

Welcome to ACE Centre North Network Day

22nd June 2010

ACE Centre North *news...*

- Welcome back to Rachel Thwaite
- Lisa is currently cycling on a 130 mile cycle ride!
- We have a new fundraiser: David Hierons

Closure of Becta

- Becta will be closed down completely by March 2011
- All current activities are being reviewed with the DfE and its activities are either being wound down this year, ceased immediately or re-located as appropriate.
- Clarification about AAC activity within BCAP is hoped by the end of this month

'Better Communication' Action Plan

- Clarification on the future of BCAP expected in the next few weeks
- AAC activities include
 - National Standards for AAC services
 - Inclusion of AAC within the SLCN commissioning pathfinder programme and toolkit
 - AAC Grants Programme

Assistive Technology and Home Access

- Suppliers for the AT aspects of Home Access have been announced (Vangent Ltd)
- The programme will run until March 31st 2011
- For further information:
<http://www.homeaccess.org.uk/>

Information in your packs

- BSF Info
- Training and SLA info
- Accredited training info
- Disabled skiing
- Fundraising info
- Evaluation sheet!!

All presentations will be on our website in the next few days...

Programme for the day

10.00 Andrew Ball – The Communication Trust

11.00 Coffee

11.20 – 12.00 Workshops

(A) Naomi Hewerdine – Total Communication in Oldham

(B) Kay Wrench & Roger Bates – Access and Communication for children with visual impairments – *ACE Centre North*

12.00 Carol Allen – AAC in Albania

12.45 Lunch

1.45 Workshops

(C) Andrea McGuinness – ‘How to decide’ on the latest handheld communication devices

(D) CALL UP – The experience of a user group

2.30 Sandra Hartley – Does voice output enhance communication in children with autism who use exchange-based communication?

3.30 Coffee

3.45 – 4.15 Andy Banns - What's New?