

SkillsActive

Playwork West Midlands

E-bulletin – April 2008

Do you have anything you would like to advertise or promote in our next E-bulletin?

SkillsActive Playwork West Midlands E-bulletin is a bi-monthly newsletter. Please email information about your events, training, publications, conferences, jobs or other items of interest to the play community for the **June E-bulletin by Friday 13 April 2008**. Bookmark our new soon to be launched website and check regularly for news updates and events in the West Midlands area <http://www.skillsactive.com/playwork/arounduk/westmidlands/playwork>.



Jayne Olden, Administrator
Email: wmpplay@skillsactive.com

Regional News

The West Midlands Employers Network. Sign up to the West Midlands Employers network <http://www.playworkwestmidlands.org.uk/downloads.php> and keep up to date with training opportunities and receive support.

Funding

Guide to Funding Sources - The National Council for Voluntary Youth Services (NCVYS) in conjunction with National Council for Voluntary Child Care Organisations (NCVCCO) has launched a free guide outlining sources of funding to support the development of the voluntary and community sector children and young people's workforce. Download a free copy from www.ncvys.org.uk or email nichola@ncvys.org.uk.

News, Policy & Practice

SkillsActive – Find out about the partnership SkillsActive has with the nine regional playwork centres across the UK: <http://www.skillsactive.com/playwork/arounduk/westmidlands/playwork>.

Get SkillsActive! Get involved! Build your organisation with a skilled and motivated workforce. SkillsActive Membership starts from £25*. Be part of the organisation that is leading the way in raising skills standards, ensuring a highly skilled and motivated workforce. Visit www.skillsactive.com/get-involved or call 0207 632 2000.

*All prices are plus VAT and capped at £250 plus VAT.

SUCCESS STORIES WANTED! Do you have a playwork-related story you would like to share? If so please email or write to Jayne Olden at the address below.

Playday 2008 The date for this year's campaign is 6 August and the title is 'Give us a Go'. The Get organised! guide 2008 will be available shortly, providing advice on organising a Playday event and further guidance on this year's theme, bookmark www.playday.org.uk for regular updates.

Events, Seminars & Conferences

Full events listing can be found on Playwork West Midlands website
www.playworkwestmidlands.org.uk

8 May – Ladywood Community Hall, Birmingham 'Playing Out' An exciting day of workshops just for Play Rangers led by experienced Play Rangers, playwork practitioners and authors. www.commonthreads.org.uk, or tel. Shelly on 02380 629460.

17 June – Worcestershire Playwork Provider's Forum. Perdisswell Young Peoples Leisure Club, 6.30pm-9.00pm. Cost £5. Further info from Andrea

Payne, Training Team, Worcestershire Early Years & Childcare Service. Tel. 01905 790579, email apayne@worcestershire.gov.uk.

26 June - 4Children's National Children's Stars Awards - Nominate your stars today and make sure they get the recognition they deserve. Deadline for nominations 25 April, awards presentation event 26 June. Further info www.4Children.org.uk/Stars.

Playday 6 August 2008 – The theme this year is around risk & play and the campaign title is 'Give us a Go'. Further info from www.playday.org.uk.

Publications and Bulletins

Children's Play Update – Latest edition now available to download from Children's Play Information Service website: <http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?sve=782>.

Kids NDD – March 2008 - The National Inclusive Play Network E-bulletin latest edition now available. To subscribe email rachel.scott@kids.org.uk or go to <http://kids.org.uk/ndd/nipnetwork/>.

Playcare News and information for early years and childcare providers from Worcestershire County Council – latest edition, now out. See website www.earlyyearsandchildcare.org.uk contact Julie Stevenson, email JStevenson@worcestershire.gov.uk to subscribe.

Kids NDD list of publications, including 'Inclusion by Design: A Guide to creating accessible play and childcare environments' launched on 26 February, available from www.kids.org.uk. Contact publications.ndd@kids.org.uk.

Common Threads – Latest edition of *Playwords*, the unique independent magazine for everybody working in children's play, now available to download from <http://www.commonthreads.org.uk/default.aspx>.

The West Midlands Regional Observatory – Latest E-bulletin now available from <http://www.wmro.org/standardTemplate.aspx/Home/RDIN/WMROEbulletinMarch2008>. The E-bulletin, aims to provide a quick overview of research activity within the West Midlands with contributions from members of the [Regional Data and Intelligence Network](#).

SkillsActive Playwork Regional Bulletins

Some of the following websites are currently under construction, for further information contact the centres direct:

Playwork Partnerships, Playwork South West - <http://www.playwork.co.uk/index.asp?page=EBulletin>

South East - <http://www.playworksoutheast.org.uk/newsletters/>

East of England - <http://www.playworkeast.org.uk/downloads/Newsletter%20March%202007.pdf>

North West - <http://www.tyrersorrel.co.uk/plusten/pages/information/playworknw.htm#Briefings>

Yorkshire and the Humber - <http://www.yorkshireplay.org.uk/index.php>

London - <http://www.playworklondon.org.uk/>

East Midlands - <http://www.playworkeastmidlands.org.uk/index.php>

North East - <http://www.playworknortheast.org.uk/index.php>

Training

Kids NDD – Accredited inclusive play training courses, see website for further information www.kids.org.uk.

Useful links

Kids West Midlands - Helping disabled children and young people, aged 0 - 19, to get the most out of life. We work closely with parents and carers to give children and young people all the support they need today to fulfil their hopes and dreams tomorrow. <http://www.kids-wmreg.org.uk/index.php/home>

SkillsActive The sector skills council for active leisure and learning <http://www.skillsactive.com/>

Playlink - works with local authorities, organisations and groups that want to create the best possible play opportunities for children and young people. We do this by offering advice, information and services 'in the round' <http://www.playlink.org.uk/>

Play England West Midlands - Play England's West Midlands team have been in place since September 2006 to assist local authorities and their partners develop play strategies, a requirement for their application for funding from the Big Lottery Fund Children's Play programme http://www.playengland.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_514_3ya_92488997094452m7b_200612132111r

Learn Direct - A nationally recognised brand for learning and the largest e-learning network of its kind in the world <http://www.learndirect.co.uk/>

Playday – Everything you need to know about Playday and how to organise an event for this year's Playday on Wednesday 6 August <http://www.playday.org.uk>.

National Children's Bureau (NCB) - Founded in 1963, NCB is a charitable organisation that acts as an umbrella body for organisations working with children and young people in England & Northern Ireland <http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?sve=660>.

West Midlands Regional Observatory - provides a complete single point of access to data, information and intelligence about the West Midlands region <http://www.wmro.org/homeTemplate.aspx/Home>

The Children's Workforce Development Council - CWDC exists to improve the lives of children, young people, their families and carers by ensuring that all people working with them have the best possible training, qualifications, support and advice. It also helps children and young people's organisations and services to work together better so that the child is at the centre of all services <http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/>.

Thanks to the following sources of information

Children's Play Information Service
Common Threads
Kids NDD
National Children's Bureau
Play England
Sandwell Early Years & Childcare Unit.
West Midlands Regional Observatory
Worcestershire Early Years & Childcare Service

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