

| Date     | Time          | Course title                                                                     | Trainer                              | Venue                                           |
|----------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 16/11/09 | 09:00 - 16:00 | An Intention to Lead – Cohort 2                                                  | School Improvement Team              | Rochdale Rugby Club                             |
| 17/11/09 | 09:30 - 16:00 | CAF and Lead Professional Training                                               | Change for Children Team             | Centre for Learning & Development               |
| 17/11/09 | 09:00 - 13:00 | Healthy Schools Enhancement Model on-line training                               | Sue Hackett                          | Middleton CLC                                   |
| 18/11/09 | 09:15 - 16:00 | A Practical Guide to Clicker 5 (Day 2)                                           | Shona Hopkins                        | Falings CLC                                     |
| 18/11/09 | 09:30 - 11:30 | Developing Effective School Councils                                             | Sue Hackett                          | Bowlee Park Community School                    |
| 18/11/09 | 09:30 - 12:00 | Information Sharing                                                              | Change for Children Team             | Heywood Magic Training Room                     |
| 19/11/09 | 09:00 - 16:00 | Deputy and Assistant Headteacher Development                                     | Clive Taylor                         | The Dunkenhalgh Hotel and Spa                   |
| 19/11/09 | 09:15 - 12:30 | Hello... What comes next? Connecting with Parents and Carers                     | Jeanette Sankey                      | Bowlee Park Community School                    |
| 19/11/09 | 08:30 - 11:00 | RAPH (Rochdale Association of Primary Headteachers) Steering Group               | REAL Trust                           | Moss Lodge Hotel                                |
| 19/11/09 | 13:00 - 17:30 | Secondary School – Middle Leaders Improving Impact Programme                     | School Improvement Team              | The Ratcliffe Bars                              |
| 20/11/09 | 08:45 - 12:00 | AFL partnership meetings 2009/2010                                               | Trevor Fox                           | Centre for Learning & Development               |
| 20/11/09 | 09:00 - 15:45 | Therapeutic and Inclusive strategies - developing Th.Inc Room (5 day training)   | Marian Begolo                        | Newlands School                                 |
| 23/11/09 | 09:00 - 16:00 | National PSHE CPD programme (5 day course)                                       | Sue Hackett                          | Bowlee Park Community School                    |
| 26/11/09 | 09:30 - 12:30 | Awareness raising training for Autism Spectrum Disorders                         | Maggie Gibb & Janine Morris          | Centre for Learning & Development               |
| 26/11/09 | 09:30 - 15:30 | Facilitating Groups for Children's Social and Emotional Wellbeing. Level One     | Vicki Atkinson - CAMHS               | Wine Press                                      |
| 26/11/09 | 09:15 - 12:30 | Hello... What comes next? Connecting with Parents and Carers                     | Jeanette Sankey                      | Bowlee Park Community School                    |
| 26/11/09 | 09:30 - 12:00 | Introduction to Integrated working for children, young people and their families | Change for Children Team             | Heywood Magic Training Room                     |
| 26/11/09 | 08:30 - 16:00 | LA RAPH                                                                          | RAPH                                 | The Ratcliffe Bars                              |
| 27/11/09 | 13:00 - 15:00 | Introducing CAMHS, a brief overview                                              | Steven Brown / Mark Wood             | Birch Hill hospital - Child and Adolescent unit |
| 27/11/09 | 12:30 - 16:00 | CPD Leaders Meeting                                                              | Martine Sinker                       | Ratcliffe Bars                                  |
| 27/11/09 | 09:00 - 12:30 | Learning from Heywood Language Project                                           | Jan Stothard                         | Moss Lodge Hotel                                |
| 2/12/09  | 09:00 - 15:30 | ICAN Level 1 – Early Talk – Supporting Communication                             | Development, Support & Training Team | Moss Lodge Hotel                                |
| 3/12/09  | 09:00 - 16:00 | Deputy and Assistant Headteacher Development                                     | Clive Taylor                         | The Dunkenhalgh Hotel and Spa                   |
| 3/12/09  | 09:15 - 12:30 | Hello... What comes next? Connecting with Parents and Carers                     | Jeanette Sankey                      | Bowlee Park Community School                    |
| 4/12/09  | 13:00 - 16:00 | ADHD, Conduct Problems, and behaviour management                                 | Steven Brown / Mark Wood             | Centre for Learning & Development               |
| 8/12/09  | 09:30 - 16:00 | CAF and Lead Professional Training                                               | Change for Children Team             | Littleborough Coach House                       |
| 9/12/09  | 09:30 - 12:00 | Information Sharing                                                              | Change for Children Team             | Centre for Learning & Development               |
| 10/12/09 | 09:30 - 12:00 | Introduction to Integrated working for children, young people and their families | Change for Children Team             | Bowlee Park Community School                    |
| 15/12/09 | 09:30 - 16:00 | CAF and Lead Professional Training                                               | Change for Children Team             | Manchester Golf Club                            |
| 16/12/09 | 09:30 - 12:30 | Awareness raising training for Autism Spectrum Disorders                         | Vicki Wardman                        | Manchester Golf Club                            |
| 16/12/09 | 13:30 - 16:00 | Information Sharing                                                              | Change for Children Team             | Centre for Learning & Development               |
| 8/1/10   | 09:00 - 12:30 | Learning from Heywood Language Project                                           | Jan Stothard                         | Moss Lodge Hotel                                |
| 13/1/10  | 09:00 - 16:00 | National PSHE CPD programme (5 day course)                                       | Sue Hackett                          | Bowlee Park Community School                    |
| 13/1/10  | 09:00 - 16:00 | Values Conference                                                                | Carol McLachlan                      | Moss Lodge Hotel                                |
| 13/1/10  | 09:00 - 16:00 | P4C                                                                              | Will Ord                             | The Village Hotel, Bury                         |
| 14/1/10  | 09:15 - 16:00 | A Practical Guide to Clicker 5 (Day 2)                                           | Shona Hopkins                        | Middleton CLC                                   |
| 14/1/10  | 08:30 - 17:00 | RAPH (Rochdale Association of Primary Headteachers)                              | RAPH                                 | The Ratcliffe Bars                              |
| 14/1/10  | 09:30 - 15:30 | Working Individually with Children for Social and Emotional Wellbeing            | Vicki Atkinson - CAMHS               | Wine Press                                      |
| 15/01/10 | 09:00 - 13:00 | Rochdale's Got Talent                                                            | Martine Sinker                       | Lancashire Health & Racquet                     |
| 21/1/10  | 09:00 - 13:00 | Healthy Schools Enhancement Model on-line training                               | Sue Hackett                          | Falings CLC                                     |
| 21/1/10  | 09:00 - 16:00 | The Coaching Programme                                                           | School Improvement Team              | Bowlee Park Community School                    |
| 22/1/10  | 09:00 - 16:00 | The Coaching Programme                                                           | School Improvement Team              | Bowlee Park Community School                    |
| 27/1/10  | 09:00 - 12:00 | ILM Level 3 Award in Leadership – Briefing Session                               | School Improvement Team              | Bowlee Park Community School                    |
| 03/02/10 | 09:00 - 16:00 | An Intention to Lead – Cohort 2                                                  | School Improvement Team              | Rochdale Rugby Club                             |
| 04/02/10 | 09:00 - 12:00 | Primary PSHCE and Healthy Schools Coordinators' Meeting                          | Sue Hackett                          | Centre for Learning & Development               |
| 11/02/10 | 13:00 - 17:30 | Secondary School – Middle Leaders Improving Impact Programme                     | School Improvement Team              | The Ratcliffe Bars                              |
| 12/02/10 | 09:00 - 12:30 | Learning from Heywood Language Project                                           | Jan Stothard                         | Moss Lodge Hotel                                |

