

SUCCESS 4 ALL



LEARNING HUBS®
Young People Learning From Each Other

S4A NEWSLETTER

Issue 7
March 2016

Welcome

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Walker Technology College for being recognized by the Department of Education for their GCSE results between 2013 – 2015.

Walker Technology College is ***'one of the top 100 non-selective state-funded schools in England showing the greatest sustained improvement in the percentage of pupils achieving five or more A*-C grades, including English and Maths GCSEs'***.

Success4All has run a Learning Hub in Walker Technology College for the past 10 years aiming to aid the school to close Newcastle's educational attainment gap between affluent and less affluent areas.

The students of Walker Technology College can attend the Learning Hub for 2 hours after school Monday to

Friday. They can get support completing their homework in any subject, or can be matched for 6 weeks with one of our trained volunteer tutors to receive extra tuition in a subject they may be struggling with.

We have a large language base in the school. This year we developed an English as a Second Language package to support the transition of new arrivals in to the school. We also give those who are not native English the opportunity to obtain an additional language GCSE in their native language.

Congratulations to all staff and students at Walker Technology College – all your hard work has paid off!



LEARNING HUBS

Over this term we have supported a total number of **248** learners that have registered with us, that is an increase of **56** children and young people from last term. They have visited a total of **1396** times over the course of the 11 week term at an average of **127** times per week. This term, 32 more volunteers have joined us from local sixth forms, colleges and universities, totaling the number of volunteers to **146**. This term, the tutees have been supported **771** times at an average of **71** times per week. We have provided a further **12** references, totaling **48** since August 2015. Success4All are also an awards validator for VInspired awards, which is a national online charity listing volunteer opportunities. It enables young people aged 16-25 to obtain nationally recognized awards for the amount of volunteering that they do. This term **8** volunteers received an award VInspired award.



Our Learning Hubs

THE MILLIN CENTRE

"I believe my tutee and I were one of the first 1 to 1 contracts to be set up this year. Over the course of 6 weeks we have been focusing on the new curriculum and new Key Stage 2 Year 6 SATs. At first, speaking to my tutee and her Mum it became very clear that they were both wary about the changes and didn't know what to expect. The Learning Hub Coordinator provided us with the new curriculum and example test papers which we have been working through together. Both my tutee and her Mum feel a lot more confident now with the changes, and the Mum has renewed her 1 to 1 contract. I'm really happy to work with my tutee for another 6 weeks and I am excited to see her progress even further so that she will be successful in the exam."

Miriam tutoring Fatima.

"Volunteering for 'Success4All' has given me a sense of satisfaction by giving back to the community. It has also helped develop my communication skills and gave me the confidence to interact with people, both one-to-one and in groups. I believe this experience will help me greatly in both my professional and personal life."

Maryam, a tutor since October 2015.

So far this year, the Hub has registered 63 tutees and has been supported by 58 volunteer tutors.

NEWCASTLE SKILLS CENTRE

"Adam is the best person I've known. He is a terrific tutor, thank you very much! This has helped me a lot. I feel like I've made a lot of improvement. Thank you Adam and thank you S4A."

"The contract has allowed me to contribute to, and witness, the rapid progress of a dedicated student over the past number of weeks, which has been very satisfying. Assisting Nadean has given me an opportunity to improve my personal qualities as well, so I would like to thank her also!"

Tutee Nadean and tutor Adam, 1-to-1 contract.

"The one to one tuition has really helped me as it has made me more confident in my studies; Elliot explains things well and has really helped."

Tutee Arifa, Year 11 tutored by Elliot.

So far this year, the Hub has registered 45 tutees and has been supported by 32 volunteer tutors.



Our Learning Hubs

BENTINCK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

"This term we welcomed two new Italian brothers to the Learning Hub. We were able to match the boys with a Spanish tutee who is also fluent in Italian. They have been working through our first EAL-pack which focuses a lot on school life skills. The boys are now settled in to school and the parents have thanked us for aiding their transition. They have thrown themselves into our Clubs such as the Litter Art Café that was run over the half term and have made lots of new friends."

