



## Newsletter – Easter 2018

### Dates for your diary:

#### Network Meetings

CPD:	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
Headteacher:	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2018
R&D:	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2018
ITT:	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2018

*(All Network Meetings 10.00am – 12.30pm at St Aidan's School)*

#### NQT Conference – Part 2:

21<sup>st</sup> June 2018 (9am – 1pm), St Aidan's School

#### SLE Application Deadline

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018

(Interviews Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018)

#### LLE Application Deadline

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018

### CPD: (Next meeting Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2018)

This term has seen a continuation of the Monday 4-5pm training events, including Memory for Learning, Coaching and Questioning. These sessions have been well received, both in the A1 corridor and the North East of our Teaching Alliance.

We also hosted the first half day conference for Recently Qualified teachers (those in years 2 and 3 of their teaching career), attended by almost 40 teachers. The morning consisted of a presentation on 'sensible use of educational research' by Katie Hunter (from Ryedale), a pastorally focused session by Emma Lambden (from St John Fisher) and some reflections from Amy Waters (from St Aidan's) who is herself, relatively new to the profession. Evaluations suggested that it had been time very well spent, that we should offer it again next year and that, in addition to the formal presentations, teachers had enjoyed the opportunity to meet/discuss with others from partner schools.

Our next cohort for the Masters qualification, with Leeds Trinity, have had their first two meetings and are currently considering areas for further study.

The C4S schools (King James, Sherburn, St Aidan's, St John Fisher, Tadcaster and Thirsk) joined together on 9<sup>th</sup> March at St Aidan's for a full day conference. The Key note speaker, Baroness Tanni Grey Thompson, began the day with a challenging and reflective delivery, followed by four sessions ranging from 'Cognitive load theory' to 'Practising what we preach.' Lunch, followed by subject networks in the afternoon, gave opportunity for colleagues to meet together and share good practice. As in previous years,

there was a concurrent conference for support staff, hosted at King James' School, including Baroness Thompson's Key note speech, then input by Thrive and other specialists. New networks are forming amongst support staff, for example exams officers, careers specialists, and these also had time to meet during the C4S day.

The next CPD network meeting is important as next year's programme is to be finalised. We gathered ideas in the last meeting and now need to put in place the times/dates for the various types of training that we would like to offer as an Alliance.

If you have not yet been involved in the delivery of our YTSA CPD programme and you would like to be, or have ideas as to what types of training you would like to see included in the programme, please contact me on [r.mcquire@staidans.co.uk](mailto:r.mcquire@staidans.co.uk) and I would be delighted to hear from you!

### **ITT: (Next meeting Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2018)**

The Spring term and particularly the period after Christmas is notorious for being difficult for trainees (and often tough for trained teachers as well to be honest!). The combination of dark mornings and nights, extra planning and assignments, preparation for exams as well as seeing the teaching timetable gradually start to increase makes this time of year tough and that's with the added complication of snow days and job applications! I would like to pass on my congratulations to our YTSA trainees for their resilience and fortitude over the last half term and encourage them to stay upbeat, share concerns however small and keep going!

To date, a number of our trainees have successfully found themselves a teaching job in September – well done to everyone. The very best of luck to those trainees who are in the middle of applying. It is another one of those inevitable jobs that adds pressure at this moment.

Recent publications and noises from the Government have indicated that there is some recognition at last that the image of teaching needs addressing if we are to recruit high quality teachers for the future. Teaching is a wonderful job but for too long, too many teachers have done too much work. We all know that there is no shortage of need and work to do in this profession but recently the issue of 'workload' has forced us as providers to increasingly address teacher well-being and have a more inward looking view at how we can be great teachers and make the profession more attractive and realistic. As part of the Professional Studies programme, our 'Work Smart' day on the 14<sup>th</sup> March proved to be a very positive step in the right direction. Our trainees were given advice on managing teacher work, stress and lifestyle and how they could cope better at 'pinch points' throughout the year. I would like to pass on our thanks to Sue O' Leary-Hall and Emma Dixon from 'Thesan', the company that delivered the morning session for an excellent basis upon which our students teachers can approach the profession.

This year has also seen the biggest reduction in national teaching applications that we have witnessed with a 30% decrease even on last year. Our own recruitment has been more positive however with twenty trainees choosing YTSA so far for their School Direct teacher training next year. If you are aware of anyone with the right credentials who may like to discuss becoming a teacher, please don't hesitate to contact us. Remember that it is not now a necessity to have a degree in a particular subject in order to teach it and also it doesn't matter how long ago since degree study was carried out as there are courses available to enhance subject knowledge.

