

## Ealing Council



# Ealing's Story of Success

## Linda Thompson

### Virtual Head Teacher – Looked After Children

*Making Ealing a great place for every child to grow up*

# Context

- 3<sup>rd</sup> largest London Borough.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Most diverse.
- Approximately 400 Looked after Children.
- Approximately 225 Care leavers 18 – 25 and beyond.
- Corporate Parent Panel – Chaired by the Leader, young people participate.
- Education model in place 10 years.
- 18% of our care leavers (45 YP) are at University, compared with national average of 6%.

# What does the Model look like?

- It's at the heart of everything the Council does, e.g. employment/work experience.
- Began with extensive consultation, regularly updated of what young people want and need to be successful.
- An integrated, **joined up** model, based around the Horizons Centre.
- Strong focus on developing confident, successful, independent young adults.
- Turns the negatives into positives, strong role models.

# Horizons – Best Building in London 2008! (RICs)

- Multi-agency modern, state of the art resource for those aged 13 – 25 plus.
- Education available every morning – team of 6 teachers and Study Support in evenings.
- Health – including sexual health, substance misuse, parenting, emotional health.
- Music, Arts, “Creativity Connects”.
- Focus on quality and young person centred.
- Somewhere to go in good times and bad.

# Horizons Achievement and Education Centre





# February Half-Term 2009 at Horizons



# February-Trip to the V & A





The trip was part of Ealing's Creativity Connects Programme.



# Example of recent half-term programme

- Learn to Play the Guitar.
- Key Stage Study Support, extra help from Mentors.
- Trip to V and A Hat Design Programme.
- Drumming Workshop.
- Master Chef Challenge at TVU.
- Theatre Trip Merchant of Venice.



DAY	AM (10:00 – 12:30)	LUNCH 12:30-1:30	PM (1:30 – 4:00)
<b>MON</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct '09	Music/drama activities (Y5-8) Study Support KS3-5		<b>Study Support: KS3 – KS5</b> •Homework Support •Coursework •Support from LAC teachers
<b>TUE</b> 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Trip to National Gallery</b> <b>Meet at Ealing Broadway Tube at 9:30 am.</b> Return 4:00pm. A 3 day project including making your own sculpture! Lunch will be provided.		
<b>WED</b> 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Trip to National Gallery</b> <b>Meet at Ealing Broadway Tube at 9:30 am.</b> Return 4:00pm. Day 2 of a 3 day project. Lunch provided.		
<b>THU</b> 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Trip to National Gallery</b> <b>Meet at Ealing Broadway Tube at 9:30 am.</b> Return 4:00pm. Final day of the project. Lunch provided.		
<b>FRI</b> 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Music/Drama activities</b>  		<b>Study Support: KS3 – KS5</b> •Homework Support •Coursework •Support from LAC teachers

# Evolving Project - ME

- Young people increasingly taking a lead.
- ME Project – My Education – Peer Mentoring.
- 12 Mentors and 20 Mentees Yrs 10 and 11.
- Aiming Higher – TVU partnership.
- Outcomes evident not only in rising University numbers but also reductions in NEETs and youth crime.
- Importance to young people's self-esteem and opportunity for giving something back.

# Cook Out Challenge at TVU



# So, what is the Ealing Offer?

- Social Work interventions, plus Youth Work.
- Consultation and Participation.
- Intensive educational support.
- Developing talents, abilities and confidence.
- Half term and holiday programmes.
- Rising Stars and Outerlimits Events.
- Celebrating Success - Education Awards.
- Work experience/Apprenticeships/V Talent.
- ME and Horizons.
- Financial, emotional and practical support post-16.

# Why is it so successful?

- Young person led, their place, based on what they say they want and need.
- Addresses all of the 5 outcomes in one go.
- Taps into the talents and energy of young people and staff – very stable group.
- Frees staff up to work directly with young people.
- Quality is high, reflecting confidence in our young people, fast easy access to decisions and resources.
- Life cycle model, through peer mentoring.
- Ensures young people aim high and are successful.



# Mentees View

“I was so shy and quiet before I got involved with M.E and now you can't stop me! It gave me a lot of confidence and now I'm currently doing two courses at TVU and hope to go on to do a Foundation Degree”.

# Education Achievements 2009

- 14 Young people starting at University in Sept 09.
- 45 young in total at University – 18% of care leavers, three times above the national level.
- 8 Graduated in Summer 2009.
- 5 obtained 2:1 Degrees, 3 obtained 2:2 Degrees.
- 2 Masters Students graduating and 2 more starting.
- Financial support up to £5,500 pa per student to cover subsistence and accommodation costs.
- Ongoing practical and emotional support from Horizons and LAC post 16 Teacher.

# Positive Outcomes!