## Rochdale's Got Talent

15th January, Lancashire Health & Racquet, 9am - 1pm.

"Rochdale's Got Talent!" is a Showcase open to everyone interested in school improvement.

Teachers and pupils from schools will be providing examples of successful strategies to enrich and transform their curriculum, giving practical advice and sharing their experience.

There are no restrictions for the themes of the initiatives, as long as they are innovative and encouraging to create social/academic improvement and encourage creativity in its widest sense.

The following presentations have been planned for the next meeting:

- Little Heaton – leading practice in Music and performance
- Whittaker Moss – 2nd World War
- St Peter's CE – Peace Ambassadors
- Crossgates – International newspaper
- Smithybridge – Nationally acclaimed choir
- St Thomas More RC – AFL planning
- Heywood High School – Standards in Arts
- Lowerplace – Leading Aspect award in Peer massage

To book your place please visit the website or call Stasys on 01706 925097

REAL trust

# BULLETIN

www.realtrust.org.uk



## VAA Academy Virtual Arts Academy Launch:- A Celebration!



The launch of the **VIRTUAL ARTS ACADEMY** website and **ARTS STRATEGY** for the young people of Rochdale on Friday 23rd October at Rochdale Town Hall was the culmination of two years work and many many meetings and discussions. It proved to be a truly inspiring and heart lifting experience for everyone involved.

