

Educational Visits

an update for EVCs

December 2006
issue 1

2005/06 was a successful year for visits. Across schools and the Area Youth Work Teams a total of 1452 Category B visits were undertaken (an increase of 306 from 2004/05). For schools, that's nearly 40,000 pupils taking part and we are already seeing another increase in the number of visits for the coming year.

As you are aware, we have been without an Educational Visits Adviser since September and as a team we have continued to approve all Category B visits that have been submitted in a timely manner. Thank you for your co-operation, which is enabling us all to give such wonderful opportunities to young people. We are now entering into the process of recruiting a new Adviser who will be overseeing Educational Visits opportunities.

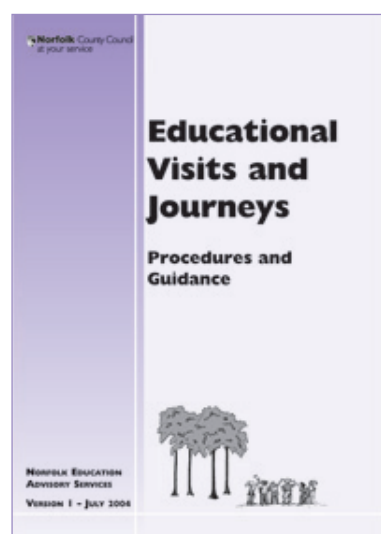


New Training Available

For the first time on January 10th we are piloting a Ski Day for High Schools. The aim of the day is to enable schools to share good practice. The course will be emphasising the fact that good planning and high quality risk management is an essential part of planning any visit. The day includes input from colleagues experienced in running ski visits, as well as specialist guidance on insurance and incident reporting. (Course reference: 6SN125)

Review of Guidance

Since September we have been undertaking a comprehensive review of the Educational Visits and Journeys approvals process and guidance document. This consultation is still ongoing, please look out for news and updates in the new year. The process should be completed by Easter 2007.



EDVOL (Educational Visits Online) has now been rolled out successfully to over 60 schools and establishments across Norfolk County Council (NCC), and feedback has been extremely positive. We are aiming to run an intensive training period during the Spring term. This planning and approval system will now be free to schools and following an initial half-day training course for EVCs, schools will be able to buy in additional on-site advice and support. Schools who undertook training in Wave 1 will receive free advice and support through to December 2007.

Going Electronic



News from Holt Hall and Wells Field Study Centres

NCC believes that Norfolk's Children should have access to diverse Outdoor Learning and Education for Sustainability opportunities where continuity and progression is planned, provided for and celebrated. Our Local Authority centres can offer high quality support in these areas.

For availability please see e-courier issue: 189 - 24 November 2006
or telephone: Holt Hall FSC: 01263 713117

Wells FSC: 01328 710525



News from Whitlingham

The vision for this new NCC run centre is to provide high quality outdoor education and activities which can help to meet the sporting, recreational, skills, personal development and social needs of a large number of people in, around and beyond the city.

For information on programmes please ring 01603 632307
or visit www.whitlinghamoea.co.uk

High Quality Outdoor Education

This booklet was sent out to schools earlier this year. It is designed to assist you to maximise the benefits from your outdoor education programmes at school, on journeys and through after hours clubs. Following on from the very positive OfSTED report on Outdoor Education (OE), this guidance describes the elements that make OE programmes successful as well as a guide to evaluating the quality of OE programmes offered to schools by external providers.



Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto

On the 28th November 2006, the Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto was launched. This sets out a vision to enable every young person to experience the world beyond the classroom as an essential part of their learning and personal development.

The Manifesto brings together a coalition of organisations to support schools and others in providing these valuable opportunities. To find out more about the Manifesto and how you can support the Manifesto partnership, please visit www.teachernet.gov.uk/learningoutsidetheclassroom

News Flash! Secondment - Adviser, Education Visits Opportunities

If you are an experienced EVC, a positive and motivated outdoor practitioner or teacher and would like to consider joining our team for a 0.5 FTE Secondment up to Easter 2007, please contact Sue Falch-Lovesey on 01553 774023.

Contacts

We remain supportive of all visits with a real desire to take an enabling approach. For advice and guidance please call us on 01603 433276 and ask for the Educational Visits Team, or email: educational.visits@norfolk.gov.uk.

www.norfolk.gov.uk