

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 255, 10 April 2018

Events

Events have been added to the Courses & Events pages on The Network website – see: <http://www.seapn.org.uk/courses>.

Consultations/Inquiries

Children in need of help and protection: call for evidence

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/child-protection-safeguarding-and-family-law/children-in-need-of-help-and-protection-call-for-e/>

On 16 Mar, DfE launched a consultation on Children in Need:

“We want to understand what it is that makes the difference to the educational outcomes of Children in Need in practice, how some Children in Need can achieve better educational outcomes than others, and what works in enabling Children in Need to achieve their potential.

We need to develop a stronger evidence base, going beyond the data to look at what is happening in practice. At different stages in a child’s life, or when requiring different levels of statutory social care support, children’s needs will require a different response. At each of these stages, a child may work with a variety of professionals who offer support to a child and to their family, to improve a child’s circumstances.

Through the call for evidence, we want to understand how the work of professionals supporting Children in Need can make a difference to a child’s educational outcomes. Specifically, we are interested in:

- how support is delivered or commissioned to help children
- how this support is measured and evaluated
- how this support influences educational outcomes”

Children in Need are defined as: “[...] children subject to Child in Need Plans, Child Protection plans, Looked After Children, young carers; and disabled children.”

The consultation deadline is **1 Jun 2018**.

Funding & Opportunities

Better World Books Literacy Grants

<https://cares.betterworldbooks.co.uk/category/literacy-grants/>

(Source: email from Vanessa Jones, BWB, 27 Mar 2018)

“Better World Books announces their eighth-annual Literacy Grants designed to address the literacy needs of communities across the world. Libraries and educational nonprofit literacy organizations can apply for funds to support their efforts to further literacy in their communities. As a Founding B Corporation, Better World Books has raised over £19 million to date for literacy causes worldwide.

Libraries and nonprofits may pitch only one project each, with a maximum award of £10,000 per project.

Organizations must clearly outline the project elements that require the requested funds. The Better World Books Literacy Council will review the projects. The Literacy Council will select library and nonprofit winners.”

The deadline for both library and nonprofit applicants is **31 May 2018, at 11:59 PM ET.**

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Equality matters

http://www.equalityni.org/ECNI/media/ECNI/Publications/Delivering%20Equality/EqualityAwarenessSurvey-EqualityMatters.pdf?utm_source=NewZapp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=e-zine-Nov2017

(Source: email from Equality Commission Northern Ireland, 27 Mar 2018)

A companion report to *A question of attitude* mentioned in the last Ebulletin.

“Everyone living in Northern Ireland is protected by equality and anti-discrimination legislation. How aware are people of these rights and protections? Do they think equality is important? Do they think there is equality of opportunity? Are there benefits to equality and is there still work to be done? Our survey findings presented some interesting results.” [p2]

A question of attitude,

http://www.equalityni.org/ECNI/media/ECNI/Publications/Delivering%20Equality/EqualityAwarenessSurvey-Attitudes.pdf?utm_source=NewZapp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=e-zine-Nov2017.

Press release: “Government tackles diversity issues head on”

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-tackles-diversity-issues-head-on>

“Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Matt Hancock brought together organisations from across DCMS sectors to discuss diversity and inclusivity.”

His speech is at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/matt-hancock-speaking-at-the-dcms-diversity-forum>.

Disability issues – Other Agencies

“A great year for signed languages in film – and what we can learn from it”

<https://theconversation.com/a-great-year-for-signed-languages-in-film-and-what-we-can-learn-from-it>

[93563?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2027%202018%20-%2097888480&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2027%202018%20-%2097888480+CID_8f5d6126b1e0077483c75de691e11d9a&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=A%20great%20year%20for%20signed%20languages%20in%20film%20%20and%20what%20we%20can%20learn%20from%20it](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-45363935?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2027%202018%20-%2097888480&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20March%2027%202018%20-%2097888480+CID_8f5d6126b1e0077483c75de691e11d9a&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=A%20great%20year%20for%20signed%20languages%20in%20film%20%20and%20what%20we%20can%20learn%20from%20it)

(Source: *The Conversation*, 27 Mar 2018)

Interesting article which looks briefly at the growing prominence of films depicting signed languages.

“So, the films of 2017-18 have placed signed languages centre stage and generated much debate. But while attitudes towards them and Deaf culture may be improving, there is still a long way to go before anything nearing equality is achieved. It is thus gratifying to learn that the team behind *The Silent Child* are planning a full-length movie follow up, amid campaigning for children to be taught BSL in schools. Let’s hope that the momentum from this year can be maintained and built upon.”

Neurodiversity issues – Other Agencies

“It all made sense when we found out we were autistic”

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-sh/women_late_diagnosis_autism

(Source: *The UoP Equality & Diversity Newsletter*, 28 Mar 2018)

Fascinating collection of articles by women who discovered they were autistic after leaving school.

Migration issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“Immigrant Asset Mapping at Halifax Public Libraries”

<https://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/immigrant-asset-mapping.html>

(Source: *WebJunction Crossroads*, 4 Apr 2018)

Drawing on Ken Williment’s paper on asset-mapping (see:

<https://journal.lib.uoguelph.ca/index.php/perj/article/view/1491/2466#.WsTp6CLISUm>), this article outlines recent developments:

“Last year Halifax had an influx of 1,300 Syrian refugees who ended up in three neighborhoods. Heather told me that, fortunately, the library got a grant from the Canadian government in 2013 to develop newcomer services. They used asset mapping techniques to create a community advisory team composed of service providers and immigrants. By the time the Syrian refugees arrived, the library was ready, especially in the branches where the new immigrants live. As much as possible, the library gears classes and trainings to cultural events that appeal to the immigrant communities.”

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

EEA-workers in the UK labour market: interim update

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/694494/eea-workers-uk-labour-market-interim-update.pdf

(Source: Migrants Rights Network *Weekly News*, 27 Mar 2018)

Interim report from the Migration Advisory Committee, which summarises the responses from employers to a call for evidence.

“In July 2017, the Home Secretary commissioned the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to assess the impact on the UK labour market of the UK’s exit from the EU and how the UK’s immigration system should be aligned with a modern industrial strategy. This is to provide the evidence base for UK migration after the implementation period in 2021.” [Taken from: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eea-workers-in-the-uk-labour-market-interim-update?utm_source=a515a23a-c146-46df-a7e3-e1648a01d95d&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate]

MRN have provided a very useful brief summary at:

https://migrantsrights.org.uk/blog/2018/03/27/migrants-make-good-workers-weve-known-along/?mc_cid=5ce4106544&mc_eid=f4e6ea96b3.

They also say:

“The MAC interim report is welcome, especially as it shares the evidence received to date from businesses and employers. It is also refreshing to read evidence that EEA migrant workers are employed ‘because the employer thinks they are the best’ for the job, and that they are not the cause of wage reductions.

Unfortunately, however, the report confirms that the uncertainty of the post-Brexit immigration system is still a key concern for many. The lack of clarity means employers and businesses are unable to plan effectively, nor offer reassurance to their migrant workers on their future in the UK.”

[Taken from: <https://migrantsrights.org.uk/blog/2018/03/27/migration-advisory-committee-report-eu-workers-impact-brexit/>]