



Moon Hall College and Burys Court

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Berry Baker, the Founder and Principal of Moon Hall School at Holmbury St Mary and Moon Hall College in Leigh received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Independent Schools Awards celebration on 11th November 2010.

Shortlisted for the award, the citation in support of Berry's nomination read:

In 1985, Berry Baker founded Moon Hall School for children with dyslexia. She had been concerned with the lack of adequate local provision for her son and her friend's son, and so began to educate them at home. It became clear that other parents shared her concern. So, with the help of her husband, David, she raised the money for a purpose built independent school in the grounds of Belmont School in Holmbury St Mary, It is now an IAPS member and is recognised by CReSTeD....Having developed Moon Hall School for two decades, her educational trust purchased Burys Court School, to establish a school for dyslexic children up to GCSE. Since 2005, Berry has been responsible day to day for the running of Moon Hall College/Burys Court. Berry's determination to help children has changed lives.

Among the panel of 10 judges who chose the winners of the various education achievement awards were Christine Ryan, chief inspector and CEO of the Independent Schools Inspectorate; Graham Able, former master of Dulwich College and chair of the Head Masters Conference, Nick Shrayne bursar of the Harrow School Foundation.

On returning to school with her award, Berry said:

I am delighted to have received this recognition of the transforming help we have been able to give now to so many children. We have a team of really able and dedicated teachers at both schools. Our policy of providing support with specialist teachers and assistants in class instead of removing children from important lessons for one to one lessons is a key feature in the success we have achieved with our pupils. There is no doubt that the earlier we can provide the help the easier it is for the child. Dyslexia is genetic and one of the biggest rewards for me in all of this is the fact that we have already been able to help our grandchildren at Moon Hall at a much earlier age than when I first intervened to help my son, Daniel, when he was 9.

For further information about Moon Hall College and Burys Court, and about Moon Hall Schools Educational Trust please call Mrs Baker at Burys Court on 01306 611372 or visit the websites at www.buryscourtschool.co.uk and www.moonhallcollege.co.uk or for Moon Hall School for Dyslexic Children at Holmbury St Mary visit www.moonhallschool.co.uk .