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Welcome to Issue 26 of The HOPE Briefing. The Briefing is intended to be of interest to carers, schools, particularly designated teachers (DTs) and named governors, social care staff and LA officers.

1. Reminders for this term

- 1. Young people in Year 11** have already or will soon be choosing their courses for next year. Designated teachers will be able to help if the young person needs any assistance. The local post 16 Colleges have designated tutors who can help to give advice and set up visits. It is important to help young people to choose the right course to help them maximise their future opportunities.
- 2. Education settings** are reminded that the deadline for round 3 for LAC Pupil Premium compliance was 13 December 2019. The final payment of LAC Pupil Premium Grant for the financial year 2019-20 will be made in February 2020, to settings that met the compliance criteria for round 3.
- 3. Education settings** should have received a letter via email on 23 January informing DTs that your access to the CLA Tracker is likely to end on the afternoon of **6 February**. This is to enable The HOPE to migrate data to our long awaited new data system. If you access the CLA Tracker and did not receive the email, please contact [Beverley Leeson](#) as soon as possible. Further information will be sent directly to DTs before the end of this term to let you know whether or not the CLA Tracker is continuing and, if not, information about guidance and training on the new system, the Establishment Portal. Thank you for your understanding.

2. Coram Bright Spots 'Your Life, Your Care' survey

First, a very big 'thank you' to those DTs who have already helped their Bristol CiC to participate in the 'Your Life, Your Care' survey. We really do appreciate your assistance. As the participation rate has started to increase more quickly in the past week, we have decided to keep the survey open until the end of this term, 14 February. We want to give as many of our young people in care the chance to express their views. The link to each of the three surveys is below.

- Survey for 4 to 7 year olds:
https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/bristol_ylyc_4-7/
- Survey for 8 to 11 year olds (including 11 year olds in Y6):
https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/bristol_ylyc_8-11/

3. Survey for 11 to 18 year olds (including 11 year olds in Y7 and all Bristol CiC aged 12 and above up to their 18th birthday):
https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/bristol_ylyc_11-18/

3. Updated Personal Education Plan (PEP) forms from Term 4

The HOPE has updated our PEP forms. The updated PEP forms will come into use from the start of Term 4.

The main changes are:

- a question for both the young person and the adults about resilience factors. Resilience is an important mechanism in managing and/or overcoming Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Bristol City Council is working to be an ACE aware city so we wanted to focus on this area in the PEP forms
- the attainment section has been updated to reflect the progress and outcomes data that will be required for the new data system
- information is requested about the child's mental health needs and on the school's Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) score.

There will be guidance about the updated PEP forms on our PEP web page shortly, along with exemplar PEPs for the EYFS and primary and secondary phases. Our DT training will also include information about the updated PEP forms.

4. Child Trust Fund

The HOPE has been asked to 'spread the word' about the Child Trust Fund, to make sure that as many of Bristol's young people in care know about its existence.

If a young person was born in the United Kingdom between 1st September 2002 and 2nd January 2011, they will almost certainly have a Child Trust Fund.

It's a pot of money that the Government put in an account for the child personally, either via their parents/guardian or directly. From the age of 16, the young person can control their account and decide what to do with the money.

You can click on the flyer below to read further information about the Fund and how the young person can find out more. Carers, social workers and designated teachers who know a young person born between the above dates, please let them know about the Child Trust Fund.



9-17 Child Trust
Fund A5 Flyer.pdf

5. HOPE HIGHLIGHTS - good news stories

In December, The HOPE hosted the Mary Palmer Prize for Poetry Competition award evening for Bristol's children in care, care leavers and their carers. It's one of our favourite times of the year!

The awards night and competition was organised by Leanne Bishop, The HOPE's Interim Inclusion & Participation Lead and the event was introduced by Councillor Brenda Massey, Chair of The HOPE Governance Board and Rachael Pryor, The HOPE Headteacher & Head of Service - Inclusive City.

The competition has been running since 2011 and is the brainchild of one of The HOPE's governors, Adele Gardner, who set it up in memory of poet and friend Mary Palmer.

The theme of this year's competition was 'Climate Change'. We received some very heartfelt entries on this most topical subject. Thank you to The HOPE staff team, the young people's social workers and the designated teachers for children in care who all helped to publicise the competition.

It was great to see talented poets, both young people and their carers, receive recognition, read out their winning poems and collect their certificates and prizes. The young people's carers and some school and social care staff also came to celebrate their success. Our youngest winner is five years old and was not at all fazed at delivering his poem to a room full of people!

Two poets, Dan and Danny, made time to come to tell us how they got into poetry, perform one of their poems and give out prizes. It was inspiring to listen to these young men encourage the young people to keep writing. They were really impressed by the young people's poems.

We were also very glad to be joined by Alison Hurley, Director Education & Skills; Ann James, Director Children & Families; James Beardall, Head of Service - Permanency & Specialist Services who also gave out prizes.

The HOPE would like to thank everyone who entered the competition and to acknowledge the talent of our prize winners. Thanks too to everyone who gave their time to attend the prize giving event.

6. Training dates for the 2019-20 academic year

Social care staff

Information on training available and how to book a place is available on the social care training pages of the Source, Bristol City Council's intranet.

Carers

Bristol City Council carers can find information about training on the [Fostering website](#).

Named governor training

Course: Children in Care Annual Report Workshop
Date and time: Thursday 19 March 2020, 6.30pm to 9pm
Location: City Hall, College Green, Bristol, BS1 5TR

Course: Children in Care Update Briefing
Date and time: Tuesday 5 May 2020, 6.30pm to 9.00pm

Location: City Hall, College Green, Bristol, BS1 5TR

To apply for a course please contact the Governor Development Service with the name and date of the course(s) you want to attend plus your:

- name
- position
- school

Email: gds@bristol.gov.uk

Tel: 0117 903 6900

Designated teachers

Course: **Designated teacher for children in care and previously looked after children**

The HOPE has organised a full day course for designated teachers in the 2019-20 academic year.

The course will explore the issues for schools and settings in supporting children and young people in care and previously looked after children.

It will include information on the Establishment Portal (once this is live) and the February 2018 statutory guidance for DTs: '[The designated teacher for looked after children and previously looked after children](#)'.

Date: Thursday 6 February 2020, 9.00am to 4.00pm

Location: Bridge Professional Development Centre, Teyfant Road, Hartcliffe, Bristol BS13 0RF

A light sandwich lunch will be provided.

If there is enough demand, we will run further courses for DTs during the academic year.

To book, either:

- email aleksandra.baranska@bristol.gov.uk
- or call 0117 903 6282

Let us know your:

- name
- role
- which setting you are from
- the date of the training that you'd like to attend
- specific dietary requirements that you have

If you're booking for someone else, you should get the permission of the person you are booking for. This is to give us their name and email address in case we need to contact delegates.

Places will be filled on a first come, first served basis as spaces are limited.

If you have any comments on this Briefing or would like further information on anything mentioned, please contact [Bev Leeson](#) or call her on 0117 90 36282.