

30 October 2008

Dear Colleagues

14-19 Transition for London - The Dry Run

I am writing to update you on the progress we have made on transition to the new 14-19 arrangements for London. On 26th September an outline submission of the proposed new 14-19 model for London was submitted to the DCSF. This detailed the new structure and approach the Local Authorities in London will take when discharging their new responsibilities as strategic commissioners of 16-18 learning.

A key element of the transition to these new arrangements is the 14-19 Dry Run of the new commissioning process. The LSC and Local Authorities are working jointly to pilot the new approach this year to see how it works and stress test the new model. I wrote out to the Directors of Children's Services explaining the key elements of this year's 14-19 Dry Run and inviting them to be involved. A copy of this letter is included which details the key stages involved.

Apprenticeships have already been highlighted as a key area for growth going forward and are a priority of the 14-19 Regional Planning Group and the London Skills and Employment Board. The LSC has been rolling out a major national advertising campaign and in London we have supported this further with our Summer Apprenticeship Campaign. There is also the London Apprenticeship Task Force Chaired by David Lammy and the LSC Plan for Growth.

The new National Apprenticeship Service will be increasing the focus on apprenticeships and its Chief Executive will be reporting progress to the Prime Minister twice a year. London's success in increasing the number of quality apprenticeship places will be integral to delivering the government's vision of the new 14-19 Entitlement.

LSC London Region

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If you would like to find out more about this year's Dry Run of the new process, the London Work Based Learning Alliance has arranged a regional briefing which will provide you with more detail on the above and provide an opportunity to ask questions and discuss with your colleagues. If you wish to attend please contact them directly.

Your LSC Partnership team will also be able to keep you updated on the Dry Run process and how it's working in your borough.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Pettifer', written in a cursive style.

Mike Pettifer
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