Learning Hub Coordinator at Bentinck

"Adam, who was a GCSE student with us last year has returned to a Success4All Learning Hub to support the Code Club that runs here. Adam has worked incredibly well with the children, helping them make brand new games. He has also started coming in early to help with the tutoring before the Club starts. Last week he helped a tutee with Maths, an amazing achievement as last year we were supporting Adam with his Maths GCSEs."

Kirsty, Code Club Coordinator.

"When working with a year 10 student Qasim, I have been so impressed with his level of work and levels of discussion that have been intellectually stimulating and inspirational for the other tutees in the Hub. It is so nice to see a young person who care so much about his education."

Stevie, volunteer tutor.

THROCKLEY

"I have a group of 4 girls from Emmanuel College sixth form who have been volunteering since October 2015. They have been absolutely wonderful and critical to the success of Throckley. Without fail, every week each of the four members have been attending and have made massive contributions to the confidence and abilities of the children and the young people who attend the centre. Every week, I am surprised how much work the children get done and how easy the volunteers find engaging with them."

Learning Hub Coordinator at Throckley

"I have been accepted into Sunderland, Cumbria and Northumbria University, every single one that I applied for. Sunderland seemed to love the idea that I do Success4All. When I told them about it they were keen to know more. They were very enthusiastic when I said it helps get parents involved as well and I told her how well some of the children were doing."

Rebecca, volunteer tutor.

"Zoe, aged 8 wrote an excellent piece of descriptive work as part of her homework that was set to do an advertisement to persuade people to go on holiday. Zoe included things such as 'you will feel like you are on an extremely soft cloud' and 'a beautiful emerald green view'. The use of adjectives at her ages is extremely impressive."

Learning Hub Coordinator at Throckley.

So far this year, the Hub has registered 18 tutees and has been supported by 16 volunteer tutors.



So far this year, the Hub has registered 15 tutees and has been supported by 17 volunteer tutors.

Our Learning Hubs

BLAKELAW

"Lily, a year 6 tutee hit her highest score yet in her practice SATS test producing 28 out of 36. Lily is a regular tutee and works with a tutor every week to prepare for her SATS that she will sit later this year. This was way higher than any previous score and she was pleased as punch to have achieved this when I marked it and gave her it back to look at it. I have every faith that Lily will do amazing in her SATS."

Learning Hub Coordinator at Blakelaw.

So far this year, the Hub has registered 31 tutees and has been supported by 24 volunteer tutors.

WALKER TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

"Nadine, a year 8 student, has now finished her 1-1 maths sessions with Elizabeth and says her grades have gone up and she feels much happier in her maths lessons. She's asked for some extra work to do on her own over Easter to make sure she keeps up the progress."

"Liana, a year 9 student, is improving her English skills and can now research her own answers online and write them up in full sentences. She did a lovely page of descriptive writing the other day to practise for GCSE English language, came up with some excellent similes in her own words."

"Kirina, a year 9 student, has gained confidence in her English to the point that she can now participate in her GCSE option lessons, and we have had great feedback from teachers that her language skills are increasing."

WALKER TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

"John, a year 11 student, came in almost every day for two weeks to work on his GCSE English speaking test preparation with us. His teacher told us that she is extremely proud of the time and effort that John put in to the exam."

Learning Hub Coordinator at WTC.

So far this year, the Hub has registered 132 tutees and has been supported by 36 volunteer tutors.

Donate today so we can keep making differences like this!

Please go to our donate page
<http://www.s4a.org.uk/donation-information/>

Where you can make a one off payment or support us long term with a direct debit!



Our Clubs

CODE CLUB

This term we added one more Code Club over in the East End of Newcastle in the Pottery Bank Community Centre in Walker. The Club runs every Tuesday, 4:30 – 5:30pm. With this new addition, we now run 4 Code Clubs across Newcastle, attended by **32** children and young people.

The Code Club Coordinator wanted to include a few shout outs as she is very proud of her Coders . . .



Blakelaw – “Lily has been making excellent improvement with her creative ideas in Code Club, with volunteer Joe, being inspired by games she plays at home. Also, a special mention to Thomas, a new Coder who has grown in confidence every week.”

Bentinck Residents Association – “Special mentions to Hamza and Ishak who have been recently using the skills they have learnt from other Scratch projects to make interesting and original games.”

