baby a healthier start in life.

You can find out more at www.nhs.uk/start4life or ask your health visitor or midwife.

start
4 life

A good start for a healthier life

Boost for local businesses

Supporting local businesses and helping them to grow is a key priority for Torbay and the Torbay Development Agency.

The Torbay Development Agency is currently developing a series of business support programmes designed to equip local businesses with a greater understanding of business issues as well as to stimulate ideas for business improvement, development and growth.

The following half or one day courses will be delivered early 2010:

- Pre start – all the information you need to know before you set up your business
- New Start – advice on finance, sales and marketing, business planning and business regulations
- ICT, Marketing and e-commerce
- Exporting and international markets
- Business law
- Leadership and management
- Creative thinking
- Social media
- Public sector procurement
- VAT
- Margins and mark-up
- Cash flow

These courses will be heavily subsidised for Torbay businesses. A half day course will be £10 and a full day course only £20. Businesses outside the Bay are welcome and the cost will be £20 for a half day and £40 for a full day.

These courses will be delivered in Torquay, Paignton and Brixham to make it easier for businesses to attend; course dates are being finalised and will be available on the Torbay Development Agency website in Jan 2010. Businesses interested in attending any of these training courses should contact Carl Wyard on 01803 208491 to register or email carl.wyard@torbay.gov.uk

Poster competition on children's rights

Twenty years ago, the United Nations adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child. This means that, for the first time, member countries of the United Nations agreed on certain rights, which have to be totally respected in any situation for all children under the age of 18. Today there are 195 countries of the world who have signed the Convention.

The European Commission, DG Justice, Freedom and Security is dedicating the 4th edition of its poster competition to celebrating the anniversary of this important agreement.

To enter create a team of 4 (10-14 or 15-18 years old) with an adult supervisor. Choose one specific right from the Convention for illustration on the poster. Present your ideas on a poster in A2 format.

Closing date 19 March 2010.

www.europayouth.eu/index_en.htm

Bookstart Packs in Schools

Torbay Library Services manage the Bookstart programme in Torbay. They gift free Treasure Box packs to early years children - often via schools' nurseries and reception classes.

The resources for both children and parents are available in various languages on request. There is a new Bookstart co-ordinator; Melissa Hayman, who can be contacted by email at: bookstart@torbay.gov.uk or

melissa.hayman@torbay.gov.uk

For general information about Bookstart, visit the website at:

<http://www.bookstart.org.uk/Home>



Bookstart

Est. 1992 by BOOKTRUST

What's coming up

Aiming High for Disabled Children

The Aiming High for Disabled Children Fayre will be held at Torbay Leisure Centre on 15 and 16 January 2010. This has been organised by the Integrated Joint Agency Children's Disability Services Team.

This event has been arranged so that families with children with disabilities can find out what activities, services and facilities are available to them.

Children and Young people will be able to 'Have a Go' at different activities such as Archery, Wheelchair Basketball and Wheelchair Football.

Please could you promote this event to your families and friends as we want as many families as possible to benefit from the 2 day event, putting the Children and Young Peoples needs first, and being able to match their needs to the wealth of services that the Bay has to offer.

Flyers and Posters are being distributed to various offices and departments, if you get one, please put it in a prominent place.

If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact either Julia Cox or Debra Mountford at Parkfield House, 01803 402781, or by email julia.cox@torbay.gov.uk or debra.mountford@torbay.gov.uk

New IT qualifications for Education Staff

Torbay Council is the first in the UK to ask its IT education staff to take a new professional examination. The launch of the FITS, Framework for ICT Technical Support, qualification has been set up to provide the 23,000 IT schools workers in the UK with adequate qualifications and career progression. The new exams will now help them gain nationally-recognised qualifications. Torbay Council, a long standing supporter of the FITS initiative, has been the first authority to take the new examinations in a bid to help deliver the best results for teaching and learning in the Bay.

John Pering, ICT adviser at Torbay Council, said: *"We are committed to improving technology in learning and are pleased to be supporting the FITS qualifications. "This is a huge step forward for all ICT technicians and the education system in general in terms of recognising the vital role ICT technicians play in improving ICT in schools."*

At least 16 authorities have now taken part in the national scheme and have asked their IT staff to take the new Becta-endorsed exams. As part of the FITS programme, ICT support staff can now undertake training to gain NVQs. The qualifications available include the Level 4 NVQ certificate ICT Support In Education: Practitioner and the Level 5 NVQ certificate ICT Support in Education: Manager.

Please email john.pering@torbay.gov.uk for further information.

