



VIRTUAL SCHOOL KENT NEWSLETTER

September 2022



VSK Conference 14th October 2022 **A Network Approach to Supporting our Young People**

To inspire us with the work we do to support our Care experienced Young People,
Previously Looked After Young people and those with a Social Worker

9:30 to 4:00

Detling Showground, Maidstone ME14 3JE

Book your free place for the VSK Conference

[SCH 22/712 A Network Approach to Supporting Our Young People | 4th October 2022](#)

We have 2 exciting, inspirational keynote speakers and the opportunity for you to meet
& share with colleagues from other schools and VSK Staff

Luke Rodgers

The Care Leaders is an award-winning social entrepreneur, recognised through the award to the British Empire Medal in the 2018 Queens's Birthday honours List. He has 10 years' experience co-designing projects that enhance the experience of children in and leaving care.

As a facilitator, Luke has worked with the DfE, The Fostering Network and in 2020 was invited to be a Fellow at the Said Business School, Skoll Centre for Social Enterprise at the University of Oxford.



Jaz Ampaw-Farr is a 'resilience ninja', international speaker, coach and author.

Hailed in the US as 'The British Oprah', Jaz has travelled the world advising governments,

educators and helping tens of thousands of people with her bespoke leadership development programmes, training courses and

motivational speeches. As a successful entrepreneur, mum of three, and former teacher - she knows a thing or two about galvanising people into taking action!



Virtual School Advisory Team

Solution Focused Consultations (formally School Based Reviews):

20-30 minute consultations with School, VSK, Educational Psychologist (and where relevant, the social worker will also be invited) to discuss individual cases (PLAC or Ever6CWSW). Parents are required to provide consent prior to the consultation:

Term 1:

Thursday 22nd September 2-5pm
Wednesday 28th September 9.30 – 12.30
Tuesday 4th October 2-5pm

Term 2:

Tuesday 15th November 2-5pm
Tuesday 29th November 2-5pm
Thursday 9.30-12.30

Free Online training courses.

We have a full range of courses available, free of charge, for schools. These courses are provided by AC Education and KCA training associates and are CPD accredited.

We are pleased to announce the development for the following interactive video courses available from September:

- Developing trauma-informed practice
- Social workers and schools working together to close the gap for vulnerable learners
- Maintaining staff resilience
- Mapping network resilience
- Emotion Coaching

If you would like further information or to book please email VSKAdvisoryTeam@kent.gov.uk.

South Kent Team

Partnership Meeting (VSK SEN & SS)

Tuesday 20th September 3—4:30 pm
Tuesday 15th November 3—4:30 pm

TISUK Diploma

29th & 30th September (Day 1 & 2)
31st September & 1st October (Day 1 & 2)
12th & 13th December (Day 1 & 2)

Supporting Year 11 Webinar Foster Carers & Social Workers

Monday 26th September 3 – 4.30 pm

Designated Teacher Forum

Thursday 24th November 2—4 pm
Venue: Aylesham Business Hub

If you would like further information or make contact with our East Kent Team please email

SouthVSK@kent.gov.uk

Out of County Team

Out of County Foster Carers Coffee Morning

Dates to be confirmed

If you would like further information or make contact with our OOC Team please email

VSKAdmin.brook@kent.gov.uk

East Kent Team

Friday 30th September

New Designated Teacher Training

1:30 to 3:30 Riverside Church Whitstable

A change to develop an understanding of the role of Designated Teacher, the challenge you may face and network with other locals DT's

Tuesday 29th November

East Kent Designated Forum

1:30 to 3:30 Riverside Church Whitstable

A change to network with DT's from East Kent, share best practice and updates from VSK.

If you would like further information or to book please email EastVSK@kent.gov.uk.

North and West Kent Teams

Term 1: Designated Teacher Induction virtual workshop for North and West Kent – Thursday 15th 3-4pm

Term 2: N & W Designated Teacher Update & Networking – Face-to-face Venue & Date TBC in West Area

Term 4: N & W Designated Teacher Update & Networking – Virtual – Thursday 9th March 3-5pm

Term 6: N & W Designated Teacher Update & Networking – Face-to-face Venue & Date TBC in North Area

If you would like further information or make contact with our East Kent Team please email WestVSK@kent.gov.uk

Post 16 Team

Training planned for Terms 1& 2

Opening Doors session – 7th September

This is for Foster Carers and Young People going to University—Virtual

8th & 22nd Nov, 6th December

Opening Doors to HE – Foster Carer and KSH workshops

October – dates TBC

Transitions- FC training supporting YP moving from KS4 to KS5

8th November

Diversity and Inclusion training for Post 16 Team

EP training for KS5 PEPs – available on request.

If you would like further information or make contact with our Post 16 Team please email 16plusvirtalschoolkent@kent.gov.uk

Participation and Engagement Team

We have had a fun and very busy summer, where young people had the chance to take part in activities such as farm hand days, aqua park, an outdoor obstacle course, nerf tag and archery.

We are now busy planning for October Half Term.

Our councils for Children in Care, Adopted Young People and the Sons and Daughter of Foster Carers will all be meeting throughout the week.

We will also be running activity days during October half term, across Kent.

Our 'Try Something New Saturdays' will continue to run in September and October. These mornings give young people the opportunity to try an activity they may not have had the chance to do before. This term will include pottery, climbing and inflatable assault courses.

Details of all the activities will be released soon, so watch this space! If you would like more information, please contact us on VSK_Participation@kent.gov.uk

New staff.

We would like to welcome 2 new apprentices to the team, Ellie and Amy. They have already enjoyed a busy summer full of activities with us



Hi my name is Ellie and I am a new Apprentice Participation Worker for VSK. I am very passionate and am in to help make a positive difference in young people's lives. I find working with young people extremely rewarding when I know I have done my job correctly. I love music and animals and feel that this will help me find common ground with young people. I also aim to be an appropriate role model for young people and I cannot wait to fulfil this role.

Hello my name is Amy, and I am a new Apprentice Participation Worker for VSK. I love to have fun and thoroughly enjoy creative arts. I believe in helping young people recognise their potential so they understand how amazing they truly are! I have experience as the daughter of a foster carer and really understand the importance of the workshops and activities that VSK arrange, and I am so excited to be a part of it.



Kim Evans has also joined the team as our new Youth Engagement Support Officer. Kim will be working predominantly with our older, 16+ young people and will be the point of contact for our Young Adult Council.

To keep up to date with what we are up to, please follow us on : Twitter - [@VirtSchl_Kent](https://twitter.com/VirtSchl_Kent)

Instagram - [participation_team](https://www.instagram.com/participation_team)

Email – VSK_Participation@kent.gov.uk

If you would like further information or make contact with our P & E please email VSK_Participation@kent.gov.uk
VSKAdmin.brook@kent.gov.uk