

THE HOPE NEWSLETTER Information Update from The HOPE Virtual School Issue 29 March 2021



Find The HOPE <u>online</u> Call 0117 90 36282

See our roles & email contacts

CIC PUPIL PREMIUM 2021-22 FINANCIAL YEAR

The letter from The HOPE about the CiC Pupil Premium deadlines and criteria for the 2021-22 financial year will be sent to education settings in late April or early May. As always, designated teachers are asked to share the letter with your business manager.

At the time of writing this Newsletter, the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) hasn't published the PPG Conditions of Grant for the financial year 2021-22. However, we do know that the amount per pupil will remain at £2,345 for 2021-22.

You may have seen <u>information published by the DfE</u> in February that stated that most Pupil Premium allocation will now be based on the October census and not the January census as has previously been the case. This change doesn't apply to the CiC Pupil Premium funding; the method of allocation for the CiC Pupil Premium will be unchanged.

THE HOPE STAFFING – UPDATE

There are several changes in The HOPE team to let you know about this time.

Our Business Support Officer, Aleks Baranska, has left for a new role outside the Council. We have just interviewed for a new Business Support Officer. Information about the appointment will be given in Term 5's HOPE Briefing.

Bev Leeson, our Stakeholder & Communication Manager, is retiring at the end of March. Bev has been working to support the education of children in care and care leavers for almost 12 years so we think she's probably earned a rest!

We are sorry to see Bev and Aleks go and wish them both the best for their future.

In addition, the next phase of The HOPE team's reorganisation will be in place from the start of Term 5. This phase sees the following changes:

- Katherine Juniper and Leanne Bishop will be job sharing a new Senior Advocate role.
- Hattie Billsberry and Leanne Bishop will be job sharing the Inclusion & Participation Lead role. Hattie will also continue for part of the week as Years 9 to 11 Advocate.
- Shelina Jerram is taking on a new role as our PLAC (previously looked after children) Advocate.

Recruitment is underway for a Years 1 to 5 Advocate and a Years 6 to 11 Advocate.

As you can tell, that's a lot of change for the team, and a reduction of capacity in the immediate term. We will do our very best to continue to respond to queries, but please bear with us both whilst we undergo this transition and get back to having a full team. Thank you.

Our <u>Contact web page</u> will be updated for Term 5.



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At present, the team is still working at home. Bristol City Council hasn't given any timescales for a return to the office as yet. Please continue to invite us to attend online meetings.

Email continues to be the best way to contact us - please see the link above for our email addresses. The voicemail is being listened to regularly however so, if you don't have access to email, please leave a message on the number shown above and we will return your call as soon as possible.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL VIRTUAL TRIP

The HOPE worked in partnership with Bristol University to arrange a one hour webinar on 9th March titled 'Introduction to University'. The session was tailored for care experienced students in Years 9 to 13 and covered:

- 'Top Ten Reasons to go to University'
- 'Student Finance'
- ✤ 'Opportunities & Support', and
- personal accounts of University life from three current students.

Although unable to run our usual University Trips this year, we were delighted to be able to use this new format; many thanks to the young people, carers and teachers who joined the live session and contributed their questions. The session was recorded; please e-mail <u>Katherine.juniper@bristol.gov.uk</u> if you would like to receive the link to the recording.

TRAINING

The HOPE runs training for designated teachers, named governors, social care staff and carers.

Our training covers the Early Years upwards and we have courses that focus on both CiC and previously looked after children (PLAC) and ones that focus solely on PLAC.

Information about The HOPE's training for **designated teachers and named governors** is available from our <u>training for education settings web page</u>.

Training information for **social workers** is available at: <u>https://www.bristol.gov.uk/web/the-</u> hope/training-for-social-care-staff-on-supporting-the-education-of-children-and-young-people-in-care

Carers can find training information via the <u>Foster with Bristol website</u> and The HOPE's <u>training for</u> <u>carers web page</u>.

For more information about anything in this Newsletter or any feedback please contact thehope@bristol.gov.uk.