

COMPASS



Making Positive Transitions **2009/2010**

Compass North, East and South for Year 9's



**Working together to raise attainment, widen opportunity
and increase participation**



This project is funded by the East of England Development Agency

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Introduction

From October 2009, LCET is developing a new project in association with Campus Luton that we hope will benefit some of the young people in your school.

Compass is a ten month project aimed at helping Year 9 students re-engage with their education in time to make the most of GCSE's in a year's time. It's particularly aimed at students who are facing emotional or social challenges that may impact their potential to achieve educationally.

The project is free, but there are limited places available.

This brochure explains more about the project and how to get involved.

LCET is a charity that has been working with young people in Luton since 1993. We were developed and launched by the local community that included businesses, churches and individual supporters. We work with young people from all backgrounds, faiths and contexts, and are focused on helping them reach their potential. We believe they deserve the best we can offer.

Our therapeutic work offers short term group programmes on specific issues like self harm, ADHD and being in care. Over 400 young people take part in one of these groups every year. In addition we run a drop in centre and cafe and organise residential and youth events throughout the year. Our chaplaincy work offer input to school's SMSC programmes and We currently have 14 staff and over 20 volunteers with a wide range of professional backgrounds, including education, counselling, psychology and youth work.

The Trust is overseen by a Board of Trustees representing our stakeholders. In addition we are also involved in the development of a series of national programmes offering resources and training to professionals. You can find out more by visiting our website at www.lcet.org.



Jason Royce, the Project Director, has been working with young people for the past 10 years. As a Connexions Personal Adviser and Team Manager he has worked in schools across Luton, Bedford, and London to help young people explore their options and motivations towards Education, Employment, and Training.

As a JNC qualified Youth Worker Jason has written, delivered and managed educational activities that facilitate young people's growth and development. He also has experience of managing projects in such a way as to be responsive to the needs of young people whilst meeting strategic goals.

The project 'in a nutshell'

We are offering to work intensively with up to **three** Year 9 students from your school between November 2009 and July 2010 to help them overcome emotional and social issues that could stop them from engaging with their education successfully. In essence, we want to see their attitude and approach transformed by the time they start their main GCSE work in Year 10 next September.

Who will the programme benefit?

The programme is aimed at students who, without intervention, are in danger of disengaging from their education and failing to reach their potential at GCSE.

Structure

The programme is based around **15 one day** sessions running from November 2009 through to July 2010. In addition there will be residentials and special events and a weekly after school youth club.

Students will work in three groups of up to 15, drawn together from different schools. There will be a strong emphasis on building community and trust within each group. The three groups will run on separate days and take place approximately every two weeks during term time.

Each group will meet on a separate day and will have a focus on either sports or media activities, combined with therapeutic interventions and intensive personal development.

The focus of the sports stream will mainly, though not exclusively, be on football. The focus of the media stream will mainly be on video, music, art and web design.

Outcomes

Our aim is to help young people be successful in their education and go on to further education, training or employment once they leave school.

We believe emotional well-being plays a crucial part in enabling this to happen. If a student is facing difficulties outside of school or does not have the lifeskills to navigate the relationships and demands of school, they will often fail, whatever their educational ability. This project is about helping young people overcome these barriers.

We will be concentrating on 3 key areas:

"Delayed gratification"

The fundamental belief that the investment of time, energy and commitment now is worthwhile because of a future benefit. In others words, for a young person, investing in their own education is worthwhile because of how it could change the opportunities they have in the coming years.

"Dealing with conflict"

The skills to negotiate conflicts with peers and adults appropriately. In other words, for a young person, learning how to deal with disagreements with staff and others so they are not excluded from class or school.

"Developing aspirations"

The ability to imagine a future for yourself that you can begin to set out to achieve. In others words, for a young person, developing a sense of self worth and belief that means they are willing to invest in their own education.

What students will benefit from this programme?

Some of your students in year 9 will be likely to struggle to complete a GCSE program for reasons other than academic ones. For these students, we want to provide targeted sessions that address social and emotional issues behind their lack of motivation around studying.

