

Bassetlaw Testbed Learning Community (TLC)

There are now 66 Learning Champions connected with the Bassetlaw Project. These Bassetlaw Learning Champions are either volunteers or undertake the role of Learning Champion as an integral part of their existing work.

Following the very successful launch of the Bassetlaw Learning Communities, the Learning Champions and members of their families were given the opportunity to visit Magna Science Adventure Centre in Rotherham with the aims of:

- ▶ Offering Learning Champions, with their families, a learning opportunity that is both informal and informative
- ▶ Recognising new Learning Champions who had been nominated by existing Learning Champions
- ▶ Offering adults participating in the event the opportunity to meet with an Information, Advice and Guidance Worker and to develop an individual learning plan.

A major success recently has been the appointment of the Learning Champions Co-ordinator, Lynn Whitworth, with the key objectives of:

- ▶ Providing ongoing support and supervision for volunteer Learning Champions within the Bassetlaw area
- ▶ Co-ordinating and supporting individual learning programmes for Learning Champions that will increase confidence, knowledge, skills, qualifications and employability
- ▶ Leading Learning Champions in actively promoting learning opportunities across Bassetlaw
- ▶ Liasing with learning providers regarding identified learning needs and opportunities.

This is a true example of excellent partnership working. The post is funded by the LSC Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities fund through ENABLE, and the Broxtowe ESF Marketing Campaign, is line managed by ENABLE, and hosted by Sure Start West Bassetlaw.

Looking Ahead

The main challenge is to continue to ensure that links with the developing Local Area Agreements, Extended Schools, Children's Centres and Children's Trusts are strengthened to allow funding streams to support the project, while funding for direct adult and community learning continues to decline.



Members of BDC X-Change receiving their Learning Champions Awards.

For more information contact Lynn Whitworth on 07875 408357 or email lynnw@enable.uk.net