

IN FOCUS CUSTOM HOUSE & CANNING TOWN

May 2011



Royal Docks School improvements signal success

Pupils and staff at The Royal Docks Community School have been praised after Government inspectors told them their school has been removed from special measures.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills has rated the school in Prince Regent Lane, Custom House, as satisfactory with good features. It was placed in special measures in 2009 to help it improve.

"The inspectors saw that learning and teaching is much better and that students are making greater progress in all their lessons. They also saw that behaviour has improved significantly, so that learning is better."

Head teacher Ruth Martin said: "The inspectors saw that learning and teaching is much better and that students are making greater progress in all their lessons. They also saw that behaviour has improved significantly, so that learning is better."

The inspectors, who observed 40



Head teacher Ruth Martin, left, former Deputy Young Mayor Tommy Seagull, and Olympic badminton star Donna Kellogg open a new revision corner in the school library

lessons at the school, said the quality of teaching is improving strongly with more challenging lessons overall.

Their report added that the rapid and secure progress students are making in their learning is 'much improved and is stimulating better attainment'.

They recognised that students with special educational needs or disabilities and those for whom English is an additional language make similar progress to their peers.

The report also said that students themselves recognise the improvements in teaching and behaviour and they are

firmly of the view that the school keeps them safe.

Also highlighted was the links with other schools and colleges that are contributing towards raising students' aspirations.

Points to improve upon are raising attainment, especially in English, by September 2012 and improving the quality of teachers' written feedback and ensuring students act on this advice to improve their work.

Turn to page two to read more good news about Royal Docks Community School.

CONTACT US

If your group has an activity to promote please contact us on: 020 3373 2684 or email infocus@newham.gov.uk



Go green with your garden waste



Green fingered gardener or eco warrior – whatever your reasons, make sure you recycle your green garden waste.

The council offers a FREE green garden waste collection to all residents. The service accepts grass cuttings, weeds hedge trimmings, leaves, small branches and flowers.

All you need to do is place them in a black bag, leave them at the front of your property and call to arrange a collection. The waste will be picked up within five working days.

All garden waste is turned into compost at Jenkins Lane Reuse and Recycling Centre instead of being sent to landfill sites. So if you want to do your bit for the environment, make the most of this council service.

To arrange a collection or for more information, call 020 8430 2000 or book the collection online at www.newham.gov.uk and search for 'green waste'.



GET YOUR TASTY RECIPES PUBLISHED

Don't forget we're still looking for your favourite recipes for a new, internationally flavoured recipe book which will form part of an event in June called Vitality Month.

Send us your favourite recipe and we will work with a nutritionist to make sure it's super healthy. Once we've compiled all the recipes we will publish the free book in time for Vitality Month.

Vitality Month is a special event that the council is organising from June to

July to motivate you to lead a healthy and active lifestyle.

During this month, you will be able to try free exercise sessions and listen to motivational speakers on staying active and healthy. Keep reading In Focus to find out more.

Email your recipe with your contact details to stella.hales@newham.gov.uk or post it to Stella Hales, first floor Westside, Newham Dockside, 1000 Dockside Road, E16 2QU. For more information call Stella on 020 3373 4008.

ROYAL DOCKS SCHOOL BUILDING BOOST

Work to refurbish and improve Royal Docks Community School in Prince Regent Lane will begin next month as part of the council's programme to improve secondary schools.

The £2.2m project will see the creation of high-quality facilities for students with profound and multiple learning difficulties including the

addition of a large sensory room.

Other changes include a new drama studio, improved dining facilities, new information technology equipment and a new all-weather pitch, which will be used by both the school and the local community.

Work begins next month and will be complete by December.

Crossrail works lead to bus diversions

Crossrail works to relocate buried pipes and cables will mean that Victoria Dock Road between Munday Road and Freemasons Road needs to close to road traffic for approximately six months.

This will mean that bus routes 147, 241 and N551 will be diverted from 3 May.

