



primaryexcellence  
TEACHING SCHOOL

## February 2015

Welcome to our first newsletter of the New Year. We are already looking ahead to this year being an exciting and busy time for us. With the development of new partnerships and collaborative working between Teaching Schools, we will be able to work in new and imaginative ways to really make a difference for our children and teachers.

### Primary Excellence Courses and Development Programmes

#### Outstanding Teacher Programme and Improving Teacher Programme

We are delighted with the responses that we have received for our OTP and ITP facilitated programmes. We are currently considering running two more programmes in the Summer Term.

Testimonials:

*"I really valued being part of a supportive, yet challenging programme which really moves you forward as a professional".*

*"This was a fantastic opportunity to network with other teachers and visit other schools. I have been able to take my learning back into my own school".*



*Discussing the definition of 'Outstanding' Teaching and Learning.*

If you are interested in your teachers taking part in one of these popular programmes, please contact: Isabelle Candy [isabelle.candy@firstfederation.org](mailto:isabelle.candy@firstfederation.org) to register your interest or Angela Jenkins [angela.jenkins@primaryexcellence.org](mailto:angela.jenkins@primaryexcellence.org) for more information.

Full details about these programmes can be found on our website:

<http://www.primaryexcellence.org/273/continuing-professional-development-overview>

## **SLE Facilitated Workshops: Reading and Calculation**

Summer Term 2014

Watch out for more details of our SLE Facilitated Workshops. These will be half day sessions aimed at subject leaders. During the workshops, teachers and SLEs will work together on an area of School Improvement. There will be the chance to network and share ideas with other professionals, whilst developing skills in specific areas of the curriculum. Planned workshops so far are focused around:

- Developing a School Calculation Policy and refining progression of written calculation
- Teaching Reading across the school

If you have any other areas in which you feel we could offer support, either for your school or for a group of schools, please contact Angela Jenkins [angela.jenkins@primaryexcellence.org](mailto:angela.jenkins@primaryexcellence.org)

## **Early Career Development:**

### **NQT Workshops**

Our NQT workshops, Journey to Outstanding, are underway. We were over subscribed and currently have 31 NQTS from across Devon and Torbay attending. The workshops focus on pedagogy and assessment for learning. With the new Assessment without Levels focus in schools, many teachers are finding this invaluable and a great support in securing excellent understanding of assessment for learning.

We have a reserve list, and if schools contact us to express an interest, we should be able to run another series of workshops. Please contact Tracey Cleverly [tcleverly@astsa.org](mailto:tcleverly@astsa.org) if you have NQTs that you would like to book onto the pedagogy based workshops.

A series of four workshops costs £120 per delegate.

### **Phonics for NQTs**

In addition to these pedagogy based workshops, at the request of schools, we have designed two additional workshops based on phonics, one for EYFS/KS1 and one for KS2. This is to support teachers not only in Early Years but also for KS2 teachers to continue to use phonics in their teaching of reading and spelling.

The workshop details are:

- 19 May 2015: Good Practice in Phonics in EYFS and KS1
- 23 June 2015: Embedding Phonics and Decoding Skills into the KS2 Curriculum

Workshops cost £35 per delegate and include refreshments and materials. If you would like to book onto the workshops, please visit <http://www.primaryexcellence.org/284/nqt-phonics-training>

If you have any further development requirements for your NQTs, please contact us and we can discuss how we can provide additional support or create a bespoke package to meet the needs of schools. Please contact Tracey Cleverly [tcleverly@astsa.org](mailto:tcleverly@astsa.org).

## Specialist Leaders of Education (SLE)

Specialist Leaders of Education are outstanding middle and senior leaders who have the skills to support and individuals in similar positions in others schools.

We have recently designated 8 new SLE's and welcome them to our team:

Corrine Guntrip	RE
Gillian Tewkesbury	RE
Jill Ward	Information Technology
Julie Edwards	Early Years
Julie Youd	Early Years
Kirsty Pascall	SEN
Louise Connick	Initial Teacher Training, Newly Qualified Teachers
Sam Gill	Early Years

Our SLE directory is attached with this newsletter and more information can be found on our website:- <http://www.primaryexcellence.org/221/overview> .

Additionally, if you would like to discover more about how SLEs can help you to develop leadership across your school, please contact: [angela.jenkins@primaryexcellence.org](mailto:angela.jenkins@primaryexcellence.org)

## Leadership Programmes

### Leadership Development: Diversifying Leadership Development Programme

Primary Excellence, in partnership with Exeter Diocese, is currently working with leaders from across Torbay and Devon to support them on their leadership path.

