



COLLABORATION WORKS



MERRY CHRISTMAS

The Teaching School has had an extremely busy autumn term across all strands of our work.

A major piece of work for us has been the work around mental health and wellbeing. In November, I was honoured to present at the Youth Sport Trust annual Board Dinner about our involvement, impact and continued roll out of the Greater Manchester Mentally Healthy Schools project. As previously communicated this pilot project was commissioned by the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership as part of a £134m action plan to help transform mental health in Greater Manchester for children and adults. The overall investment programme is huge - the biggest and most ambitious of its kind in the country which aims not only to put mental health on an equal footing with physical health, but to start to deliver our vision of making sure that all schools feel well equipped to support all children.

Between March and July 2018, we worked alongside Youth Sport Trust, Place2Be and 42nd Street and delivered a package of support to 31 schools with a real focus on emotional health and wellbeing.

Feedback about the pilot from children and young people, teachers, parents



and carers has been overwhelmingly positive and we are excited to share the news that Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership have commissioned this project to be extended to a further cohort of schools during 2019.

Andy Burnham the Mayor of GM said: "This is the most exciting project to come out of GM whilst I have been Mayor". Read the full impact report here: <http://allianceforlearning.co.uk/mentally-healthy-schools-pilot-report/>

Best wishes,

Lisa Fathers

Director of Teaching School & Partnerships

A big thank you!

As a Teaching School we are so successful because of YOU! Our schools who make collaboration easy, our system leaders who tirelessly support our schools every week, and our team of facilitators who delivery high quality CPD. You are really appreciated, thank you for all you do.

Other news



The Daily Mile

Through Lisa's work with the Greater Manchester Headteachers' Alliance we have been working closely with Greater Sport, the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership and the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, to urge all schools to get active and adopt The Daily Mile.

On 17th October, Lisa and representatives from these organisations joined Daily Mile founder Elaine Wyllie at Stanley Grove Primary Academy to celebrate Manchester's commitment to transforming the health and wellbeing of its 2.8m population, by becoming the world's first every Daily Mile region. A video promoting the Daily Mile can be viewed here: <https://thedailymile.co.uk/videos/the-greater-manchester-daily-mile/>

Goodbye and good luck!

This December we say goodbye to our SCITT Director/Assistant Director of Teaching School, Kal Hodgson. Kal has done an outstanding job of building the SCITT and embedding excellent structures and systems to enable his good work to be sustained. The trainees and NQTs in our alliance describe him as 'a top bloke' and say his support has been invaluable. The Teaching School team will miss his knowledge, humour and leadership but we know he will do a fantastic job at Cedar Mount Academy. Good luck from all of us!

Annual Winter Poetry Competition



The Alliance for Learning's annual Regional Poetry Competition is one of the most prestigious in the North West and this year will be judged by: **Andy Burnham** (Mayor of Greater Manchester), **Amanda Berriman** (Children's Author and Primary Teacher) and **Liz Norris** (Service Manager - Shelter).



Last year's winner was **Ambar Abdul** from **Stanley Grove Primary Academy**.

This year we are now open for submissions and the winners will be announced on Thursday 20th December. We know that the numbers of homeless people are rising. In Greater Manchester we know that at least 500 people have slept rough this year. As weather gets colder it makes things even harder for people with no home. This year we want to make our Christmas poetry competition more meaningful.

Write a winter poem that highlights the realities of being homeless, this can be about an individual, the weather, the loneliness, the daily struggles - anything at all.

For our schools in GM we want to try and support the Mayor's 'Bed for a Night Fund' <https://bedeverynight.co.uk/> and raise awareness of this.





Alliance for
Learning SCITT

Train Teach Transform



Initial Teacher Training/SCITT

2017-18 was a year of challenge in ITE, but we were really pleased that the vast majority of QTS trainees completed the course by July. Five out of our six Early Years trainees successfully finished the programme and developed into lead teachers in their settings. Our recently appointed subject leads for Primary and Early Years are having a huge impact in the development of our current trainees.

Other ITE programmes ran successfully as well: eight undergraduates participated in the Internship Programme, working in alliance schools, and we are one of the largest centres for the Future Teaching Scholars programme, with 23 scholars across three cohorts. Andrew Barry (AGGS Maths Dept) has been appointed as FTS coordinator and will monitor and support the progress of scholars across our alliance.

