

External Provider Training



External Provider Training - a partnership approach.
Children and Young People's charity Kent Youth and
Kent County Council's Learning Plus team working together.



"I would like to say thanks for the training. It has been really beneficial and I have learnt in one day what would have taken many years to find out!"

Louise Hammond, School Projects Co-ordinator, Animate Arts Company.

Background

At the request of schools and Extended Services staff within Kent, Learning Plus (formerly Extended Services) set about creating a directory of External Providers which schools could access to find providers of high quality out of school hours activities. After a year's planning, the Working Party decided that only providers who attended two day training sessions could be placed on the database. The aim of the training was to help raise quality standards in provision, and explore how the relationship with schools could benefit the provider, the school, and the wider community.

The training sessions were devised between and delivered by the Learning Plus team and the charity Kent Youth. Kent Youth is a county constituent organisation of both Clubs for Young People and UK Youth and, as such supports, over 200 voluntary youth groups and projects across the county. As part of their infrastructure support, they ensure that groups meet minimum standards including insurance, safeguarding, policies and best practice and offer further training and advice.

The training

The first session focuses upon:

- Safeguarding young people
- Safeguarding the providers
- Avoiding mismatched expectations
 - Exploring the benefits
- Standards and quality co-curricular provision
 - Successful relationships
 - Future
- Opportunity for questions

The second session focuses upon:

- The bespoke folder made for each provider
 - Updates on national and local levels
- School development planning, Ofsted, marketing and promotion
(including updating your company profile onto the Children and Family Information Service)



You will need to attend both sessions. This package costs £100 in total.

Feedback from the external providers.

The evaluations and email feedback from the providers showed that they welcomed the support from the Local Authority, found the information regarding national educational drivers useful for their own understanding and marketing experience and enjoyed networking with other providers.

"It feels so good to be working so productively in such a pleasant atmosphere. Thank-you for all the support, I've already been putting it to good use this morning in a draft letter to teachers about "Puff in a Huff", I've included many pointers including Ofsted SEF, which up until yesterday I hadn't considered turning to my advantage!"

Rosamond Palmer, KINN Theatre.

The follow-up session enabled us to hand out bespoke support materials to the providers, including information around School Improvement Plans and Ofsted. It also allowed for clarification of questions as well as offer providers time to explore other educational marketing avenues.

Impact on practice

Over 300 providers have been trained so far and their details are housed on the Family Service Directory (Children, Families Information Service) page which acts as Yellow Pages. Two and a half years on, External Providers have fed back that, as a result of the training, they have changed their practice and forged successful partnerships with schools, families, Local Authority staff, community groups, businesses and charities.

Testimonials

"The training and support offered by Kent Youth and Kent County Council Extended Services (now Learning Plus) provided insight to Creative Dance Studio. It gave us the information and knowledge we needed to develop further and adapt our workshops around schools of the 21st century and the Every Child Matters Agenda."

Sophie Henry, Artistic Director and Founder, Creative Dance Studio.

"We have been impressed by the level of commitment to arts education and creativity in schools and across extended services shown by Martin, Emma and the team at Kent Extended Services. Their level of support has been outstanding and we have benefitted as a company from their openness to share information and knowledge via their extensive training days. Communication is open and any problems we may experience are dealt with efficiently and with an understanding of both ours and the communities needs. Kent Extended Services continue to support us in our work and we hope to continue this fruitful partnership long into the future."

Mark Waite, Director, Bigfoot Arts Education, West Kent.

"We found the training extremely helpful, reassuring us about our practises, and informing us about new changes when working with young people. We've also made new contacts and been given lots of support in working in new areas. "

Dan Richards, Creative Director, Animate & Create.

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**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE TWO TRAINING SESSIONS,
PLEASE COMPLETE THIS BOOKING FORM AND RETURN, ALONG WITH A CHEQUE, TO:**

**Kent Youth – External Provider Training
Messenger House
New Hythe Lane
Larkfield
Kent
ME20 6SG**

**ALL TRAINING TAKES PLACE AT OAKWOOD HOUSE IN MAIDSTONE
(TIMES FOR ALL SESSIONS ARE 9.15am TO 2.30pm)**

DATES		✓
SESSION 1	SESSION 2	
Monday 21 st November 2011	Thursday 8 th December 2011	
Monday 5 th December 2011	Wednesday 4 th January 2012	
Monday 12 th December 2011	Tuesday 17 th January 2012	
Friday 13 th January 2012	Thursday 9 th February 2012	
Monday 6 th February 2012	Wednesday 7 th March 2012	
Friday 9 th March 2012	Monday 26 th March 2012	

Details for those attending
<u>Name(s):</u>
<u>Organisation:</u>
<u>Address:</u>
<u>email:</u>
<u>Telephone:</u>

Please return this page along with a cheque for £100, made payable to Kent County Council.

You will receive a Receipt for this money on the day of your training as cheques will not be banked until then.

Confirmation emails and arrangements will be sent out confirming your place on both days, once payment has been received.