

Ashfield Excellence Cluster

Curriculum Network Meeting ~ 10th December 2007

		ACTION
<u>Present:</u>	Suzanne Stoddart, Beardall Street Karen Whitehouse, Morven Park Primary Annie McClimont, AEC	Russell Haslam, Edgewood Primary Sarah Peacock, Annie Holgate Infants
<u>Apologies:</u>	Di Munro, Coxmoor Dawn Roberts, Annesley Primary Carolyn McGeagh, Hillside Primary	Sarah Plaskitt, Broomhill Junior Colin Howard, Holly Primary
<u>Welcome & notes from last meeting</u>		
<u>School Updates</u>		
<u>Annie Holgate Infants:</u> They continue to work on their 2-year rolling programme of units for Years 1 and 2. With units designed for delivery to both year groups they are particularly concerned to ensure progression and sufficient challenge for Year 2. Staff meetings have been set aside for planning. The Blooms Taxonomy home learning idea to support the curriculum was discussed.		
<u>Edgewood:</u> Having established their own skills ladder and following a period where staff were free to experiment, they have identified a need to block the skills (and key areas of knowledge) to ensure continuity and progression. This will be monitored in the future. They are also looking at ways of enabling subject leaders to take responsibility for monitoring. Various types of monitoring were discussed: written evidence (if it's in a plan does that mean it was done?), photographs, pupil interviews, learning walks, work scrutiny.		
<u>Beardall Street:</u> Lead teachers from Beardall Street and Edgewood met to work together on streamlining the Somerset Skills Ladder. Beardall Street have also colour-coded them for cross-curricular links. They have also made additions where they felt there was a need for more detail. Formats for medium term overviews have been revised to reduce workload. The work is being overseen by the Curriculum Team. They are considering assessment and have gone back to NC level descriptors. They are looking at developing a series of questions to facilitate assessment.		
<u>Morven Park:</u> Using Bexley, they had a week of cross curricular work in Science and Art, beginning with staff INSET. Response from staff was mostly positive, although some interruptions/absence during the week had disrupted the schedule for some classes. Karen described some interesting observations around children's previous experiences in Art and their readiness to work in a more structured way. Morven Park have also begun to colour code to indicate links eg between History and Literacy.		
<u>Joint INSET Annesley and Coxmoor</u>		
These two schools had enjoyed a joint INSET with teachers from the two schools planning units (and home learning activities) together. Unfortunately neither could be at the meeting so this item is carried forward.		
<u>Planning</u>		
Examples of planning were distributed and discussed. Particular thanks to Aimee Gill at Hillside and Colin Howard from Holly Primary who, although they could not attend the meeting, had sent in some examples. Aimee's Y2/Y3 planning on the themes of Pirates and Dragons also includes something they have called 'Role Play/fun Writing Planning'.		
<u>AOB</u>		
<u>NB</u> The Science Coordinator at Broomhill undertook a review of the Science content of the Bexley CLJ and found it wanting. He has very kindly shared his findings and those schools using Bexley might want to take particular note.		
Annie reported back from her enquiries from Bexley. They are planning to have another look at the Foundation Stage materials and will be in touch when they have done this. (It could be some time yet!) She also fed back to them the concerns about some of the posted wheels being read-only. However, it seems that there is a way round this – downloading to desk top and then cutting and pasting.		
Thank you to Karen and everyone at Morven Park for the welcome and use of their staffroom.		
<u>Date of Next Meeting</u>		
Tuesday March 4 th , 2:30pm at Annie Holgate Infants.		
		AMcC to send examples to Sarah
		AMcC to include in next agenda
		AMcC to send to lead teachers not at the meeting.
		Lead teachers to note Broomhill's report.

