

## **VIRTUAL SCHOOL BAG**

### **Summary**

**This briefing follows the recent update on changes to CEIAG and Connexions Services. This document is to inform Headteachers of secondary schools about the outcome of negotiations with BabcockEnterprise on the delivery of universal Connexions and Education Business Partnership. It also provides an overview of interim support available from the Local Authority.**

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### **Background**

In autumn 2010 the Government announced the introduction of an all-age careers service. The timescales provided for this were that partial access would be available from September 2011, with a fully operational service by April 2012.

More recently, the Department for Education has indicated that the all-age careers service may not continue in its planned form, and is being 're-shaped'. From September 2011 the web portal will exist (providing a gateway to Connexions Direct for young people). The full version of the website will be available from April 2012.

In addition, a telephone service will come on stream from April 2012. It is unlikely that there will be face to face delivery as part of the all age careers service, except for adult clients.

### **Negotiations**

Following the previous VSB on CEIAG, informing schools about the ongoing negotiations with BabcockEnterprise, these negotiations have now been concluded and an agreement reached. ESCC had previously given BabcockEnterprise (BE) notice to terminate their contract with an end date of August 2011. As a result of negotiations with BE, that date has now been brought forward to 1 June 2011, at which point BE operations in East Sussex will cease.

### **Service Delivery**

The provision of Moving On Action Plans (s139a assessments) will continue and the intention is that SEN PAs will be transferred into ESCC on 1<sup>st</sup> June. This service will continue broadly as it currently stands until the end of the term 6 and will be re-shaped over the summer to launch a modified service in September 2011.

The intention is that EBP staff who are responsible for Health and Safety Risk Assessments will also be transferred into ESCC and this service will continue to be available to schools until the end of term 6. Please note that health and safety assessments will be the only provision available – no other Work Experience or work related learning service will be provided after 1<sup>st</sup> June.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> June universal Connexions PAs will no longer be provided in schools and colleges, in line with the re-shaping of all-age careers services.

ESCC intend to keep this decision under review in order to ensure they are complying with their statutory obligations.

### **Interim and future support available locally**

We recognise that the shortened notice period for the universal Connexions contract will present some challenges to schools, colleges and young people.

During the remainder of the academic year, there will continue to be support from the Standards & Learning Effectiveness Service (SLES) through Local Partnerships and IAG sub-groups. Some support for individual schools may also be available. These groups will be essential in supporting schools and colleges to understand the resources that are now available and to develop new local solutions for supporting young people to make informed choices about their learning and careers. 11-19 Development Managers in SLES will continue to support local partnerships with this work.

In the new academic year, SLES will continue to support schools through the development of a CEIAG Toolkit to support the Raising of the Participation Age. Schools will be involved in the development of the toolkit in the autumn term.

More information regarding the changes to the delivery of CEIAG will be delivered at the ESCC Increasing Participation and IAG Conference on 15 June 2011 at the Eastbourne Centre.

For more information, please contact Emma Ferrey, Partnership and Provision Manager: Information, Advice & Guidance (11 - 19) 01323 464283 or Fiona Wright on 01273 336782.