



## QiSS - Quality in Study Support

**'Raising achievement by enhancing the quality of learning outside the normal school day'**

**The aim of QiSS is to support schools, local authorities and other educational organisations in raising students' achievement, motivation and self esteem.**

Study support is now seen as an initiative of proven effectiveness in raising standards of pupil attainment and increasing pupil motivation.

**QiSS strongly believes that study support:**

- is a key part of strategies for school improvement;
- raises pupil motivation, self-esteem and achievement;
- promotes collaboration between schools and other organisations; public libraries; youth services; the arts; sport; and business;
- involves young people as decision makers, peer educators and evaluators of their own learning.

Our expertise and knowledge is built upon and continues the work of the Study Support National Evaluation and Development Programme, (formerly the Prince's Trust Study Support Project).

## Recognition Scheme

### Quality Assurance - The QiSS Recognition Scheme

"Study Support provides us with excellent opportunities to take risks and make a profound impact on the achievement and attainment of young people..."

The QiSS Recognition Scheme is an integral part of the drive to promote quality in study support. It provides public recognition that the standards embodied in the Codes of Practice are being met. We base our approach to quality assurance on self-evaluation and peer scrutiny, using key indicators set out in the Codes of Practice for Study Support.

### The Scheme:

- Can be offered as a flexible package of training and support for schools, LEAs, EAZs and other centres to achieve the three categories of good practice, as set out in the Codes of Practice, systematically to assist planning, review and development;
- Is based on peer scrutiny of the outcomes of self evaluation and is currently being used by 82 LEAs including the largest, Birmingham City Council, and several inner city London boroughs.
- Over 150 schools, Community and Playing for Success Centres have already been QiSS accredited.
- Can accommodate clusters of schools who collaborate in providing out of school hours learning.

## **Extended Schools**

### **IQF - Integrated Quality Framework**

The Integrated Quality Framework combines the expertise of both ContinYou and QiSS to help Local Authorities, Schools and Centres develop their extended schools provision.



### **QDF - Quality Development Framework**

The QDF is a framework for self-evaluating and quality assuring Extended School provision, is currently under development by QiSS in association with Several Local Authorities. We intend to publish the Code in the Spring of 2006.

Initially five LAs - Sandwell, Tower Hamlets, Kent, Nottinghamshire and Norfolk- collaborated with QiSS to test the feasibility of transferring principles of the quality assurance system, widely used for study support, to the more complex arena of the development of extended schools. The Study Support Code of Practice was used as a starting point, but adapted through nine drafts during the first pilot which ran from October 2003 to December 2004. During that time 18 schools (13 secondary schools, 4 primaries and 1 special school) across the five LAs acted as pilots of the process and were recognised at Emerged Level. In April 2005 four of these schools went on to receive recognition at Established Level, with a further seven schools going for recognition at this level during July.

The schools involved in Phase 1 were Alexandra High School, Shireland Language College\*, The Meadows School\* and St Michael's Church of England High School\* from Sandwell; Alderman Peel High School\* and Thorpe Hamlet Nursery and First School from Norfolk; Christchurch Primary School, Homewood School\*, Sittingbourne Community College\*, Temple Hill Community Primary School and Swadelds School\* from Kent; George Green's School, St Johns Primary School and Bishop Challoner School from Tower Hamlets; Sutton Centre\*, Dukeries College\*, Kirkby College and Ashfield School from Nottinghamshire.

*Those indicated with an asterisk have been awarded established level. Some of these had previously used the Study Support Code but some had not.*

In January 2005 a further fourteen LAs accepted the invitation to be involved with Phase II of the development of the extending schools code, namely Cumbria, Dudley, Hackney, Leeds, Lewisham, Manchester, Newham, Rotherham, Sheffield, Sunderland, Surrey, Telford and Wrekin, West Sussex and Wolverhampton. These will be working with the original five LAs to further develop and refine the draft Code, which is now in its 11th draft, as well as the recognition process itself. Schools from all nineteen LAs now involved will be working with the Extending Schools Code and further pilot recognition meetings are planned for the autumn and spring terms (dates still to be confirmed, please check the News and Events Page for more details) QiSS is currently working closely with ContinYou to develop an integrated framework for Quality Development in Extended Schools.

### **Parallels Document**

This is a working document which will be constantly updated as new frameworks are published. It is a document which allows you to draw comparisons with the Code of practice and other kite-marks such as Investors in People and SportsMark/Artsmark which as a school or centre you may already be working towards or have achieved.