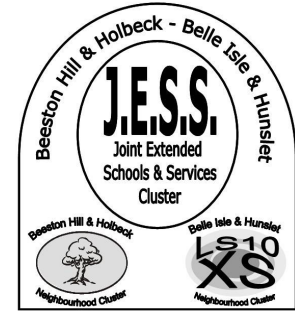


## Report June 2010



The JESS Cluster is made up of two Neighbourhood Clusters and their communities and includes The South Leeds Academy.

### **Beeston Hill & Holbeck Neighbourhood Cluster**

Beeston Hill St Luke's C of E Primary School, Cross Flatts Park Primary School, Greenmount Primary School, Hunslet Moor Primary School, Ingram Road Primary School, New Beverley Community School, St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School, New Beverley Children's Centre and City & Holbeck Children's Centre

### **LS10XS (Belle Isle and Hunslet) Neighbourhood Cluster**

Clapgate Primary School, Hunslet Carr Primary School, Hunslet St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Hunslet St Mary's CE Primary School, Windmill & Low Road Federation, Hunslet Children's Centre and Windmill Children's Centre

### **Family Support Work**

The cluster supports the schools with a financial contribution to their Family/Parent Support Work.

At the **South Leeds Academy** there are two Family Support Workers.

In the **Beeston Hill & Holbeck Neighbourhood Cluster** there are five Family Support Workers and a Senior Family Support Worker who is based in one school but working across the whole cluster. These posts are funded through the cluster and there is a further Family Support Worker entirely funded by one school.

In the **Belle Isle and Hunslet Neighbourhood Cluster** there are six Parent Support Workers each based in a school.

### **Preventing NEET Before 16**

The JESS cluster has spent 12 months developing the initiative to prevent NEET at 16 by targeting 100 Primary School children in Years 5 & 6 who have been identified as potentially NEET at 16. In November 2009, a consultation process took place whereby the preferred activities for the target group were identified. In January 2010, 66 children from the target group took part in a 10 week pilot for this project. The Providers of the activities met with the schools and the children's parents. By arrangement, the children were collected once a week from their schools by the Providers and taken to the Providers local venue to take part in activities including relaxation, discussions as well as sports, arts etc. The children were then taken back to their homes at around 6.30pm. This was a great success and other Providers have now been commissioned to cater for all the children in the target group using funding provided by the Cluster Activity Fund.

The aim of the initiative is to raise aspirations, challenge comfort zones, raise self esteem and confidence, and change attitudes towards education and the world of work in later years.

### **Reducing Teenage Pregnancy**

- The Cluster has an extremely high incidence of teenage conceptions and the Cluster Manager works closely with the local NHS teams to tackle this issue. Staff are being trained in the Speakeasy Programme which empowers parents to talk to their children about sexual health and relationships from an early age.
- In line with the 'Preventing NEET before 16' cluster initiative, children in Years 5 and 6 in Primary Schools are targeted to raise aspirations and tackle attitudes before decisions about their futures are set in stone.

### **Reducing Infant Mortality Demonstration Site**

The cluster Manager works closely with the NHS Team leading on the Beeston Hill & Holbeck demonstration site which was established in June 2008 and is a local multi-agency partnership.

Membership includes partners from LCC Area Management, Care Services, Primary Care, Early Years, Midwifery, the Voluntary Sector, Leeds Teaching Hospital, Education Leeds, Extended Services and Public Health leaders. Work is formatted around effective interventions contained within the 'Implementation Plan for Reducing Health Inequalities in Infant Mortality' (DOH, 2007).

- In Leeds, around 50 babies under one year old die each year
- Nationally the infant mortality rate is 5 babies die per 1000 live births
- The Leeds rate is 8 babies die per 1000 live births
- In the Beeston and Holbeck Ward the rate is 10 babies die per 1000 live births

### **What has the Reducing Infant Mortality Group been doing locally?**

- Developing a holistic approach at the Parkside Baby Clinic where families can access professional advice and support beyond the usual medical services
- On-going work to support young people to become more aware of factors that increase risk in relation to sex and relationships
- Addressing child poverty through work under the umbrella of Every Penny Counts
- Delivering local Citizens Advice Bureau services within Children's Centres
- Identifying the important role of housing standards
- Developing a social marketing approach to reducing cot death
- New Bewerley Children's Centre has been awarded a grant to develop walking opportunities for local families
- An event took place at Hillside on February 2010 to celebrate the vast range of work that has been carried out and make plans for the future.

### **Activity Fund**

The JESS Cluster Activity Fund is approximately £200,000 and is intended to:

- Enhance quality out of school, holiday and weekend activities to cater for a wide range of participants from all Key Stages and especially those identified in the target groups below
- Contribute to the improvement of attendance, participation and achievement of identified target groups
- Provide family learning/events/opportunities
- Provide support for children with emotional health and well being issues.

### **Target Groups**

- Eligible for Free School Meals
- Potentially NEET Before 16
- Looked After Children
- Economically Disadvantaged



### **Projects already in progress under the Activity Fund**

#### **Preventing NEET Before 16**

Twelve Primary Schools identified 100 children in Years 5 and 6 as 'Potentially NEET at 16'. These children have been allocated a place at a local after school club based on their personal choice of activity provided by four organisations (Hamara HLC, The Hunslet Club, The Works Skatepark and South Leeds Community Radio). The organisations were the successful applicants out of 9 who applied for the first JESS Cluster brief. Providers have already highlighted that they are seeking other funding to support the NEET work in the future. Additional briefs to continue the work from September will be distributed in due course.

#### **Family Trip to Scarborough – 2nd June**

Fifty-one families from 11 schools in the J.E.S.S. Cluster went to Scarborough on 2nd June. The coach trip was organised by the cluster with the invaluable support of the Cluster Family Support Workers in schools. The FSWs invited the some of the most vulnerable families in the cluster to attend. The day was a great success and everyone enjoyed themselves (and all got back on the four coaches at the end of the day). One parent reported that the trip was a great idea as they couldn't afford a family holiday this year. Another parent said they had a great time and sunned themselves on the beach. Further trips to local attractions are planned for the summer holidays. Under the cluster's new charging policy (to encourage sustainability) the trip brought in £300.

#### **Summer Activity Booklet**

The cluster is in the process of putting together a summer activity booklet. The booklet will be distributed w/c 5 July to 5,000 children and young people who live in Beeston Hill, Belle Isle, Holbeck and Hunslet. As part of a sustainability initiative, the cluster has asked organisations if they would like to 'advertise' their activities in the booklet (colour page with logos as opposed to plain black and white text). To date 13 providers have signed up bringing in over £800 for future newsletters/summer activity booklets.