



The Fallibroome Academy  
Mottram St Andrew Primary Academy

# Silk Alliance

National Teaching Schools

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## Newsletter 14: December 2014

### School Direct Recruitment

We have already selected some strong candidates for our School Direct training programmes starting in September 2015. If you know of people interested in becoming a primary or secondary teacher, please encourage them to apply. Applications should be made via UCAS Teacher Training ([www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)) Further information on our programme is available on

<http://www.silkalliance.org.uk/portfolio/alliance-places/>

### SLEs

Congratulations to Claire Newton (Whirley Primary School) and Karen Aspey (Ashdene Primary School) who have been confirmed by NCTL as SLEs for Primary English. Any school seeking support in primary and secondary subject areas should contact Jane Knott, [ktt@fallibroome.org.uk](mailto:ktt@fallibroome.org.uk) for details of how our SLEs might be able to help

### Talk for Writing

Thank you to all those who attended the recent Talk for Writing course which provided practical strategies for immediate implementation in the classroom to enable children to enhance their writing skills by having opportunities to talk first. 97% delegates rated this course as excellent and we plan to re-run it in the future.

### Primary National Curriculum Subject Groups

We are delighted to announce that we have secured more funding to enable us to continue to run the Primary National Curriculum subject groups which have been supporting subject leaders with the introduction of the new National Curriculum. The focus for next term will be on expanding our successful Lesson Study to English enabling teachers from different schools to plan lessons together and observe and evaluate the learning in each other's classes. In addition several of the groups are beginning to look at assessment beyond levels within their subject area. Details of the meetings for each subject will be circulated at the beginning of next term. If your school would like to join in with these group please email Chris Bowen

[cbowen@mottramacademy.org.uk](mailto:cbowen@mottramacademy.org.uk) as soon as possible. Supply cover is available for activity that takes place during the school day.

## EYFS Network

The EYFS network has met several times and is highly valued by the nursery and Reception practitioners who attend. We are hoping to secure a significant amount of funding to enable this work to expand over the coming year. The next meeting is on 4<sup>th</sup> February at Bollinbrook Primary School 3.45pm for a 4pm start, the focus for this meeting is Maths.

## Maths Hub

We are delighted that we are working with Ashton-on-Mersey school who have recently become one of the new Maths Hubs. A group of primary maths leaders led by Andy Hodgkinson from the Pott Shrigley and Bollington St John's Federation are currently beginning a strand of work relating to Maths Mastery at Reception and KS1. Details and opportunities to get involved will emerge over the coming months.

## Learning Brain Europe

The sixth Learning Brain Europe will take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015 at The Lowry, Salford Quays. To ensure an even better experience for 2015, we have invited back some of the most popular speakers with new presentations, and have added a number of new names. All are renowned for their knowledge and their ability to inspire and motivate. The confirmed speakers are: Dr Rich Allen; Rebecca Bell; Matt Bromley; Dr Spencer Kagan; Jenny Mosley; Angela O'Brien and Libby Betts; Juliet Park and Graham Watts.

Full programme details and the opportunity to book online (payment by invoice) are available on the conference website ([www.learningbraineurope.org](http://www.learningbraineurope.org)). Our Conference Office will be pleased to help with any queries and they can be contacted on [+44 \(0\)1625 267 887](tel:+44201625267887) or by email at [events@learningbraineurope.org](mailto:events@learningbraineurope.org).

## Teaching Schools Council developed pupil premium guide

The Teaching Schools Council in partnership with Sir John Dunford, the Pupil Premium Champion, has developed a [Pupil Premium Review guide](#).

Vicky Beer, Chair of the Teaching Schools Council said, "I am proud that two of the Council's representatives, Dr Gary Holden and Gill Robinson, have been able to work with NCTL and Sir John Dunford to produce this timely guide, and I hope you will find it helpful as you work towards making the most of pupil premium in your own school, alliance and beyond" .

An increasing number of teaching school headteachers are working as pupil premium reviewers. If you or a system leader in your alliance have a track record of improving outcomes for disadvantaged pupils, and would like to be considered for the role, please contact [nle.enquiries@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nle.enquiries@education.gsi.gov.uk) for further details.

## Primary Futures Campaign

We would like to draw the attention of colleagues in primary schools to the launch of the Primary Futures campaign.

This is a free initiative to help pupils raise their aspirations by connecting their learning with their future and the world of work. The campaign provides an opportunity for teachers and schools to access a wide range of volunteers who will come into school to talk about their current job. They will explain why reading and numeracy in their primary school days were so important.

To find out more about this exciting opportunity and to [register](#) your interest go to the [Primary Future campaign website](#).

## Science Continuous Professional Development Bursaries

Bursaries (known as Impact Awards and Enthuse Awards) are available to science teachers and technicians for continuous professional development (CPD) activities delivered by the [National Science Learning Network](#). This includes regional science learning centres and science learning partnerships. The bursaries can be used to contribute to covering the cost of CPD fees, or in any other way that your school believes will help to improve the teaching of science.