We have 17 leaders who are part of the programme. The focus of the programme is to support our leaders in developing their leadership skills through development of a school priority. The programme is being facilitated by Tatiana Wilson, Exeter Diocese, who has a wealth of experience of working with leaders in their development and growth.

To date, the leaders have attended a half day face to face session to explore their own development points as leaders. From there, we have been able to design workshops to meet the needs of the group. The leaders have been awarded grants of up to £700 to support their professional development.

In July, we have our final face-to-face day and we will be sharing their case studies with our alliance schools.

## **Leadership Development: Recently Qualified Teacher Leadership Programme**

All of the applicants have now been selected for the RQTL programme. The programme has been aimed at teachers in their second, third or fourth year who are displaying leadership qualities.

After a rigorous selection process we now have over 20 candidates from Cornwall, Plymouth, Torbay and Devon. The programme began with a residential at the end of January and is followed by a series of sessions which help the new aspiring leaders to explore different leadership styles and approaches in a range of contexts

## **Primary Excellence Initial Teacher Training**

### **Teachers of the Future: School Direct ITE**

The current School Direct students are nearly half way through their year with us. The students have begun their second placements and are currently experiencing a school with a different setting to their base school, giving them experience in a range of settings. We are currently arranging bespoke lectures for the students which will prepare them even further for taking up their first post in September. These include:

- Early Years: assessment
- Early Years: planning provision using AFL
- Primary: principles of effective planning
- Primary: summative and formative assessment
- Primary: planning using AFL

Emily is one of our current students who has had placements at a small church school and a large urban primary school. She believes that she has benefited greatly by selecting the School Direct route, and said:

*“School Direct has not only better prepared me for a career in teaching, but also helped me to discover the kind of teacher I can be. From day one, you are immersed in school life and given invaluable support and guidance throughout. Whilst it is hard work, it is equally rewarding and the skills you learn from those around you are ones you will carry forward into your own career. I am amazed at how far I have come in just 5 months, and with still 5 months to go, I am confident that I chose the right teaching course to become the best teacher I can possibly be.”*

The flexibility of the School Direct programme enables us to respond to the needs of the students and ensure that we are fully preparing them for taking up their first post in September. If you are looking to recruit an NQT in September we would highly recommend our students as suitable candidates. If you would like to find out more about recruiting a School Direct graduate in September, please contact Tracey Cleverly [tcleverly@astsa.org](mailto:tcleverly@astsa.org).

## Interested in Becoming a School Direct Partner School?

We have increased the number of School Direct places for 2015-16 and we are busy interviewing and appointing high quality graduates. We are looking for additional School Direct Partner Schools who are passionate about growing the next generation of outstanding teachers. School Direct Partner Schools will enjoy additional benefits including the opportunity to recruit high quality teachers into their own schools, full training for in-school mentors, be part of shaping the programme and partner schools who appoint a School Direct student also receive an early career development package for that teacher - supporting their journey to outstanding.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a School Direct Partner School, please contact Tracey Cleverly [tcleverly@astsa.org](mailto:tcleverly@astsa.org).

**And Finally.....**

## Administrator Conference

We need your ideas! Our School Business Manager SLEs are looking to run a conference, open to all school administrators in the South West. If there are any areas which you would like covered or explored, please contact us. Later in the term we will be looking for administrators who would be willing to help us run some of the workshops.

## TWITTER

Primary Excellence publishes all of the latest news on our website [www.primaryexcellence.org](http://www.primaryexcellence.org). In addition to this we have a Twitter account where you can see regular updates and information that you will find useful. Follow us [@PE\\_teachsch](https://twitter.com/PE_teachsch)


If you would like to join our alliance as a member or an associate, or know more about Primary Excellence Teaching School and how we can help your school, please contact:

Angela Jenkins  
(Teaching School Leader –  
Primary Excellence Teaching School)  
[angela.jenkins@primaryexcellence.org](mailto:angela.jenkins@primaryexcellence.org)

Tracey Cleverly  
(Teaching School Leader –  
All Saints Teaching School)  
[tcleverly@astsa.org](mailto:tcleverly@astsa.org)

## Primary Excellence Teaching School

C/O Blackpool CE Primary School  
Liverton  
Newton Abbot  
Devon  
TQ12 6JB  
Tel: 01626 821316  
E-mail: [enquiries@primaryexcellence.org](mailto:enquiries@primaryexcellence.org)  
Web: [www.primaryexcellence.org](http://www.primaryexcellence.org)

National Teaching School  
designated by  
  
National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

 National  
Teaching  
School

  
primaryexcellence  
TEACHING SCHOOL

All  
Saints  
Teaching  
School  
Alliance