As recruitment fell again nationally, the SCITT recruited 35 QTS trainees and 9 EYITT trainees, a similar figure to previous years. We

have led a SCITT collaboration, working with four other Greater Manchester providers, to deliver high quality subject specific training to trainees. The maths and science elements are being delivered by AGGS staff and have been extremely well received.

Fantastic NQT programme!

Our NQT programme continues to be strong, with 41 NQTs registered and over 50 who attended our NQT conference in November, led by behaviour expert Jason Bangbala. We are now working with Urmston Grammar School to develop a parallel RQT provision.



Professional Development/Leadership

Continuing training and professional development is at the heart of what we do.

We understand, however, that one size does not fit all which is why we work closely with our partner schools to develop a personalised and bespoke professional learning offer each term to support leadership, teaching and learning and pastoral support.

Here are just some of the courses we have coming up in the spring term:

- **Investing in Teachers Programme**
starting 9th January 2019
- **Foundation Coaching**
starting 17th January 2019
- **Transgender Awareness**
12th February 2019
- **Youth MHFA**
13th/14th February 2019
- **Massage in Schools**
14th/15th February 2019
- **Coaching in Context**
starting 6th March 2019

- **Outstanding Teacher Programme**
starting 12th March 2019
- **Mindfulness Taster**
12th March 2019
- **Adult MHFA**
20th/21st March 2019
- **Leadership Residency**
starting 2nd April 2019
- **Advanced Mental Health with Early Trauma**
4th April 2019

For more information, to book or to view our full offer please visit our website: <http://allianceforlearning.co.uk/cpd/introduction/>

We also pride ourselves on offering a flexible and in-house training service. So whether you are looking for a 2 hour twilight or half day workshop, focused on one specific area of interest; through to a full or 2 day training session that may cover a number of different areas of interest, please do get in touch to discuss your needs!

School to School Support/ Specialist Leaders of Education

Our schools are incredibly diverse which is a real strength of our alliance. In order to ensure we are able to cater to the needs of our schools we are always looking to broaden our network of shared expertise and extend our SLE team.

In October we did just that as we welcomed on board 20 new SLEs who will now join our existing team and go on to develop the capacity and capability of other leaders so that they have the skills to lead their own teams and improve practice in their own schools.

There is no doubt that for all SLEs getting into other schools and seeing practice elsewhere is excellent CPD in itself and our SLEs are all really enjoying this role. Our subject network meetings have been increasingly well-attended and have provided colleagues with valuable opportunities to collaborate, particularly around the planning, resourcing and assessing of the new GCSEs.

**New
schools in
our TSA**

We are delighted to welcome:

**Chantler Primary School,
Bishops Blue Coat Chester,
Smithills School, St Pauls
Catholic High School,
Eastwood Primary School,
Higher Lane Primary School,
Manley Park Primary School,
Sunny Bank Primary School
and Sharples School.**

- ✓ **6 Attendance Reviews in Bury**
- ✓ **5 Teaching & Learning reviews in Greater Manchester**
- ✓ **English Improvement Project in Blackpool**
- ✓ **5 Bespoke Middle Leader Programmes**
- ✓ **Bespoke coaching programme**

MATHS HUB



We are also pleased to note that Mike Thompson (AGGS) is running the Challenging Topics at GCSE, national collaborative project. It is always especially rewarding to see colleagues from within our own family involved in these projects.

And finally, in October, Simon presented at the institute of mathematics scholarship event at Ashton University Conference centre. NW1 wants to support trainee maths teachers and the workshop delivered to over 220 colleagues was very well received. This form of engagement and communication link is vital to grow the Maths Hub reach.

It has been a very busy start to the year for the Maths Hub and NW1 Maths Hub has now been designated set regions in the Greater Manchester Metropolitan Boroughs. Under the Northern Power House and Opportunity Areas initiatives, NW1 has been allocated: Bury, Oldham and Rochdale.

NW1 has also been allocated Manchester and Stockport due to participation density of schools. This year we are running 23 work streams, including both CPD and action classroom research. A lot of these are now also being delivered remotely within the partnership network and through partner teaching schools. This is to enable

greater reach and participation across Greater Manchester.

We are pleased to see our own colleagues getting opportunities through the Maths Hub/TSA. Alison Heathcock, Head of Mathematics at AGGS is now the Secondary Teaching for Mastery lead and a member of the national specialist leaders of education in mathematics professional learning community.




**Maths
HUBS**
North West One