The bursaries aim to support teachers and technicians to enhance their professional skills and help to inspire pupils by providing a more stimulating and exciting science education. In order to receive an award, teachers or technicians need to be working in a state funded school or college, including maintained schools, academies and free schools.

Impact Awards currently attract a bursary equivalent to 50% of the CPD fee paid while the value of the Enthuse Award varies per course. In order to [apply](#) you must submit an impact follow-up form from between 6 to 16 weeks after your CPD activity. Awards are limited and funding is subject to availability.

## Applying for NPQH with OLP

The application round for the **September 2015** intake of NPQH is **now open** and closes **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February**.

To support candidates with their application for the NPQH programme we are running an online application workshop on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January** at 6:30pm and a face-to-face workshop the following week on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January** from 3:00-5:30pm.

These sessions are completely free and will provide key advice for making an application. Attendees will start the application process and receive guidance regarding the gateway assessment and development stages of the qualification.

Candidates looking to register for the **online application session** can do so via the following link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1854471858334523394>

To register for the **face-to-face session** click here: [www.bestpracticenet.co.uk/lc-briefing-eoi](http://www.bestpracticenet.co.uk/lc-briefing-eoi)

**DO YOU ASPIRE TO BE A HEAD?****DO YOU NEED PRACTICE TO SUCCEED AT INTERVIEW?**

The Learn and Lead Partnership, supported by the National College, is offering an opportunity for 20 colleagues to have a chance to practise the skills they will need to secure their first headship.

The participants should be ready for headship and at the point of application or have already applied for headship but not yet been successful.

<b>Course outline</b>	<b>Pre-course activity: to be completed by 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015</b> Online Needs Analysis against the competency framework – using Survey Monkey.	
	<b>Day One:</b> a) Workshops will be organised to reflect the stated needs identified by the participants' pre-course activity. b) Setting up placements	
	<b>Day Two:</b> Will cover a range of practical aspects of headship interviews, including presentations, data analysis, interview techniques, individual feedback on a letter of application [written before this event] and an interview with a serving head and chair of governors, including those from faith schools. Each participant will receive a DVD of their interview performance for later scrutiny.	
	<b>Day Three:</b> Celebration Event To include a) Presentation from participant b) Feedback from Head of the placement school c) Feedback from current head in terms of development as a result of the placement. d) Revisiting the original needs analysis	
<b>Course leaders</b>	Drawn from teaching schools, serving headteachers, diocesan colleagues, LLEs and NLEs.	
<b>Timescales</b>	<b>Application deadline</b>	<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 12.00pm</b> Shortlisting will be on 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2015
	<b>Pre-course</b>	To be completed and submitted by 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2015

	<b>Day One</b>	Week beginning 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2015
	<b>Day Two</b>	Week beginning 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2015
	<b>Day Three</b>	Week beginning 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2015
<b>Venues</b>	<b>To be advised</b>	
<b>Cost</b>	<p>As this programme is partly funded by the National College through the Learn Together Partnership, there will be a minimal charge for the programme of £400 per participant.</p> <p>There is a reduction in cost available for primary schools with less than 100 pupils and for secondary schools with less than 500. Please contact <a href="mailto:ehooley@ashgrove.cheshire.sch.uk">ehooley@ashgrove.cheshire.sch.uk</a> directly for details</p>	

### *Programme rationale*

In the competitive world of headship application and interview, many candidates fail to demonstrate they are aware of national developments and do not articulate well their work on whole school improvement and the impact it has had. Without recent experience, for example of NPQH, significant numbers of colleagues are not familiar with the competency framework, or national standards for headship, for example. You will therefore have an opportunity to learn about the current landscape and spend time on self-evaluation of your perceived needs as an aspiring head, ready to make that step up to headship. You will then be able to determine any gaps in your experience and have time to address any emerging issues before making an application for headship positions.

During the programme, there will be various practical activities, devised to support you in your quest for headship. There will be opportunities for you to

- have individual feedback on your letter
- work in a team on a presentation,
- hear about good and less good practice at interview,
- learn how to interpret data quickly and effectively to tease out key points and questions
- think about how you would answer a range of leadership questions
- experience an interview with a serving headteacher and chair of governors

Your activities will be filmed so that you can review how you present yourself at interview and what behaviours you demonstrate to others.

*What to do next?*

If you feel you might benefit from this support package, have an initial discussion with your headteacher before completing the application form embedded below and returning it to [abroadhurst@ashgrove.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:abroadhurst@ashgrove.cheshire.sch.uk)

Please ensure you have given accurate contact details for both email and telephone. Email addresses should be live ones you monitor daily. **The closing date for applications is Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 12.00pm** and applicants will receive confirmation that they have a place by email.

**APPLICATION FORM** – Please save this document separately before completing it and returning it, **by email only**, and in **Word format only**.



Application  
form.docx

Thank you for considering this opportunity. We look forward to meeting you.

See <http://learnandlead.co.uk/leadership-programmes/the-aspiring-headteachers-programme/>