

Changemakers launches new ACiS toolkit

Changemakers has launched its Active Citizens in Schools (ACiS) toolkit, building on the pilot work done on ACiS by Changemakers and ContinYou. Designed for secondary schools and for people working with young people in the wider community, it offers a variety of practical and creative ideas to assist staff from different settings in combining their time and expertise to support active citizenship by young people.

The toolkit includes certificates supplied on a CDROM that can be issued directly by schools to young people involved in activity both in and out of school.

In addition, Changemakers is now running nine more seminars across the country. The seminars will provide teachers, youth workers and everyone involved in working with young people the opportunity to learn more about the active citizenship approach. Seminars will be delivered in partnership with ContinYou. Chief Executive Officer of ContinYou, Laurence Blackhall, comments: "We are delighted with this inaugural project, a product of what is an extremely beneficial and exciting partnership between Changemakers and ContinYou."

Young people learning through positive action in their communities meets the aspirations of the Russell Commission, Every Child Matters, extended schools, flexible learning, Citizenship and Enterprise education, Community Cohesion and the 'Respect' agenda.

Adam Nichols, Chief Executive Officer of Changemakers, comments: "We are extremely proud of this resource. Our commitment to youth-led learning means that we believe in encouraging young people to take responsibility for themselves and their community. The methodologies contained in the toolkit provide ways in which young people can make changes for themselves, but to varying degrees of commitment which we believe is the only practical way to approach ACiS."