



The Fallibroome Academy
Mottram St Andrew Primary Academy

Silk Alliance

National Teaching Schools

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Newsletter 13: October 2014

Successful Re-designation

As a cohort 1 teaching school, Fallibroome was asked to take part in the pilot to test out the process of re-designation for teaching schools nationally. Teaching Schools are designated as such for four years in the first instance and then have to go through a process of re-designation. Working with Mottram so that the two Teaching Schools leading your Alliance could be brought into line, we had to submit two case studies detailing areas of our work; an analysis of our spending; and an evaluation of impact to date across the Big 6 areas of ITT, CPD, R&D, Leadership Development, School to School Support and Specialist Leaders of Education. We are delighted to announce that we were successful and can now look forward to developing our work further over the next five years.

MFL Network

Our MFL SLEs Tim Munro and Amanda Murphy did a great job last year leading the MFL network which is open to both primary and secondary schools. We now want to keep the momentum going and sustain the network for another year. There is no further funding available so we hope that schools will be willing to make a contribution towards the cost of maintaining this. A contribution of £50 per school will be sought so that the leaders can be provided with some planning time. The networks will meet after school. There is a further CPD day planned for which the charge will be £50. (see further detail below)

Primary National Curriculum Networks

We also want to build on the good work done in our other Primary National Curriculum networks. Unfortunately, there is no further funding for these either but we would like them to continue and in order to provide some planning time for the group leaders we will again need to make a small charge of £100 per primary school. For this you will be able to send subject leaders to any meeting during the year. Meetings will be held after school to avoid the need for supply cover.

Thank you to all those EYFS practitioners who attended the first EYFS network meeting in September. Valuable time was spent looking at on-line assessment systems for EYFS. We have applied for funding to sustain and develop these networks but may have to make a small charge if the bid is unsuccessful.

Silk Alliance Conference – Fallibroome 22nd October 1:30pm – 3:30pm

We are holding a conference on 22nd October at Fallibroome primarily to look at Assessment Beyond Levels. The Bollington group of schools will report back on their work and there will be a chance to look at other assessment approaches that are becoming available.

There will be also be an opportunity to talk about the work of the Primary National Curriculum subject groups and the Silk Alliance Closing the Gap project. We are suggesting that headteachers and/or curriculum/assessment leaders would attend from each school. Please email Chris Bowen cbowen@mottramacademy.org.uk to book a place.

SLICE TEACHING SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS: JULIE SMITH

This last year has seen twelve teachers from the North West working with Curious Minds who are the bridge organisation to the Arts Council of England. Our brief was to take on a project with a specialism of our choice and spend time establishing and working with a cultural partnership to promote and provide cultural experiences for pupils. This was as a direct result from the Darren Henley report:

Curious Minds are embarking on a two year programme of investment and activity. This will enable Teaching School Alliances to play a key role in increasing access to and raising the standard of cultural education for children and young people in the North West of England.

The link below to their website provides films from different 'SLICE' representatives. They cover a range of topics across KS1, KS2 and KS3. They are interesting viewing!

<http://www.curiousminds.org.uk/whatwedo/targetedprogrammes/slice/>

Learning Brain Europe – Save the date 22nd May 2015

The Silk Alliance is now responsible for organising the Learning Brain Europe. Many of you will have attended this conference in the past. The Learning Brain Europe is a concept whose time has come. Knowledge about how the brain learns has advanced considerably in recent years and increased awareness has forced us to challenge traditional models of teaching, learning and school organisation. [Speakers include Spencer Kagan, Jenny Moseley and Rich Allen.](#)

The Bi-Annual Learning Brain Europe Conference returns on Friday 22nd May 2015 at The Lowry, Salford Quays, Manchester.

If you would like to reserve your place email the Learning Brain Europe team at events@learningbraineurope.org.

School Direct

We are pleased to say that all of our School Direct trainees from last year were awarded good or outstanding in their final assessment and that all of them are now employed in local schools. We wish them well in their new roles!

We are delighted that the new cohort of 10 primary and 8 secondary colleagues are settling in well and engaging really well with all the development opportunities available to them. We are looking for primary schools to provide contrasting placements for our primary trainees from March to June 2015. Offers of placements in KS1 are particularly welcome. Please email Chris Bowen cbowen@mottramacademy.org.uk if you can help.

We have requested places for the September 2015 cohort and will start to recruit from late October. Keep your eye on www.silkalliance.org.uk/sd for updates and for information about our visitor days. If you know anyone who would like to train to be a teacher please get them to contact us. Our programme provides an exciting and practical way into teaching allowing trainees to spend much of their time in schools as well as having some time at the University of Manchester. It truly is the best of both worlds.

