



# Virtual School News

News and key info  
for Designated Teachers

MKCC Virtual School

As the first summer term comes to a close, we want to take the opportunity to wish you all a restful break and hopefully some sunnier weather wherever you might be. Thank you for all you do.

## Summer Term PEPs

The deadline for Summer term PEPs is Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2024. Please ensure that you have liaised with your allocated Virtual School Officer to arrange the date and time for this meeting if it has not already occurred.

All Core PEPs continue to be quality assured by the Virtual School leadership team and will be returned to you with comments attached. It is your responsibility to review these comments and any actions for future meetings. Please don't hesitate to come back to the team if you have any questions.

## Designated Teacher Forum

Our last Designated Teacher Forum, held virtually on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, covered the following topics:

- Spotlight on supporting Previously Looked After Children
- Supporting children who present with dissociative behaviours in education settings through an exploration of 'Felt Safety' and how this can be applied in the classroom

The next Designated Teacher Forum is planned for 4-5pm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June and will be an in-person event. Please save the date and further information will be sent out shortly.

If there is any further feedback, suggestions for future content, resources to share, or any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch. We would genuinely love to see more of you there and don't forget that these sessions count towards your CPD as a Designated Teacher.

## Refugee Week 2024

As advertised in the EMA Network Bulletin, a reminder that Refugee Week is fast approaching – 17 to 24 June – providing an ideal opportunity for schools to explore the theme of forced migration and the challenges it presents. Refugee Week is the world's largest arts & culture festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. Established in 1998 in the UK, this annual festival aligns with World Refugee Day, celebrated globally on June 20th. Resources including the "Our Home" poster and postcards are available from the Refugee Week organisation and can be [downloaded free](#). Community Action and Citizens:MK are looking to collaborate on any activities supporting refugee and asylum-seeker groups. Visit their websites to find out more about events and project opportunities. The Community Action site - <https://communityactionmk.org/> is being upgraded, but information is available on their [Facebook page](#).

## Results Day 2024

For those of you supporting our young people undertaking their Level 2 and Level 3 exams currently, we will be in contact directly with your exams officers to collect results on 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> August and will email guidance ahead of the summer holidays to outline the information that we require. We would appreciate your support in ensuring that we collect this information as swiftly as possible to allow the Virtual School to support these young people as they prepare to transition to the next stages of their education.

## Free Courses – Managing My Money for Young Adults

We have previously highlighted the opportunities available through [Open Learn](#), via the Open University, where learners can access hundreds of free course to inspire and inform. Of particular interest, especially as the summer holidays may afford young people more time, is the free course – 'Managing my money for young adults'. Most suited for ages 14-19, the course has been awarded the Young Money Financial Education Quality Mark and involves studying eight straight-forward online sessions lasting 1-2 hours each.

The course covers the following content:

- understand how to choose and manage bank and savings accounts
- understand how to finance further and higher education studies
- budget effectively, throughout different stages of your life
- borrow sensibly and manage debts effectively
- plan ahead to make your goals financially achievable

Additionally, there is accompanying teacher guidance should you wish to consider delivering this in your settings. Further information can be found [here](#).

## Training Opportunities

A reminder that there is a variety of training opportunities available free of charge to settings supporting children looked after by Milton Keynes City Council. Our full training offer can be found on our website: [Training and support | Milton Keynes City Council \(milton-keynes.gov.uk\)](#). There is a wide variety of different options including e-learning and whole school face to face training.

Please don't hesitate to contact Katy Enser – [Katy.Enser@Milton-Keynes.gov.uk](mailto:Katy.Enser@Milton-Keynes.gov.uk) – for further information if this would be of interest to you.