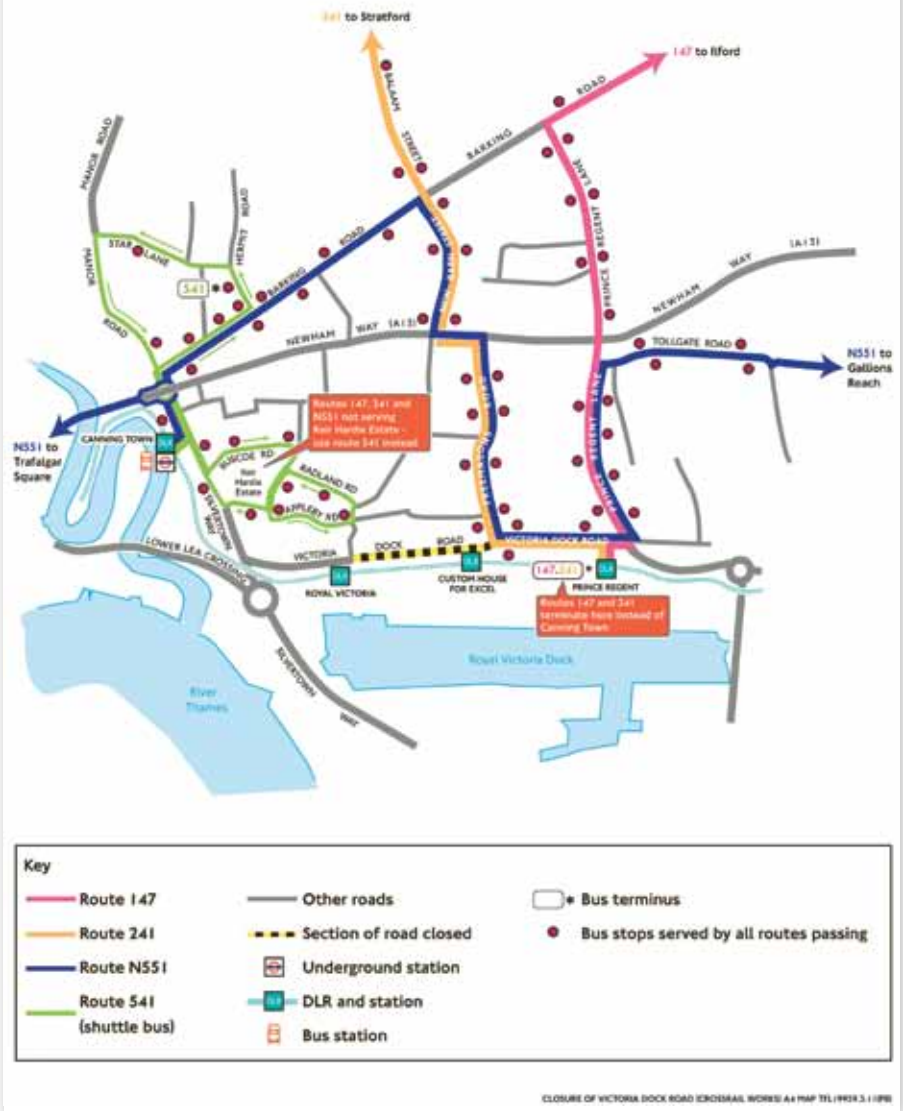
Route 147 and 241 will terminate at Prince Regent DLR station and will not run between Canning Town and Prince Regent DLR station.

A free high frequency shuttle bus (route 541) will be introduced to maintain the link between the Keir Hardie Estate, Canning Town Station and Hermit Road.

Route N551 will be diverted from Canning Town Station along Barking Road, New Barn Street and Freemasons Road before re-joining Victoria Dock Road.

Please see map for details. There will be information at local bus stops advising you where to catch bus services or you can check TfL for updates. For more information contact the Crossrail 24-hour helpdesk on 0345 602 3813.

Closure of Victoria Dock Road - changes to routes 147, 241, N551 and introduction of a free shuttle bus (route 541)



Changes to Prince Regent RPZ

Last May an experimental Residential Parking Zone (RPZ) was introduced by Newham Council to ease residents' parking woes.

The Prince Regent RPZ mostly falls in Plaistow but also affects a small area in Canning Town.

