

**BLSP Learning and Skills Sub-Group
6 October 2008
North Nottinghamshire College
MINUTES**

Attending:

F Walker	North Notts College	F Musgrove	CASY
C Wanless	Bassetlaw District Council	P Beasant	Children's Centres
E Watts	Bassetlaw District Council	S Walker	Valley School
K Childs	Bassetlaw District Council	L Barlow	Enable
J Dallinson	North Notts College		

1 Introductions and Welcome

Fran Walker welcomed members to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. Members were requested to introduce themselves.

2 Apologies

Apologies were received from M Kesterton, R Woodhead, L Turner

3 Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

- 3.1 Re 6 Sports Organisation Update:
Retford Oaks had applied for specialist status in Sport.
SW provided an update on the Brazil exchange project. Staff from an equivalent LEA school had visited the area and had been given sports equipment to take back to Brazil.
- 3.2 Re 7 BLSP Board Priorities:
FW commented on the links between the Manton Children and Young People Network and the Learning and Skills Sub-group.

4 Introduction to the Skills Pledge

FW provided a brief background to the Skills Pledge, stating that the initiative had been established to develop basic skills within the workplace to ensure

staff are skilled and competent. Employers could apply through Train to Gain for financial support. FW was working with M Kilraine and Bassetlaw District Council to identify employers to sign up to the pledge in order to carry the project forward.

KC informed the group of staff development arrangements at BDC. A Lifelong Learning Agreement had been set up by the Unions, which the Council were looking to support.

PB commented that parents within Children's Centres were keen to obtain level 2 qualifications in Basic Skills, particularly Maths.

FW suggested a mini Skills Pledge for Bassetlaw Schools to sign up to.

Signing of Skills Pledge to take place before next meeting

Mini Skills Pledge to be progressed with BDC

Update on Train to Gain to future meeting (M Kilraine)

5 Review of Action Plan 2008/09

FW briefly explained the relationship between BDC and BLSP. The BLSP is a district wide local strategic partnership, headed up by BDC.

It was suggested a case study of a success story be produced each month in line with priority 3 of the action plan – raising aspirations.

Additional meeting on 4/11 to progress further

EW to update action plan with achieved outcomes/new actions

Feedback on Nottinghamshire Partnership to next meeting (FW)

6 Any Other Business

- 6.1 Enable had been awarded the contract for Jobmaets, a flexible route ways initiative through JobCentre Plus. The project aimed to get people from the Notts area back in to work and off benefits.
- 6.2 Making the Connection had received funding through CRT to offer additional qualifications in Forklift Truck training, Contractor Safety Passport etc.
- 6.3 Recruitment of a further Learning Champion was currently underway, in addition to a North Notts Development Worker.
- 6.4 The BCVS had held an event in partnership with Enable and ACLS on 4/9 to provide information on current training and other opportunities through these organisations.
- 6.5 LB had attended the Learning Champion's conference in June and had facilitated a group for Niace.
- 6.6 David Lammy, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Skills, would be visiting the Nottingham branch of Enable in November.
- 6.7 FM provided a brief summary of the work of CASY within Bassetlaw and Newark districts, a charity organisation which was constantly seeking funding in order to continue.

6.8 A World Mental Health Day event would be held at The Crossing on 10 October 10 am to 3 pm.

7 Future Meeting Dates

Tuesday 4 November 2008 at 1.30 pm at Valley School

Monday 12 January 2009 12.00-2.00 pm

Monday 6 April 2009 12.00-2.00 pm

Monday 6 July 2009 12.00-2.00 pm

Monday 5 October 2009 12.00-2.00 pm