

HSP Network Update – 1 October 2009

Dear HSP Network Member,

Please do read the most recent edition of the LOfC Newsletter (<http://www.lotc.org.uk/News-and-events/Newsletters>.) This is produced every two months by the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom and keeps you up to date with major developments in LOfC.

Of particular interest will be the launch of **Council membership**. Individuals and organisations with an interest in Learning Outside the Classroom (LOfC) are invited to support the aims of the Council by taking up membership. The more members the Council has, the louder its voice will be when campaigning for LOfC and influencing policy and practice. For an application pack please email enquiries@lotc.org.uk.

Please also read the statement from DCSF on **Rarely Cover**. This clarifies the Department's position on the relationship between LOfC and the Rarely Cover policy and hopefully, will clear up some of the confusion that has arisen over recent weeks.

Further LOfC news and events specifically relevant to the heritage sector:

Heritage Sector Partnership supporting small heritage organisations

As many of you will be aware, the HSP has been awarded a grant from the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom. We have begun to use this grant to develop tools and resources to help heritage organisations to better understand the Quality Badge and to develop their education provision. These tools and resources will be designed to be of particular benefit to heritage organisations with **small scale or developing learning services**. They will include case studies of good practice, guidance notes on developing specific aspects of learning provision, an online discussion forum and one-to-one, remote support from experienced education practitioners. More information on these tools and resources will be sent to the network in the next month or so.

Updated LOfC pages on the GEM website

GEM has recently updated its website to include information about the Heritage Sector Partnership and other useful sources of information on LOfC and heritage education. Please visit http://www.gem.org.uk/lotc/lotc_menu.html

GEM Quality Badge training

The GEM areas are running the following Quality Badge training events over the coming months:

- Wales (GEM/GEM Cymru) - St Fagans: National History Museum on Monday 7 December 2009 (10.00 to 16.00). More details and a booking form will be available on the GEM website shortly. If you have any queries about this event, please contact the GEM office on 01634 853 424/office@gem.org.uk.
- East of England (GEM East/SHARE)– Denny Abbey in Cambridgeshire on Friday 6 November and British Schools Museum in Hitchin on Friday 13 November. Both are full day events. You can book online at www.renaissance-east.org.uk/content/share or for more information contact Simon Floyd on simon.floyd@norfolk.gov.uk or 01603 638 141.

Find out more about the links between initial teacher training and museum education

GEM/University of Cambridge joint one day event *The Heart of the Matter: why museum education matters to trainee teachers* will be held at Manchester Museum on Thursday 28 January 2010. It will aim to enhance your understanding of exactly why museum education is so important to the next generation of teachers. You will learn about current methods of teacher training, the new standards trainees must achieve to qualify and the many ways in which you can play a vital role in this process. Further information and a booking form will be available from the GEM website shortly.

An introduction to the Quality Badge at the MA Conference

GEM will be running a seminar entitled *The Quality Badge: everything you need to know* at this year's MA conference. This practical seminar takes place at 14.30 on Monday 5 October 2009 in Seminar Room I. For more information on the MA Conference, please visit

<http://www.museumsassociation.org/36437>

Best wishes,

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