It was a day packed with innovation, inspirational workshops and seminars showcasing just what a diverse range of opportunities there are on offer. We hope it clearly illustrated that by working together to share experiences and expertise, Rochdale has so much to be proud of. The immense value of the arts and what they provide has been much discussed and was clearly reflected in the launch activities.

These also illustrate the main objectives of our ARTS STRATEGY itself.

- To enrich lives across the borough
- To develop and support best practice in the arts
- To raise the profile of the creative agenda
- To bring communities together
- To offer excellence and enjoyment of the arts

An atmosphere of celebration and optimism ran throughout the whole day. From Street Dance to Poetry, Historical Drama to Caribbean Dance, to Music and Keep Fit, to Circus and Voice. Our aim was to bring together a wide range of providers, practitioners and performers and that I hope we achieved. To see the delight, pride and enthusiasm of so many young people was amazing,

*"Inspiring Excellence Through Creativity – An Arts Strategy and Virtual Arts Academy for Rochdale Borough has been facilitated by The Rochdale Education and Learning (REAL) Trust and reflects our commitment to developing the powerful / important role the arts and creativity has in education, personal development and in enriching the lives of children and young people throughout the borough.*

*It is our aim that the strategy will continue to evolve and develop with the VAA acting as a tool to implement the strategy both within education and the wider community.*

*Whilst facilitated by the REAL Trust, we recognise that the development and success of the strategy and the VAA is a responsibility shared with our partners and stakeholders, consisting of Schools, other Local Authority services, Link4Life, statutory bodies, the Voluntary and Community sector and arts organisations and freelance artists across the borough.'*

**Councillor Jonathon Burns**

So much positive feedback has been received – "This must be at least an annual event not just a one off!" has been said so many times that we feel we must be moving in the right direction, but there is still so much to do! Our launch was just the beginning – but what a great start!

Many thanks to all artists, art providers, schools and colleges whose efforts made the day such a success. A truly rewarding day to celebrate the arts aptly set in a building of huge artistic and historical heritage, Rochdale Town Hall.

**For more information please see our new website [www.virtualartsacademy.com](http://www.virtualartsacademy.com)**

With thanks to... Spiral Dance, M6 Theatre, Rochdale Music Service, Skylight Circus, MAEI (Manchester Arts), SambaBamba (Brian Castello), Writelaugh (Robin Graham), Urban Soul, Touchstones Heritage Centre, Link4Life, Just Poets (Norman Warwick), Sue Aggrawal and Back Door Music Project. And all the pupils from Falings Park Performing Arts College, Heywood Community High School, Springhill High School, Balderstone High School, Oulder Hill High School. All Saints Primary, St Gabriel's Castleton, Belfield Primary and Bowlee Park Primary.

# British Council – Moscow Visit



During the last week of October a group of nine Rochdale teachers, led by Tony Lasan (Principal School Improvement Officer) participated in an education

study visit to Moscow. The visit, which was funded by the British Council to support teachers' international professional development, was designed to enable teachers from both countries to gain an understanding of the different education systems, share good practice and to establish links between Rochdale and Moscow schools.

The group, which comprised teachers from primary, secondary and special schools, visited a wide range of schools in the Russian capital, discussing current education issues with teaching staff, observing lessons and delivering presentations to school leadership teams.

The establishment of links with the schools visited means that very soon Rochdale learners will be exchanging news and views with their Russian counterparts via letter, e-mail and video conferencing facilities.

Despite a very busy schedule the group found time to visit Rochdale Street which was named in honour of the Rochdale Pioneers who founded the Co-operative Movement. The teachers, who gave up their half-term holiday to participate in the study, gained a great deal from the visit which will enhance their teaching and their professionalism throughout the week reflected well on the borough.

# Secondary Schools 'Sing up'



## CPD leaders network meeting

At the next CPD leaders meeting on 27th November at 12.30pm at Ratcliffe Bars in Rochdale Football Club, we have now secured the regional TDA coordinator (Kate Ford) as a speaker, to support our dissemination to you of new TDA objectives. The TDA has published their professional development strategy for the children's workforce in schools 2009-12.

TDA says, 'We have now published a strategy for the professional development of the children's workforce in schools. The strategy sets out our vision to embed a learning culture within, and across, all schools that maximises the potential of the school workforce and enables children and young people to achieve the best outcomes possible. It also identifies the priorities that will underpin our work in this area and over the next three years'

### Agenda

- Important updates from TDA, NCSL and QCDA
- Audit of Performance management which includes a specialist one for the 39 schools on the Expert Trail
- Opportunity to arrange completion of the TDA/NCSL CPD leadership module in a day to gain 30 CAT points as a group in January.
- Leadership opportunities
- Opportunities for support staff.
- Planning further coaching support.
- Rochdale draft Children's workforce strategy

Please book on the CPD Leaders network meeting on 27/11/09 by ringing 01706 926708 or replying to this email or booking on the REAL Trust website.



