

# Camden Learning Schools' Newsletter

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to issue fourteen of the latest Camden Learning schools newsletter, the final one in this academic term.

The aim of sending this newsletter is so that we can keep you up to date on Camden Learning developments, school specific issues, education news and upcoming conferences. It is a digest of issues of relevance to Camden schools.



We will be revising the Newsletter in the new year and seeking to broaden its appeal. We would be very pleased to hear what you would like to see in the future issues. If you have any suggestions for items and issues you would like to see included in the future, please email: [SchoolSupportServices@Camden.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolSupportServices@Camden.gov.uk)

If you have any queries regarding any Camden Schools news items, please do not hesitate to contact us at the same email address.

From everyone at Camden Learning we wish you all season's greetings and a Happy New Year.

## Winners announced at the Camden business awards 2017

The winning businesses of the third Camden Business Awards were revealed at an evening ceremony on 30 November. The awards celebrate the successful leaders in Camden's thriving economy, recognising outstanding examples of business growth, sustainability, urban design and corporate social responsibility.



The awards are funded by the local business community and led by the Camden Business Board, in partnership with Camden Council. For this year's glittering ceremony, the venue was 30 Euston Square, headquarters of the Royal College of GPs.

## Camden 2025

The council is leading on developing a plan for the borough that the council, residents, local organisations and community groups can all work together to make Camden a better place for everyone to live by 2025.



Early next year, the council will take stock of everyone's feedback and the direction of discussions. Your views will be given to elected councillors who will use these to shape the plan for the borough. This is just the beginning of Camden's journey to 2025. The council is committed to making conversations about Camden's future wider than ever to make sure everyone who lives, works or studies in Camden can be involved in the decisions that affect them.

You can also tweet using the hashtag [#camden2025](#), leave the council a comment on [Facebook](#), or visit your local Camden library to share your ideas on our Camden 2025 comment boards.

Visit [camden.gov.uk/camden2025](http://camden.gov.uk/camden2025) to share your ideas about what Camden should be like in 2025, including what would make the borough a great place to grow up in for the children and young people you know.

## White British parent champion project

As part of Camden's focus on White British achievement, the 11 week 'Parent Champion' course concluded this week. Primary schools targeted and referred parents to the course, 18 in total. Attendance was 96%. Outcomes included:



- an increased awareness of the issue of White British under-achievement, including barriers, and a desire to address this issue
- an awareness of the importance of parental engagement to support their child's learning
- a significant shift in ideas and aspirations for themselves and their children
- an commitment to continue to learn and to take risks in supporting their children's learning at home
- a change in language used with children at home e.g. 'positive' language
- a commitment to support other parents to participate in adult learning/parental engagement initiatives.

The course will run again in the spring term. Please contact: Martin Cresswell, [Martin.Cresswell@camden.gov.uk](mailto:Martin.Cresswell@camden.gov.uk) or Perin Sarosh (ACL), [Perin.Sarosh@camden.gov.uk](mailto:Perin.Sarosh@camden.gov.uk) for details.

# Health and safety in science, design and technology



CLEAPSS, provide support for schools for practical science D&T and art. They have produced useful guides for schools on auditing in Science and D&T that will help schools ensure that departments are running effectively and safely. They produced as well as documents that describe the most common hazards found when auditing so schools can ensure that labs and workshops are safe.

These useful guides which contain recommendations for actions can be found by clicking on the links below:

- [GL238 -Top ten hazards in science](#)
- [GL239 -Top ten hazards in D&T](#)

Alternatively search for GL238 for Science and GL239 for D&T on the relevant sections of the [CLEAPSS website](#).

## Auditing in Science and Design & Technology

There are also guides available on auditing in Science and Design & Technology that will help heads of department ensure that their department is running effectively and safely. These guides outline what is required for healthy and safe practice as well as forms that can be used in an audit of rooms and equipment. They can be accessed by clicking on the following links:

- [G271 - Auditing science department](#)
- [G79 - Auditing D&T](#)

Alternatively, they can be found on the relevant sections of the [CLEAPSS website](#). Search for G271 for Auditing science and for Auditing D&T search G79 under the Secondary D&T section.

## Where can I access CLEAPSS information?

Science information for secondary schools can be found at: [science.cleapss.org.uk](http://science.cleapss.org.uk)

For Design and Technology information see <http://dt.cleapss.org.uk/>

Primary school science and technology information can be found at:

<http://primary.cleapss.org.uk/>

For more information, please contact: Darren Williams, [Darren.Williams@camden.gov.uk](mailto:Darren.Williams@camden.gov.uk) or call 0207 974 2117.

# Fire safety inspections

The London Fire Brigade (LFB) will be carrying out fire safety inspections across all of Camden schools over the next 12 months. In preparation for this inspection, schools should ensure that they have the following documentation in place, up to date and available on site for the fire safety officer to look at:



- 1) A fire risk assessment that has had been reviewed within the last year and updated to include progress a report on any recommendations made.
- 2) The school fire evacuation/emergency procedures.
- 3) Maintenance records relating to:
  - Fire alarm (servicing records and weekly call point test results)
  - Emergency lighting (monthly operational tests and annual discharge test)
  - Fire extinguishers (annual inspection report)
  - 5 year fixed mains wiring inspection report and details of any remedial works carried out
  - Lightning protection (if applicable)
  - Portable appliance testing
  - Fire door checks
  - Kitchen extraction ducting (if applicable)
- 4) Fire safety training records for staff (including kitchen staff if applicable)
- 5) Details and report of latest fire drills including time taken to evacuate (drills should be carried out termly)
- 6) Contractors signing in arrangements and information regarding fire procedures.

For more information on fire safety inspection and maintenance, schedules for schools see the attached **fire maintenance procedures for schools** document which also contains template sheets for recording the required checks.

For more information, please contact: Darren Williams, [Darren.Williams@camden.gov.uk](mailto:Darren.Williams@camden.gov.uk) or call 0207 974 2117.



Fire maintenanceprocedures for schools Jan-2017.doc

 [Download](#)  
314.4 KB

## **Schools' sickness absence management workshop – Skills Pills session**

In response to a number of requests from Headteachers and School Business Managers, we will be holding a training workshop on Managing Sickness Absence as part of our 'Skills Pills' sessions. The workshop will include an overview of Sickness Absence Management Policies and Procedures, guidance on holding difficult conversations and how to prepare for a formal Absence Management Meeting; as well as an opportunity to review case studies in small groups and a Question & Answer session.



The workshop is aimed at Headteachers, School Business Managers/Bursars and other members of staff with line management responsibilities.

The event will take place from 9.30 am to 1 pm, on 5th January 2018. To book a place please visit TDS online: [HR Skills Pills - Sickness Absence Management Workshop](#). We look forward to seeing you there.

For more information, please contact: Debra L'Esteve, [Debra.Lesteve@camden.gov.uk](mailto:Debra.Lesteve@camden.gov.uk) or call 0207 974 5236.



## Camden Learning

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