Just to give you an idea here are 3 examples of different young people who fit the bill. We will try to put young people with similar issues into the same group to allow us to tailor each session appropriately.

a) Vulnerable

This young person may have a lack of confidence, perhaps seen in group situations such as the classroom, or may struggle to ask for help. They may also be unaware of their own strengths and weaknesses. This may result in a lack of direction, especially relating to education and future plans.

b) Isolated

This young person might have few or no friends and no significant positive peer relationships. They will likely resist group participation and be considered "withdrawn".

c) Negative peer influence

This young person struggles to "leave the street outside" of school, and is pre-occupied with their reputation. They could be reluctant to take responsibility for their own actions. There may be a low sense of self, for example chasing the approval of others by doing what they expect or demand.

These categories are quite flexible in terms of referrals we will accept so it is always worth giving the office a call for clarification.

Enrolment

Enrolment in the programme will require

- the consent of the young person
- completion of the standard Campus Luton referral form
- parental permission
- an initial meeting between the student and one of the project staff
- satisfactory arrangements for travel to and from the sessions

We are happy to work with you to select appropriate students and explain more about the programme.

Cost

The programme is fully funded by Campus Luton and there is no cost to your school other than making arrangements for travel (see below).

Travel

Students will need to travel to and from the LCET b.1 centre for each session. This must be arranged by the school and appropriate risk assessments carried out. Travel options include:

- Parents or other approved family members providing transport
- Use of an existing bus pass
- Lifts from members of school staff
- Bus
- Taxi
- Bicycle

Timing of sessions

Involvement in the programme will include 14 full day sessions spread throughout the academic year. A timetable for each of the three groups is included in this brochure. Students will also be invited to participate in other activities, including residentials, at other times.

How can you involve your school?

The first stage is to arrange to contact the Project Director, Jason Royce, to register your interest. We are happy to meet with you, and other members of staff, to present the programme in more detail and answer any questions. From this point, students can be selected and the process of formal registration can begin.

Contact Jason at 01582 877220 or jason.royce@lcet.org

Referral flow chart

Initial contact with Project Director

Discuss school involvement in Compass



Selection of up to three students for project

Use 'pen pics' and project outcomes in consultation with Project Director



Complete Project Referral Form

Return by email to jason.royce@lcet.org



Parent/carer permission for involvement in project

Parent's open evening and drop-in at LCET premises, Wednesday 4th November 5-8pm



LCET interview selected students

Pupils allocated to a group



Completion of health and safety, risk assessment and other required paperwork

Paperwork completed and travel arrangements confirmed



Pupils begin course 9th November onwards

Induction day followed by 14 further sessions



Feedback to contact within school on progress

Termly progress review for each student

Week	Compass: North <i>Tuesday</i>	Compass: East <i>Wednesday</i>	Compass: South <i>Thursday</i>
Induction	24/11/2009	25/11/2009	26/11/2009
2	08/12/2009	09/12/2009	10/12/2009
3	12/01/2010	13/01/2010	14/01/2010
4	26/01/2010	27/01/2010	28/01/2010
5	10/02/2010	10/02/2010	11/02/2010
6	23/02/2010	24/02/2010	25/02/2010
7	02/03/2010	03/03/2010	04/03/2010
8	16/03/2010	17/03/2010	18/03/2010
9	27/04/2010	28/04/2010	29/04/2010
10	11/05/2010	12/05/2010	13/05/2010
11	25/05/2010	26/05/2010	27/05/2010
12	15/06/2010	16/06/2010	17/06/2010
13	29/06/2010	30/06/2010	01/07/2010
14	13/07/2010	14/07/2010	15/07/2010

Outline of sample day

Each day will be based at the LCET b.1 centre, with fully equipped youth centre, cafe and classroom.

9.00am	Open for registration <i>Breakfast available free of charge</i> <i>Student attendance monitored and absences fed back to school contact before 10am</i>
9.30am	Session 1
10.15am	Break
10.30am	Session 2
11.30am	Activity programme <i>Sports stream</i> <i>Media stream</i>
1pm	Break <i>Lunch available free of charge</i>
1.45pm	Session 3
2.30pm	Finish