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### More than 100 youngsters 'Sung up' at Oulder Hill to prove singing does not stop at the gates of secondary schools.

Year 7 students took part in workshops ranging from a cappella, singing without musical accompaniment, pop, African-origin songs and MC-ing.

Anna Jewitt, area leader for the Sing Up campaign which aims to encourage singing in schools said:

*"It was a fantastic day and the ability of all students to get on with others from different schools and to get stuck in with singing, lyric writing and performing was stunning. It was not a competition at all but more of a community event – part of a transition strand that we are running to show that singing still happens for these children once they get up to secondary school."*

Staged at Oulder Hill Community School and Language College on Tuesday 13th October, the event also included year seven pupils from five other schools across the borough – Cardinal Langley RC High School, Holy Family RC and CE College, Middleton Technology School, Matthew Moss High School and Hollingworth Business and Enterprise College.

Janet Tilney Advanced Skills Teacher of Music at Oulder Hill, organised the event in partnership with the REAL Trust and Rochdale Music Service. Janet said "I hope this is the start of a real singing culture within our secondary schools and we hope to build on this event by working with our year 6 students in the summer term.

For more information on this project please contact Janet Tilney - [janet.tilney@oulderhill.com](mailto:janet.tilney@oulderhill.com)

## The Philosophy for Children approach

Will Ord

13th January 2010

9.00 – 16.00

The Village Hotel, Bury

**The P4C or 'community of enquiry' approach is very adaptable – which is why it is used in adult groups as well as in schools, and for recreational as well as educational purposes.**

Teachers who have introduced the approach in a special session generally find that it carries over into other lessons, affecting both their own style of teaching and their students' preferred style of learning.

This is because it puts enquiry at the heart of the educational process: teachers begin to ask more open and genuine questions, whilst students become more confident in expressing their puzzlements and in developing their interests. But developing a community of enquiry requires more than just concentrating on better questioning.

It is equally important to develop reasoning and reflection, both public and private. And these bring into play, among other things, emotions and the thoughtful expression of emotions.

In short, the process is multifaceted and profoundly personal. It presents an intellectual challenge to those involved, but also a social and emotional one. It encourages open-mindedness, and creates conditions for change, both for individuals and for communities.

The wide range of skills that are needed for enquiry and reflection/dialogue of this order may be exercised in almost any context, but they are probably best practised within a specifically philosophical framework.

This does not mean that such enquiry sessions have to be labelled 'philosophy'.

Alternative names, especially with primary children, include 'thinking circles', 'discussion lessons', 'enquiry time', and others.

But it is strongly recommended that these sessions follow certain principles and procedures. The principles include:

- Proper valuing of each person's interests and questions
- Acknowledgement that each person's experience/story is unique
- Proper valuing of knowledge, along with the recognition that no one is allknowing or all-wise
- Appreciation of different ways of interpreting and thinking

Such principles may sometimes be translated into negotiated ground rules, such as 'not putting each other down', or 'giving each speaker time to finish', etc.

Alternatively they may be presented as dispositions or virtues to be cultivated, such as sincerity, openness, curiosity, tolerance, empathy, etc.

The standard pattern or procedure of a community of philosophical enquiry is something like this:

1. **Preparation** – sometimes to still minds, e.g. by meditation, sometimes to stir, e.g. by games

2. **Presentation** – of a story, picture, or other rich stimulus for enquiry
3. **Thinking time** – private reflection upon the stimulus
4. **Conversation** – sharing of private reflections, in twos or threes
5. **Formulation** – of questions that might be 'good for discussion', individually or in small groups
6. **Airing** – publication of questions, and clarification of the interest/thinking behind them
7. **Selection** – of which question(s) to focus on, by whole group consensus or voting
8. **'First words'** – initial responses to the chosen question, perhaps identifying assumptions
9. **Building** – creative and critical thinking towards one or more answers to the question
10. **'Last words'** – final reflections on own or others' thinking

There is obviously scope for different timings and emphases in this process, and at any time the community might decide to skip one or more stages. Each stage does, however, have something distinctive to contribute to the development both of enquiry skills and of social/communicative skills.

It should also be emphasised that, apart from the choice of stimulus, which is normally made by the facilitator or another member in advance, decisions about how the enquiry should proceed should generally be consensual.

Without that presumption, there is no 'community' of enquiry.

**If anyone has any articles they want to include let us know for next time - please contact Kathryn Hare 01706 925095. The deadline for submission is Friday 8th January**