



## Campus Stockton Teaching Alliance Newsletter

As we draw towards the close of this academic year, there are a number of areas to celebrate from our teaching alliance work with local schools and colleges:

### School to School Support

CSTA Specialist Leaders of Education and Stockton School Leaders have engaged in school to school support work in a range of primary, secondary and FE schools and colleges across Stockton and beyond.

All impact evaluations report a positive impact on teaching and learning and further reports will be gathered once results are known in September.

Further school to school support work is currently being brokered for September with an emphasis on personalised bespoke support and peer to peer coaching.

### CPD for Teachers, Leaders and Support Staff

**Teacher of Excellence** has completed its second year with an impressive group of teachers gaining this recognition for their excellence.

*“The Teacher of Excellence course has really made me reflect on the impact and the quality of my teaching . . .’ ‘The delivery of the course has been superb and everyone is extremely supportive’*

Amy Richardson &

Rachel Essex.



Some of our Teacher of Excellence graduates.

## Teacher Subject Specialist Training

Maths and Physics courses have now been completed, with 40 delegates in each subject taking part across the Tees Valley. MFL has been a very successful course this year, with 16 delegates taking part from within Stockton.

All 3 courses were fully funded (including cover costs) by NCTL due to successful bidding and collaboration.



Some of our MFL TSST graduates

**Teaching Assistant of Excellence** has completed its first year.

*'The TA of Excellence course has enabled me to reflect on my practice as a HLTA. I have introduced new initiatives in school to help improve the health and wellbeing of a student in my tutor group. The course has enabled me to move forward with my professional development and make more of an impact on teaching & learning, and improving the outcomes for the students in my care. The course has had a positive impact on my role'*

Suzanne Florence.



Some of our Teaching Assistant of Excellence graduates.

## Onwards and Upwards (Primary)

The course is in its second year and this year's delegates have reflected on the course:

*'very hands on, interactive, very interesting'; '... good networking/evidence building for practice'; 'really appreciated being given time to think and evaluate.'*

Jordan Mansell (The Village Primary, Thornaby) has progressed from the previous cohort Onwards and Upwards to Targeted Leadership Support. In this time he has moved from being a classroom teacher to an Assistant Head Teacher role at the school.



Some of our Onwards and Upwards graduates.

**Leader of Excellence** has completed its first year and has proved very successful, but also very challenging for those taking part. After first moderation, some of our delegates were asked for more evidence around what makes them an excellent middle leader. Delegates responded brilliantly to the challenge they were set!



Some of our Leader of Excellence graduates

## Targeted Leadership Support

Stockton Leaders (aspiring to/new to senior leadership roles) have successfully completed **Targeted Leadership Support** training this year. They have all had leadership placements in Stockton Schools and second placements in schools across the Tees Valley, as well as one to one coaching from current Head Teachers.

*'I have thoroughly enjoyed the leadership programme, working with experienced professionals whose expertise has been vital in helping me to nurture and develop my own leadership skills. I have gained an invaluable insight into the role which will prove invaluable as I take my first initial steps towards securing an SLT position'*

Dave Johnson, All Saints

Since the above, Dave has been promoted to Assistant Head Teacher for Upper School, at All Saints Academy.

This course is run in partnership with North East Teaching Schools and is fully funded, including cover costs to delegate's schools.

## MA in Education Leadership

Delegates from Stockton Schools are currently taking part in this 3 year programme

Our MA in Education Leadership is led by Stockton Sixth Form and The Grangefield Academy in partnership with Northumbria University. It allows anyone involved in education the chance to enjoy a 3 year programme of study tailored to specific contexts and priorities for development.

## CPD Plans for 2017-18

All of this year's programs will be offered again, as well as the following:

- Onwards and Upwards (Secondary) – for secondary teachers aspiring to middle leadership roles
- Excellence at UPS – looks at ways for teachers to fulfil teaching/leadership roles at UPS
- Support Staff – Leader of Excellence – for all support staff with a focus on what makes good leadership in a school/college setting
- Aspiring Deputy Head Teacher (Primary)
- Aspiring Head Teacher

\*The above 2 courses are a mixture of face to face sessions, placements in other schools/colleges and gap tasks

## **Research and Development**

The main thrust currently is with Spirals of Inquiry with a number of schools involved. This approach to CPD encourages staff to use student voice to develop a line of inquiry which leads to them transforming an aspect of teaching and learning practice, ultimately improving outcomes. The approach allows staff to develop their own bespoke CPD programme and has been shown to lead to high levels of staff (and student) engagement and improved teaching and learning.

## **Strategic School Improvement Funding**

CSTA has worked in partnership with Education Improvement Service, Stockton Borough Local Authority to bid for funds to support Stockton Schools with specific areas of need. Projects are based on current areas of strength (in supporting others) within Stockton as proven impact is important in the bidding process.

If successful, our bids focus on the following areas (decisions on bids - late summer term):

### **Leadership**

Priorities for development across Stockton schools are established through existing Raising Achievement Partnerships (RAPs) between schools. A range of peer review and leadership CPD will be made available to schools in response to specific need, promoting the development of leadership for improvement to be supported and developed through collaboration. A number of leaders will be trained in peer to peer review and a team of leaders will be trained in offering school to school support. The funding will allow for capacity within Stockton for school leaders to support one another in a systematic and sustainable way.

### **Inclusion Centres of Excellence**

This bid aims to build the capacity of primary / secondary schools across the region as Inclusion Centres of Excellence (ICE) to include:

- Disadvantaged pupils
- More able pupils
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing (EHWB)
- English as an additional language

### **Attachment Difficulties and Developmental Trauma**

This bid aims to ensure all schools are empowered to effectively support children and young people with attachment issues and developmental trauma. This will support the inclusion of vulnerable groups particularly LACYP and those previously in care. This work will aim to support vulnerable young people and also reduce the number of fixed term or permanent exclusions.

## **Key Stage 2/3 Literacy**

This bid aims to develop the quality of teaching and academic progress from Key Stage 2 through to Key Stage 3. Reading will be a focus in KS2/3, the teaching of writing in KS3 will be developed, and transition in literacy will be strengthened by ensuring that quality schemes of work at KS3 build on the new KS2 curriculum.

## **Early Years: Ready for School**

This bid aims to improve children's readiness for school in the following areas:

- Parental engagement
- Supporting transition (from home to setting/school)
- Language development
- Pupil outcomes for Early Years
- Multi-agency working

Overall, a busy and productive year's work for Campus Stockton Teaching Alliance.

Many thanks to all of our partners in collaborating to support our schools and colleges in providing a great education for all our young people.

Chris Aitkin

Director, Campus Stockton Teaching Alliance