Specialist Leaders of Education needed

Specialist Leaders of Education (SLEs) are experienced teachers with expertise that can be used to support other schools. We would like to recruit Specialist Leaders in Education in the following areas:

Secondary Mathematics

Secondary SENCO

Primary English

Primary Mathematics

Primary Science

The application round is open between 1st and 23rd of October. If you would like an application form or to discuss this opportunity further please contact Jane Knott ktt@fallibroome.org.uk or Chris Bowen cbowen@mottramacademy.org.uk.

Closing the Gap Research Project

Two schools in our Alliance are engaged with action research to test out the effectiveness of intervention strategies for closing the gap. Fallibroome will be trialling Growth Mindset ideas and St Paul's Catholic Primary in Poynton is working on Achievement for All. We look forward to reporting the findings from the national project once they become available.

The next cohort of the [Improving Teaching Programme](#) is scheduled to run on the following 6 days, this course costs £650 per person for the 6 days

Day 1 - 4th December 2014
Day 2 – 9th December 2014
Day 3 – 12th January 2015
Day 4 – 22nd January 2015
Day 5 – 28th January 2015
Day 6 – 6th February 2015 morning only

[Exploring Outstanding](#) we have 2 cohorts scheduled to run this academic year, this course costs £325 per person for the 3 days

Cohort 1
Day 1 25th February
Day 2 16th March
Day 3 30th April

Cohort 2
Day 1 17th June
Day 2 29th June
Day 3 will run in September 2015

For more information on these courses please contact Rachel Allbutt alb@fallibroome.org.uk

National College News

Application rounds now open for teaching schools, national leaders of governance (NLG), national leaders of education (NLE) and national support schools (NSS) open on 3 October until 3 November. These are targeted application rounds for the areas of greatest need. Please visit the links for further information on:

- [teaching schools](#)
- [NLEs/NSSs](#)
- [NLGs](#)

Learn and Lead: www.learnandlead.co.uk

The Learn and Lead Partnership is a collaboration of the Teaching Schools and Local Authorities across Merseyside and Cheshire.

We aim to use the collective expertise of the Local Authorities, Teaching Schools and teachers across Merseyside and Cheshire to support school improvement and improve the lives of young people.

We believe that schools and educationalists have a responsibility to work together, share expertise and support each other in order to build capacity in the system and ensure the best possible outcomes for all children in Merseyside and Cheshire

Priorities

To develop a coherent, quality assured programme of school to school support

To provide a single point of contact for schools, local authorities and system leaders

To coordinate the brokerage and commissioning of support for schools

Silk Alliance MFL network 2014-15

Background

During 2013-14, two MFL networks ran in parallel within Macclesfield and across the wider Cheshire East area – the Silk Alliance network and the Macclesfield Primary Languages Support group. Both were funded through the Silk Alliance. These 2 groups worked together during the summer term and, as feedback from participants noted, were successful in:

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1. Creating a supportive network for primary MFL leads at a time of significant change.
2. Up-skilling primary language leaders
3. Providing opportunities for secondary MFL leads to develop their knowledge of curriculum change
4. Building primary-secondary links.

Consequently, it is proposed that a similar network continues into 2014-15.

Key outcomes:

- To develop a shared model of end of KS2 assessment in MFL for schools across Macclesfield, leading to clearer evidence of progress in MFL in primary and smoother transition to secondary.
- Continuing the up-skilling of primary language leads
- Building stronger primary-secondary networks, enabling secondary teachers to provide support to primary colleagues.

Who is involved?

- Tim Munro – SLE for MFL, Wilmslow High School – facilitating group.
- Amanda Murphy – SLE for primary MFL – primary specific expertise
- MFL leads in Macclesfield and Cheshire East schools
- Secondary heads of MFL in Macclesfield and Cheshire East schools

How will the network be structured?

- One full day during the Spring term.
- 3 twilight sessions across the remainder of the year.

Cost:

- £100 per school. (£50 for the network meetings and £50 for the additional full day's conference)
 - Subsidised by the Silk Alliance
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Talk for Writing

The Key to Raising Attainment

3rd December 2014

Shrigley Hall, Cheshire

£60 per person including refreshments

Talk for Writing enables children to imitate the key language they need orally before they try reading and analysing it. Through fun activities that help them rehearse the tune of the language they need, followed by shared writing to show them how to craft their writing, children are helped to write in the same style.

Schools that have adopted the approach have not only increased their children's progress but have found that children and teachers alike love it. It not only works throughout primary schools but also in secondary schools where it is key to making literacy across the curriculum really work.

The course is led by Talk for Writing Primary Expert Carol Satterthwaite who has extensive experience of working with schools and leading workshops for schools, networks and local authorities across the country.

For more information please contact head@adlington.cheshire.sch.uk

**"Carol is brilliant at what she does!
A fabulous day – inspirational."**

The Fallibroome Academy
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 **Silk Alliance**
Raising Teaching Standards