Building Pathways

Newsletter No. 5 October 2002

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Building Pathways - The Next Steps

The Building Pathways Project has almost completed its third and final year of activities. The 'special measures' funding, jointly provided by the Higher Education Funding Council and the Learning and Skills Council for Widening Participation projects, will finish on 31st December 2002. BP with other partners in the Yorkshire Progression Partnership have successfully bid for funding to support a transition period from December to April 2003 for the development of the current work to fit with the emerging plans for P4P in the region and further embedding and dissemination of good practice. In addition, Building Pathways is an active partner in the business planning process being undertaken by South Yorkshire partners around the P4P initiative.

Further details: John Harvey, Project Co-ordinator Tel: 0114 2254425

Access Project Continues

Last year Building Pathways was involved in a project with the South Yorkshire Open College Network with a focus on Access to HE learners in the region. The aim of the Project was to develop the collection and dissemination of data on the number of Access learners in the region and their achievements and progression into Higher Education.

The Project was successfully completed and the work is adding to the national picture being collated about Access to HE. Building Pathways has agreed to share the funding for the project work to continue for a further period. The aim of the new work is to further develop links with HE providers in developing their widening participation strategies and to support new ideas and initiatives regarding progression for under 21 year olds enrolling on Access programmes and learners with non-Access level 2/3 credit. The project is building on BP work achieved in developing a new Health and Nursing framework and supporting the regional Access Advisory Group in its role in adopting and embedding Access developments.

Further details: Dorothy Donnison,

Tel: 0114 225 2510

A CONFERENCE FOR TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Building Pathways is part of a consortium of colleges, LEAs and Sheffield Hallam University which is mapping and developing new routes for classroom assistants. The South Yorkshire Teaching Assistant Consortium is holding a one day conference for classroom assistants:

Venue: Sheffield Wednesday Football Club Hillsborough

Sheffield

Date: Tuesday 26th November 2002

Time: 9.30am — 3.30pm

Fee: £50.00

Most partner colleges are involved in the consortium and may wish to pass on details of the event to classroom assistants they are working with. Further details of the event can be obtained from Maxine Greaves, School of Education, Sheffield Hallam University (tel: 0114 2255774) or email m.j.greaves@shu.ac.uk

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Yorkshire & Humberside Progression Partnership $A\ Fresh\ Look$

at

Access to HE and Widening Participation

A one-day event planned for Tuesday 18th March 2003 at Cedar Court Hotel, Wakefield

The event will be an opportunity to have a detailed look at the innovative approaches to Access in the three WP projects in the YHPP

Key note speakers
Margaret Coleman,
West Yorkshire Learning and Skills Council
Clive MacDonald,
Sheffield Hallam University

Details from Julie Hamilton, Building Pathways Project: 0114 2252530

Promoting diversity in Nursing and allied Health Professions

Rotherham College of Arts and Technology has used funding from Building Pathways to develop a project to widen participation onto health care programmes by accessing potential recruits from the Black and Ethnic minority communities of Sheffield and Rotherham. A multi-lingual colleague, culturally sensitive to issues surrounding Muslim women going into nursing, was recruited to work with groups and families from selected Black and Ethnic minority communities.

The project aimed to support work on the new Cadetship programme at RCAT and involved arranging meetings for parents and potential students, developing a leaflet in Urdu to publicise programmes of learning, arranging visits to the College and Sheffield universities and liasing with careers advisors. The project worker supported a number of Somali, Yemeni and Pakistani girls through the interview ordeal to enter the cadet training programme.

A spin-off from the work has resulted in a £7,000 grant being received from the Department of Health to help with start up costs for culturally sensitive uniforms.

The cadetship programme has recruited well and of the 77 students enrolled on the health science programmes in RCAT this year a third are from Black and Ethnic Minority groups with 12 of these students enrolled on the new Cadetship programme, which is running in partnership with NHS Trusts in Rotherham and Sheffield, University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University and the South Yorkshire NHS Confederation. Some of the students, particularly from Muslim backgrounds, will be on the course specifically because of assurances and explanations offered to them and their families by the project worker, Baserah Khan.

Details from Terry Roche, Faculty Manager or Baserah Khan - RCAT: Tel 01709 362111

Access Science on-line in Sheffield College

During the summer months BP provided funding for a pilot Access Science on-line project at The Sheffield College. This project aims to develop web-based material which is suitable for use with level 3 Science/Health Science Access to HE students. Initial work on transferring the Health Science handbook to the Internet has taken place. It is anticipated that regular up-dating will take place and that this document will quickly supersede the traditional paper-based document as the definitive course handbook. Frequent up-dating and the presence of links can only assist students (< http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/projects/access_online/Health_Science_Access/titles.htm. Other material is available at < http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/projects/access_online/Health_Science_Access/titles.htm. The latter has developed over the last eighteen months. The site is easily accessible and user-friendly and a good example of how e-learning can be used to support learners through their programmes of study and in preparation for study in Higher Education.

Further details from: Dave Pickersgill, Programme Manager, Sheffield College Tel: 0114 2602585

SPOTLIGHT

Fair Exchange

Widening Participation in Higher Education The Yorkshire and Humber Experience 15th November 2002

The Alfred McAlpine Stadium, Huddersfield

Key note speakers and workshops, exhibition of projects and activities.

Building Pathways will be presenting with partner colleagues at the event.

Cost: £25 includes refreshments and lunch

For further information please contact Samantha Armitage: Professional Lifelong Learning Unit School of Continuing Education
Tel: 0113 343 3241, Fax: 0113 343 3240,

email: s.armitage@leeds.ac.uk

Guidance Network Launched

Building Pathways is working with Sheffield Hallam University, partner FE Colleges and Sheffield Futures to develop an effective local guidance network. The aim of the network is to ensure shared knowledge and updating around progression routes for learners from pre-entry into the university. The network proposes to meet at least twice each year. Last meeting on Wed 7th November 10am to 4pm at RCAT.**Contact John Harvey for further details**

Auditing Progression Routes into Sheffield Hallam University

The BP Project is jointly working with Sheffield Hallam Associate College Partnership to audit existing agreements for learners undertaking HE programmes in FE colleges wanting progression in degree programmes in SHU. The aim is to develop an up to date record of the agreements between each School in SHU and local colleges and hold the information on an electronic database which will be accessible by staff in the Student Services Centre in SHU and also College Partners. **Details from Judy Smith**

**STOPPRESS STOPPRESS STOPPRESS

**Building Pathways has been working in partnership with Sheffield LEA reviewing progression pathways for Classroom Assistants into Higher Education. As a direct result of the information and guidance by the project worker, Irene Garland, three Classroom Assistants have progressed to degree programmes in Sheffield Hallam University this September. CHECK OUR UPDATED WEBSITE www.shu.ac.uk/pathways

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