

## Work Programme update

Met with Kate Hustler & Ashley Lister to talk about LAC in the youth justice system. Talked about hearing more from her team at CPAC including statistics, regular reporting & a presentation, part of the Annual Report, part of the remit of the Committee. 20% of YP in the Youth Justice System are LAC. Talked about holding listening events for the committee – both YP & staff; attending education & training & linking with Gill James on inclusion. We also talked about being responsible as the corporate parent to check on how our YP Out of County in prison are being educated. We would like to visit Parc Prison & meet with staff & YP.

Visited St Teilo's School with Cllr Merry to learn about the provision they have made for supporting young people who are CLA. We met the team of staff who have responsibility for the provision which included the teacher-lead; and HLTA; a Support Worker; and an Advocate who is on placement from Childrens' Services. It was a delight to have met some of the children & hear first-hand what they felt about the support that they have. It was a very instructive meeting & it was clear that the strategy of close support & early intervention was working; children were remaining in education; crises were managed skilfully; and outcomes were being achieved – not just in terms of academic success & attendance was very good. Key to the success of the provision is:

- Keeping good records for each child;
- Doing in-depth reviews for the social workers;
- Providing support to those yp who are often behind academically;
- Respecting the child & getting to know them;
- Providing interesting activities via PDG;
- Using the medium of art & craft as a means of allowing the child space;
- Visiting primary schools prior to transition of the child to St Teilo's;
- Encouraging visits to the school for new starters.

I met with Christine Henderson from Cardiff University to discuss the GO Wales scheme that the University is running; the University were keen to make links with Cardiff Council. This scheme provides opportunities for young people aged 16-25, who meet certain criteria, to be given work experience & work placements. One of the eligible groups are young people who are CLA & still in education. I have made the introductions with Childrens' Services & hope that there will be some useful opportunities for our yp.

Met with the Head of the CSCC Siriol Burford, facilitated by Gill James. Another very instructive meeting during which we covered areas such as:

- Training for school staff & governors on CLA. Levels 1-3 being delivered – Level 1 is appropriate for governors & I have suggested to Cllr Merry that CPAC should be invited to undertake this training;
- Exclusions & how we could create a safe facility, modelled on St Teilos, to which CLA at risk of being excluded could attend. This could save a child from falling out of education; prevent the breakdown of a foster placement; and give the child time to be helped through a crisis. [This is with Cllr Merry at the moment ]

- Use of PDG & how clusters are using the resources effectively. Querying if funds could be re-directed to support those schools where they face the bigger challenges;
- SIMS does not require CLA data to be entered. This needs to be taken up with Education as this data is vital;
- How we could replicate the mentoring scheme that Bridgend Council have in place for mentoring CLA by the University;

Visit to Rumney School was postponed before Christmas but this will be arranged for another date.

Visit to Hywel Dda planned for 5 February 2019.

Visit to Amelia Farm to be arranged once I have made contact with the manager.

Fenella Bowden  
15 January 2019