



Nottinghamshire  
County Council

# Study Support in Nottinghamshire

A Varied Menu of Activities

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This Study Support Newsletter and previous copies can be found on Wired within the "Study Support" folder in the "Extended Services In and Around Schools" community.

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## Happy New Year 2010



### New Year approaches

In the first issue of this year we want to update readers on forthcoming areas of work – some are at the pilot stage just now but if you would be interested to know more do get in touch with Study Support at the usual addresses. See Students as researchers and Children's University.

### New ideas for activities

We're also signposting activities and projects that you may want to find out more about in order to consult with the children and young people in your schools. Where an organisation or provider is listed please contact them direct.

### Strategic fit

In the revised Ofsted framework there's a focus on outcomes for specific groups of children and young people. Study Support activities are decided locally to engage the children and young people in your schools who could be at risk of underachieving so New Year seems a good time to share ideas that could help you to engage groups in voluntary learning activities.

## Watch this space

We've been hearing very positive things about Children's University (CU) and attended their second national conference to find out about how setting up a Nottinghamshire CU could support your work.

The Children's University™ is a national organisation that validates exciting and innovative learning activities and experiences outside normal school hours for 7 to 14 year olds. Achievement is celebrated and participation rewarded through a system of certification and a Learning Passport.

Local CU's share the conviction that raising children's aspirations is important and that learning can be the satellite navigation to better places in life.

In the New Year we will be looking at how we can use data monitoring and tracking that will support the roll out of the disadvantage subsidy at the same time as allowing credits for participation to build to graduation for young people from a local CU.

It makes sense to work collaboratively with neighbouring LAs and the conference was a good first step to discussions about how CU might look for us.

For more information take a look at the national website at: <http://www.childrensuniversity.co.uk> and get in touch if you'd be interested to pilot CU in Nottinghamshire.



## Students as researchers

As the Study Support team we wanted to investigate how schools and their partners could research and demonstrate the difference that participating in Study Support activities makes to students in a way that produced meaningful evidence with a minimum of bureaucracy.

We asked our two Advanced QiSS (Quality in Study Support) schools to pilot a student led research project into the benefits and positive outcomes for children and young people who attend Study Support activities.

Ashfield School and Kirkby College agreed to work collaboratively and asked Post 16 student volunteers to undertake a series of short interviews at two primary schools and two secondary schools using digital recorders.

We decided to ask students to pilot this work because:

- Young people are our greatest resource in schools and sixth forms,
- They have an authentic voice,
- We believe that they are able to understand what other children and young people think, feel and do with regard to participation in Study Support and that interviewees may be more comfortable sharing ideas.

The students wrote up and published a report – copies of which can be downloaded from our web pages on: [nottinghamshire.gov.uk](http://nottinghamshire.gov.uk)

Visiting one of the schools in July 2009 Camilla Chandler of the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust had an opportunity to speak with our student researchers and said:

*The results of this research project are exactly what educationalists are asking up and down the country.*



In order to share this good practice, our student researchers presented their findings at the East Midlands Study Support seminar in October 2009.

Delegates reported that they felt it had been a fantastic opportunity for the 6th formers involved. Very rewarding. Brilliant – good to hear from young people. Fantastic delivery by the students. Good ideas to consider. Good to have a student perspective. Good to involve 6th form with Family of Schools.

A number of further schools have come forward to say that they would like to explore students as researchers and in February we are meeting to set up a wider pilot project with five families of schools: The Brunts, All Saints, Holgate, Magnus and Garibaldi.

## Change4Life Roadshow Events 2010

Change4Life is a national social marketing campaign aimed at helping children, young people and their families to lead healthier lifestyles with the message:

Eat well    Move more    Live longer

You will probably have noticed that the Change4Life family currently support The Simpsons cartoon family – sometimes



An information event is being held on the morning of 27 January 2010, at Blackburn House, Boughton Pumping Station supported by £1000 funding per family of schools to deliver a Change4Life roadshow in your own area.

This opportunity follows the pilot of seven Change4Life Roadshows in the summer term 2009 organised by Pip Harris (NCC Healthy Eating Advisor) supported by Study Support and Extended Services.

Extended Services Co-ordinators and Healthy Schools colleagues from one of the family schools will commit to leading each local roadshow.

At the event we will share what went well at the pilot roadshows, which services can support your planning group, have an exemplar cookery demo and discuss what resources are available as well as devoting time to start the planning for your roadshow.

More info on how to get involved from your Extended Services Co-ordinator.