What's coming up

January 2010

Meeting	Jan '10
Misper Forum	8th
Behaviour & Attendance Network Meetings	12th
Transformation Reference Group Meeting	12th
TAPS - Committee	13th
Children's Services JCC (including H & S)	13th
Schools Forum	14th
Children's Management Team	14th, 28th
Children's Trust Commissioning Board	18th
SENCO Forum	24th
TASH (Torbays Assoc. Secondary Schools)	26th
14-19 Executive Group	26th
Healthy Schools Partnership Group	28th
Torbay Governors' Association Executive Committee	28th (E)

February 2010

Meeting	Feb '10
Headteacher Briefings for Leading on Maths and English	2nd
Budget and Resources Group (BAR)	4th
(Torbays Assoc. Primary Schools) TAPS Conference	4th, 5th
Every Child Matters Forum (formerly Extended Managers Forum)	5th
Misper Forum	5th
Local Inclusion Forum for Torbay (LIFT)	9th
Children's Trust Delivery Board	11th
Children's Management Team	11th, 12th
Children's Services Capital Programme Monitoring Meeting	16th
Torbay 14 - 19 Strategy Group	24th
Schools Forum	25th

What's coming up

Partnership Meetings

January 2010

Community Partnership	Date	Venue	Time
Public			
Ellacombe	Monday 11th January	Ellacombe Primary School	6.30pm
St Marychurch & District	Monday 18th January	TBA	7-9pm
Steering Group			
St Marychurch & District	Monday 4th January	TBA	7-9pm
Shiphay & Willows	Tuesday 12th January	TBC	7.30-9.30pm
Churston, Galmpton & Broadsands	Wednesday 13th January	Churston Ferrers Grammar School Cube Room	7-9pm
Preston	Wednesday 27th January	Cecil Room Oldway	7-9pm

February 2010

Community Partnership	Date	Venue	Time
Public			
Shiphay & Willows	Monday 1st February	Farmhouse Tavern	7.30-9.30pm
Brixham	Monday 22nd February	Brixham Rugby Club	7-9pm
Steering Group			
Ellacombe	Tuesday 2nd February	Hut	6.30pm
Churston, Galmpton & Broadsands	Wednesday 10th February	Churston Ferrers Grammar School Cube Room	7-9pm
Preston	Wednesday 24th February	Cecil Room Oldway	7-9pm

For more details about community groups please contact
Lorrie Layne, Community Engagement Coordinator - Early Intervention
0777 1806870, email lorrie.layne@torbay.gov.uk

For details about community partnership meetings contact Tracey Cabache by email
at tracey.cabache@torbay.gov.uk

Contact details

Service	Telephone Number/Website
Torbay Children's Services (Education)	01803 208228
Children's Services (children at risk)	01803 208100
Torbay Care Trust	01803 210500
Police	08452 777444
South Devon Healthcare Foundation Trust	01803 614567
Torbay Voluntary Services	01803 212638
Probation Services	01803 213535
Youth Offending Service	01803 201655
Safer Communities	01803 84127 www.safercommunitiestorbay.org.uk
Connexions - Information, advice & guidance	08009755111 www.connexions-cd.org.uk
Brixham Cluster Team	01803 208102
Paignton Cluster Team	01803 208102
Torquay East Cluster	01803 208103
Torquay West Cluster	01803 208104
Job Centre Plus	01803 356000
For an Easier Life	www.foraneasierlife.co.uk/riviera_life.html
Family Information Service	fisenquiries@torbay.gov.uk. http://Torbay.fsd.org.uk 08003285974
Childline Free helpline to talk about problems	0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk
NHS Direct National helpline for health advice	0845 4647 www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk
Frank National helpline for drug and alcohol advice	0800776600 www.talktofrank.com
Know The Code Alcohol and drug issues:	www.safercommunitiestorbay.org.uk/ KnowTheCode
MyBay Positive Activities for Torbay young people	www.my-bay.org.uk
Devon Community Directory	www.devonline.gov.uk/community
Phab: National charity dedicated to the integration of people with physical disabilities in the community.	020 8667 9443 email: info@phab.org.uk www.phab.org.uk
R-Nite Leisure activities for people aged 11 – 19	www.my-bay.org.uk - click on Events
C Card Scheme Free condoms and advice	www.my-bay.org.uk
Torbay Youth Services Services, Youth Opportunity Fund, Volunteering and Youth News	01803 208221 www.my-bay.org.uk/getinvolved.htm www.torbay.gov.uk/youthservice
Torbay Youth Parliament	www.torbay.gov.uk/ukyp