The Government is presently in consultation on how best to deliver teacher training and the induction period at the start of a teacher's career with the common prediction that QTS will take three years in the near future. What is for certain however, is the continued importance of the role of the mentor in this process both at ITT and NQT with the likelihood of a more rigid training framework on the horizon. We do not underestimate the fantastic job that our YTSA mentors do and appreciate that the role has both time and financial constraints attached to it. But, it is the crucial job in the whole process of teacher training and so can I pass on our gratitude to all of our mentors for their continued hard work. Enjoy the Easter break!

### **School to School Support:**

Our Round 2 SSIF Bid, in conjunction with North Yorkshire LA, to support 6 schools in their work with disadvantaged students was unsuccessful. We have, however, received extremely helpful feedback from the DfE on the ways in which we could strengthen our application and intend to submit a round 3 bid for a similar project by 20<sup>th</sup> April. If we are successful on the second attempt, we will be approaching many of our partner schools to become involved in our projects via your SLEs, LLEs and NLEs as the scale of the work we are undertaking, and the difference we hope to make to our county, is significant.

To that end, we are still open for applications for the next round of SLEs. Our application window closes on 20<sup>th</sup> April, and we will be interviewing at St Aidan's on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. If you have anyone in your school who you feel may be suited to this work, please do encourage them to apply. Application forms can be found on our website.

Additionally, apologies that some difficulties with the national portal have made it very challenging for us to register our LLEs. We have now achieved that and in addition to our 20 SLEs have 3 LLEs registered to us. If there are any other existing, or potential Local Leaders of Education who fit the eligibility criteria, which is attached to this newsletter, there is a recruitment window just opened for applications with a deadline of 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

Our School to School support work continues at Graham School until the end of the academic year, at which point the school will become part of an academy trust. Additionally, we have a new project in conjunction with St. Mary's TSA to support St. John Fisher Dewsbury and will be seeking some additional SLE involvement from our partner schools for both of these projects in the summer term. Thank you in advance for your support of these projects, which hopefully will provide developments for the staff undertaking the work as well as enhancing the schools they are working with.

May we take this opportunity to wish all YTSA colleagues and trainees all the best for a restful Easter break.

**With very best wishes**

**John Wood, Jo Langstaff, Ruth McQuire and Dave Holdsworth**



## **SLE Recruitment**

Specialist Leaders of Education are 'outstanding' middle and senior leaders who have the skills to support individuals or teams in similar positions in other Schools. The SLE role is designed to help improve the quality of school leadership through school to school support and peer to peer learning, ultimately raising standards and improving the outcomes for children.

**Are you an outstanding middle or senior leader with at least two years' experience?**

**Do you have a successful track record of working effectively within your own School and/or across a group of Schools?**

**Are you able to show evidence of using coaching or facilitation skills to bring about sustainable improvements?**

The Yorkshire Teaching Schools Alliance is currently recruiting our next round of SLEs. The application window is now open and the closing date for all applications is **20<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

**Interviews will take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018.**

To find out more regarding the eligibility criteria or to request an application form please contact our administrator, Tori Bramah via [admin@yorkshiretsa.co.uk](mailto:admin@yorkshiretsa.co.uk).

## **LLE Recruitment**

Local Leaders of Education (LLE) are serving Headteachers who have the capacity and capability to make a significant contribution to supporting schools in their local area.

As part of the National College for Teaching and Leadership's (NCTL) move towards a school-led system, the NCTL will no longer designate LLEs, and instead have given teaching schools, such as Yorkshire Teaching School Alliance the freedom to recruit and designate school leaders in this role.

If you have already been designated as an LLE by the NCTL, you will have received an email from the Teaching School Council, informing you that you need to associate with a Teaching School. If you would like to associate with Yorkshire Teaching School Alliance please contact our Administrator Tori Bramah via [admin@yorkshiretsa.co.uk](mailto:admin@yorkshiretsa.co.uk)

If you are a serving Headteacher not already been designated as an LLE but interested in becoming designated, the current window for LLE applications is open until **8<sup>th</sup> June 2018**.

Please contact our Administrator Tori Bramah via [admin@yorkshiretsa.co.uk](mailto:admin@yorkshiretsa.co.uk) to request more information about LLE Eligibility Criteria and an application form.

Please note that following receipt of the application forms, we will request a reference from your designated referee (Chair of Governors/MAT CEO) and then we will be in touch regarding interview.