A consultation was recently carried out to find out what residents' views were on the RPZ hours and to also invite households and businesses

from 19 roads adjacent to the RPZ to join. Eleven of those roads will now join the RPZ extension - Caraway Close, Chalk Road, Cumberland Road (Holborn Road to Denmark Street), Egham Road, Haig Road West, Jedburgh Road (west of New City Road), Liddon Road, New Barn Street, Seaton Close, Salomons Road and Upperton Road West.

The majority of roads within the

RPZ and those in the new extension voted to retain the existing hours: Monday to Sunday, 8am-10pm. A number of the roads to the west of the RPZ voted for a reduction in hours: Monday to Sunday, 8am-6.30pm. The changes will come into effect in early May.

To see a map of the RPZ visit www.newham.gov.uk/rpz

Spotlight on... the Hub

Since opening in 2005 the Hub Community Centre in Star Lane has quickly become a local landmark and an important centre for the local community.

Managed by an independent charity, Newham NDP, the Hub is a hive of activity where you can take part in all sorts of classes or events or pop in for a friendly chat or cuppa from the newly opened Terrace Café.

To give you a taster, here is a list of some of the activities that you can take part in at the centre: karate, crafts, ballet, street dance, yoga, kick boxing, slimming world, history club, bingo and much more.

A group of residents called The Friends of the Hub also play an important role in organising a programme of fantastic social events including quiz nights, coffee mornings, tea dances, pantos and the recent spring fair.

Newham NDP is keen to provide more opportunities for local people to become involved in art and culture and has also set up

the Newham Arts Development Foundation (NADF) to help local artists connect and work together. First Tuesdays are the monthly networking events at The Hub which enable local artists to meet and share ideas.

The Hub has a large main hall which can be divided into three separate spaces and can be hired for parties, meetings, conferences and community events.

For more information about Newham NDP, booking the Hub as well as the activities programme call 0207 473 5249 or email howard@newhamndp.co.uk or anita@newhamndp.co.uk



Shpresa dancers - photo by Howard Mendrick

WHAT'S ON CUSTOM HOUSE AND CANNING TOWN

Street dance – for young people aged 8-16 years old

Thursdays, 8-12 yrs, 5-6pm
and 13-16 yrs, 6-7pm
Cost: £3
The Hub
123 Star Lane, E16

Slimming World – exercises, advice and help losing weight

Tuesdays, 7.30-9pm
Special offer half price membership:
£5 to join and then £4.95 per class
The Hub
123 Star Lane, E16
For more information call Carol on
07780 706 704

For even more things to do check out the What's On in Newham calendar, where you'll find listings for more than 6,000 events visit www.newham.com

If your group has an activity to promote please contact us on: 020 3373 2684 or email: infocus@newham.gov.uk

MEET YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLOR

Councillors out and about: If you would like a councillor to visit your community organisation, school, place of worship, meeting or event please call 020 3373 4008 or email stella.hales@newham.gov.uk
To email your local councillor write firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk e.g. marie.collier@newham.gov.uk



Marie Collier



Clive Furness



Paul Schafer



Bryan Collier



Michael Nicholas



Alan Taylor



Patricia Holland



Gavin Pearson



Conor McAuley

Canning Town North Ward

Cllr Collier and Cllr Schafer
Every Monday (alternating), 10am
7a Avondale Court, Avondale Road
Canning Town, E16

Cllr Furness
First and third Friday of the month, 6-7pm
Helping Hands, 42 Balaam Street, E13

Canning Town South Ward

Cllr Collier
Second and fourth Monday of the month, 10am-12pm
Canning Town Local Service Centre, 3 Beckton Road, E16

Cllr Nicholas
First and third Thursday of the month, 10.30am-12.30pm
Keir Hardie Methodist Church, 14 Plymouth Road, E16

Cllr Taylor
First and third Thursday of the month, 6-7.30pm
Trinity Community Centre, Bothwell Close, E16

Custom House Ward

Cllr Holland
First Saturday of the month
Cllr Pearson
Second Saturday of the month
Cllr McAuley
Third Saturday of the month, 10-11am
St Joachim's Catholic School
Shipman Road
Custom House, E16

Need to talk to Mayor Sir Robin Wales? Being an elected mayor, Sir Robin is directly accountable to you. Look out for Question Time times and dates in the Newham Mag, visit www.newham.gov.uk/mayor or call 020 3373 0437.