Throckley – “A very happy Code Club Coordinator is pleased to report lots of success at Throckley Code Club this term! Joey and Billy have been using their

inspiration and creativity to make some very inventive games and animations. Special mentions to Sophie, Zoe and Grace who between them have made lots of new and fun games and are all enthusiastic to keep learning about coding. Also congratulations to Jessica, who has completed the most Scratch projects in Code Club, not far away from her first Code Club certificate!”

LITTER ART CAFÉ

After a crash course at the House of Objects learning how to recycle and repurpose, the children and young people got their hands dirty creating a Litter Art Café over the February half term in the Millin Centre led by the amazing Josie Brooks Illustration.



The Clubs aims were to encourage the creative use of waste materials. The children got to experiment with recyclable objects and build a café filled with tables, chairs, teapots and bowls!



At the end of the week the Litter Art Café had a grand opening where parents were invited to look around the Café and given yummy cake and biscuits.



Our Clubs

ANIMAL SCIENCE

This year we are lucky enough to have Lucy, a student from Newcastle University applied for funding via vInspired's Cashpoint project. [vInspired cashpoint](#) is an opportunity for 14 - 25 year olds to run a project that has clear community benefit. We caught up with Lucy to see how her Animal Science cashpoint project is going . . .

How did you find yourself volunteering with Success4All? *I had to undertake 70 hours of volunteering through University as part of my career development module, and. . . came across Success4All. This organisation was of particular interest to me after researching what they did and I am also hoping to become a primary school teacher so this would help me to achieve this aspiration.*

What interested/inspired you to run the Club? *I have a keen interest for Animals and the way in which they function, hence the reason I am studying Animal Science at University. I am a tutor at The Millin Centre, which did not at the time have a current club; therefore, I decided it would be a good idea to share my passion for animals with the children at the Millin centre. Whilst teaching them the science behind animals, I have incorporated animal style arts and crafts into the club in order to make it fun and interesting for the children whilst also being educational.*

Have you ever experienced a 'You've been framed' moment with any animals? *Whilst I was out riding my horse Brandy, he decided to buck me off and I landed in a duck pond!*

You've done 3 weeks of the Club now, how has it gone? Any interesting/funny stories? *I asked the children to create a collage of 'British wildlife' and one child produced a collage containing an image of a lion and a giraffe!*

What can we expect for the following weeks at the Club? *The following weeks we will be focusing on farm animals, ocean animals and mini beasts! We will be creating an ocean animal mobile which will display the food chain within the ocean. We will also be learning about where our food comes from – from farm to fork!*

If you were animal, what animal would you be and why? *I would be a horse - they are powerful yet graceful animals.*



Thanks Lucy! Good luck for the next half of the project, we'll catch up with you at the end.



In Other News

VIRGIN MONEY GIVING AND SAGE SHOW THEIR SUPPORT FOR S4A BY GETTING THEIR HANDS DIRTY

Bentinck Residents Association Gardening Club got a helping hand from Sage and Virgin Money Giving this month with their gardening project. The club was made possible by Community First Elswick who gave the children a grant of £350 after they pitched their ideas in a 'dragons den' format. The club's aim was to salvage the sight from becoming a place for fly tipping by transforming it into a prosperous garden!

Sage came down to the Bentinck learning hub in Elswick on Monday 15th and Virgin came on Friday the 19th of February; where they got their hands (and everything else) muddy in order to help the children.

The gardening equipment was donated by Time Exchange, which was a massive help as it allowed us to effectively de-weed, prune and churn the soil on the plot of land.

Before and after . . .



KEYED INTO AWESOMENESS

Our Clubs Coordinator is a Key Fund facilitator and has been leading several Key Fund projects across our Learning Hubs. Two of these projects were nominated for 'The Keyed into . . . Awesomeness!' awards. One for: 'The Key Super Evaluators award', and another for: 'The Key Best Group name'.



They were invited to the event to celebrate the achievements of young people who have taken part in projects during 2015. Although none of the groups won, everyone enjoyed the food and entertainment from 'Faces of Disco' who were runners up in Britain's Got Talent in 2009! Both groups will be continuing to the next stage of their Key Fund project. Key Fund is an excellent way for young people to develop important life skills in a fun way!



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