

# Building stronger school-university partnerships in London

## The SHELL (School-HE Links in London) Delivery Plan 2009-11 builds on recommendations made by Professor Malcolm Gillies in 2009

*The headline actions below are extracted from the recommendations made in 2009 by Professor Malcolm Gillies to Sarah McCarthy-Fry MP, then Minister for London Schools. Ministers have awarded a grant to London Higher to implement the recommendations as part of the London Challenge programme during the period 2009-11.*

### 1 Encouraging and overseeing progress across the school and HE sectors in London

The London Challenge pledges on school-HE partnerships and students' progression to HE are being actioned by a SHELL Delivery Board to which both sectors contribute on an equal basis. Demonstrating this principle, the Board is chaired jointly by **Professor Malcolm Gillies**, Vice-Chancellor, London Metropolitan University and Champion for HE Partnerships in London and **Professor David Woods** CBE, Chief Adviser for London Schools and Principal National Challenge Adviser. The Board reports progress to DCSF as required.

### 2 In London's schools: recognition for their engagement with HE

Current patterns of engagement are being collated, including results of a survey of London schools in January 2009. **SHELL works closely with other partners**, such as Aimhigher, which are repositories of good practice. Schools will be encouraged to publicize their relationships with HE. The annual **London Education Partnership Awards** managed from the Institute of Education, University of London, are a valuable stimulus for creative engagement.

### 3 In London's HE institutions: contributing to an online Directory of contacts

New in 2010 is the online SHELL Directory of contacts in London's HEIs for use by schools: it already lists over 30 of London's 40+ HEIs.

Go to [www.londonhigher.ac.uk/SHELLdirectory.html](http://www.londonhigher.ac.uk/SHELLdirectory.html).

It is hoped that schools will similarly identify a named contact for their HE partnership work.

### 4 In both schools and HEIs: governance

Both schools and HEIs will be invited to consider the **appointment to their governing bodies and councils** of people with appropriate knowledge of the other sector.

### 5 Supporting delivery and working closely with London partners

A small delivery team based at London Higher has been established to drive forward the pledges, serve the Delivery Board and carry out the required activities including the Directory and support for practitioner groups. The team also encourages relevant London partners to adopt appropriate SHELL recommendations into their own work plans. An example of this is helping students' unions to publicize the attractions for undergraduates of acting as student ambassadors and mentors in the way already established in Aimhigher and outreach work.

**For further information contact Naz Khan ([SHELL@londonhigher.ac.uk](mailto:SHELL@londonhigher.ac.uk)).**

**The SHELL programme is described at [www.londonhigher.ac.uk/SHELL](http://www.londonhigher.ac.uk/SHELL).**