

Developing the Manchester Academies - 12th March 2008

Objectives for the Conference

1. to build on the development work undertaken by Manchester City Council and the six lead sponsor organisations during the feasibility stage of planning for the academies;
2. to explore key areas of work for the success of the implementation stage in the development of the academies; and
3. to identify key points for action that will need to be addressed in the run up to opening the Academies.
4. to identify areas of connection, sharing and overlap across the workshop theme

Specific objectives for the individual workshops

Gaining community engagement to support the work of a new academy

1. to identify activities to be undertaken that will increase community engagement.
2. to identify the added value that an academy will bring to its local communities.
3. to explore ways of ensuring sustainable facilities and services for local communities delivered through the academies;

Developing models of 'Family Learning'

1. to share examples of successful family learning.
2. to identify routes into families that are difficult to reach to develop their engagement.
3. to explore ways of connecting learning in school with learning in the family.

Exploiting new technologies to raise young people's achievement

1. to explore the application of new technologies in the process of learning to learn.
2. to identify ways in which new technologies enable learners to manage their own learning.
3. to identify ways in which new technologies can enable learners to become effective assessors of their own learning;

Making the most of 'internships' in work based learning

1. to explore ways of ensuring effective learning through direct experience in the work place.
2. to explore ways of assessing behaviours, knowledge and skills acquired through direct experience in the work place.
3. to identify the added value for the employers that provide work place learning opportunities.

Developing Academies as learning organisations

1. to explore ways in which adults in schools remain effective learners and role models for pupils.
2. to identify ways in which academies can act as hubs of learning for their wider communities.
3. to explore ways of assessing the effectiveness of schools as learning organisations.

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