



# AfC Virtual School

## Designated Teacher Newsletter

### Welcome to the AfC Virtual School's summer term newsletter 2019

The Virtual School is here to support Designated Teachers (DTs) and their colleagues with information and advice, training and support when you need it.

For any enquiries about previously looked-after children, your first point of contact is Emma Dyer on 0208 831 6037, email: [Emma.dyer@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:Emma.dyer@achievingforchildren.org.uk)

From September your leads for each area for children looked-after will be: Deputy Head Paul Chapman (Richmond); Asst. Head Clare Farley (Kingston); and Asst. Head Christina Buckley (RBWM).

### Dates for your diary

We are excited to announce that AfC Virtual School will be holding two DT conferences in September 2019. DTs are welcome to join either of these one-day conferences. The first, on Tuesday 17 September, will be particularly aimed at new DTs and cover statistical duties; PEPs, PPP; SMART targets; attendance; exclusions; reports and supporting staff. The second conference on 27 September will be suitable for both new and experienced DTs and the focus of the day will be Attachment friendly schools. Sessions will include ethos, policies, training of staff; trauma; restorative justice; emotion coaching and supporting foster carers. We are still waiting to confirm venues but please contact Sam Connor on 0208 831 6037 or [sam.connor@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:sam.connor@achievingforchildren.org.uk) to reserve a place.

We also hope to see you at our termly DT forum events. The dates for next term are as follows:

Richmond: Thursday 10 October 2019  
Kingston: Thursday 7 November 2019  
RBWM: Wednesday 4 December 2019.

## **The adopter hub**

We are offering a free subscription to DTs working in AfC schools to the [Adopter Hub](#), a web-based platform run by PACT that offers information and resources for DTs, adoptive parents and Special Guardians. This site includes a confidential, secure and thoroughly-monitored peer-support forum for adoptive parents.

If you are interested in joining to take advantage of a range of resources, or know of adoptive parents who would benefit from this resource, please let us know by contacting [emma.dyer@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:emma.dyer@achievingforchildren.org.uk)

## **Virtual School Summer activities week 29 July-2 August 2019**

We are offering FREE summer activities for all children looked-after and previously looked-after children between July 29 and Aug 2 2019. These include a sculpture workshop; water sports; theatre workshops; boat rides; treasure hunts; stables days and radio workshops and are open to children between the age of 5 and 15. Prizes and certificates are awarded every day!

For more details, go to the front page of our virtual school website: [www.achievingforchildren.org.uk](http://www.achievingforchildren.org.uk) and click on Pupil Zone.

If you'd like to book a place for any of the activities, please contact Sam Connor for a booking form: [sam.connor@achievingforchildren.or.uk](mailto:sam.connor@achievingforchildren.or.uk) or by phone on 0208 831 6037.