



Forest Way Teaching School Alliance News

AUTUMN TERM 2020

Welcome to the New Normal!

Welcome to the autumn edition of our newsletter. We hope that you are all settling into the new term.

2020 has certainly posed some challenges for the education sector and it looks as if the autumn and winter term will continue to be a testing time for all of us. We find ourselves in a strange, but exciting, new world, with web conferencing, blended learning and online teaching now becoming the new normal. Our wonderful partnership schools continue to work extremely hard to provide high quality education and care for their students, despite many having been hit with positive Covid-19 cases and bubble closures.

They also continue to provide excellent support for our RQTs, NQTs and ITT students: this year we have 30 teachers training with FWTSA and all have settled in well at their host schools.

Many of our face to face training sessions, CPD courses and Network meetings were

unfortunately cancelled last term due to the pandemic, but we are delighted that we are now able to run these opportunities remotely over the coming months. See page 6 for details of our upcoming events and how to book. We are also running some face to face meetings whilst we are still able: our NQT, RQT and ELSA Support meetings are still operating, but obviously with social distancing measures in place to keep everyone safe.

No doubt 2020 still has some challenges in store, and we wish all of our schools the very best in navigating these uncharted waters.



School Direct Class of 2019/20

Sadly, due to the Covid restrictions, we were unable to hold our annual celebration event for our ITT students in the summer term.

Following our successful 2019/20 programme, we are delighted that we have recruited 10 of our former trainees into teaching posts within the Alliance.

Good luck to all our trainees as they embark on their NQT year.



School Direct Programme 2020/21

We are delighted to have recruited 30 trainees to our SD programme this year, as well as an apprentice and an assessment only student.

Thanks to all our member schools for their continued outstanding work with our trainees, especially at such a challenging time, and to Sheila Dennis (Secondary Programme Lead) and



Primary School Direct Cohort

Andrea Brown (Primary Programme Lead) for their hard work and support.

We wish all of our students luck in their first placement!

Partnership schools: don't forget to put a link to the ITT pages on our website from your website if you have not already done so. Email tsa@forestway.leics.sch.uk for information or a logo.



Secondary School Direct Cohort

SLE Applications 2020

The next round of SLE applications will go live in December 2020, with a view to interview successful applicants in February 2021. Please look at the Government guidance (see link below) for SLE applications, and use it to identify any training/development needs your aspirant SLE may have.

We had planned an SLE training day for April 2020 which we were unfortunately unable to run, but as soon as restrictions lift, we will endeavour to make this our priority. Further information on SLE applications will be emailed out to Heads in due course.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/431968/sle-application-guidance.pdf

Outreach Support

Staff at Forest Way Special School hold a wealth of skills and knowledge within the SEND world and are willing and able to support schools who have children with SEN, from behaviour management to support, when applying for SEN provision.

Please contact the FW TSA for an outreach request form and we will do the rest.



SENCo Net Meetings

The termly Leicestershire SENCo net meetings have been facilitated by Forest Way TSA for over 8 years and are consistently well attended and held in high regard. Knowing how pivotal the role of SENCo would be during this Covid crisis, it was imperative that we ensured this term's meetings went ahead, albeit remotely, via Zoom. Our meetings always focus on important national and local updates in the world of SEND. At this term's 2 primary and 1 secondary meeting we shared the latest DfE guidance around transitioning children with SEND back to school following lockdown and the temporary modifications to the 'best endeavours' regulation. We also shared a range of online resources and research available to schools to support children with SEND in a home learning context and also to support smooth and successful transition back to school. Local authority input from Tom Common

(Head of SEND Service), Chris Atkinson (Principal Educational Psychologist), Mhairi McDonald – Junor (Specialist Teaching Service Manager) and Brenda Wilde (SEND Development Lead) all provided important LA updates, particularly following the local area SEND Inspection and also LA support and advice available to schools and families through this challenging time. SENCOs were still given the opportunity to network with each other through the Zoom 'Breakout Room' function. It was also good to have representation from the local Parent Carer Forum too. Feedback from the meetings has been very positive and we intend to continue with online meetings in the Autumn term and hope to be back to face to face meetings in the spring and summer term. Dates for these meetings are now set and bookings are now being taken via the Forest Way TSA website.

Science Learning Partnership – STEM

Our Science Learning Partnership with STEM Learning continues to grow and evolve.

We have a number of fantastic primary and secondary courses planned over the next term, designed to inspire teachers in the world of science. Many also address the loss of time in the classroom due to Covid-19 and offer ideas for adjusting the long term curriculum map to ensure children do not miss out on core content.

Most of these courses now take place online, although a couple remain as face to face meetings with appropriate measures in place to ensure the safety of our delegates.

All courses are advertised on our website and social media platforms.

<http://www.forestwaytsa.org/science-learning-partnership.html>

□



Primary Science Network

These network sessions are facilitated by Nicola Beverley and are now into their fourth year. Held at Forest Way School and online, there are 6 sessions over the year, 3 Network Meetings for Science Subject Leaders and 3 workshop sessions for teachers, TAs or subject leads. Once a school has enrolled, they can send however many staff they want to each session all for the bargain price of £175. In addition enrolled schools will also be entitled to a 50% discount off STEM courses for the whole year.

Further details can be found on the Science Learning Partnership page on our website

<http://www.forestwaytsa.org/science-learning-partnership.html>

Teaching School Alliance Annual Conference

As you will be aware, we had to postpone our Annual Conference this term due to Covid-19. The conference will now be held on the 18th June 2021, so save the date! All Headteachers and Deputy Headteachers are very welcome. Due to the present situation and the uncertainty of the academic year ahead, details of the speaker and the focus of our conference will follow soon.



Teacher Training Recruitment Events

Whilst we would usually be conducting face to face twilight events and attending University and School open events, due to the pandemic, we have now started to host virtual recruitment events and online information evenings in order to promote our courses and recruit the next round of prospective teachers!

The virtual events are regularly advertised on our Facebook and Twitter pages. We would be very grateful if schools could retweet/like/share our posts to ensure that our advertising reaches a wide audience.

Our next event will be on 3rd November 2020 at 6.30pm.



Virtual Information Event 3rd November 6:30pm

Join us for a virtual information event about our well established Primary, SEN and Secondary Teacher Training courses. We will talk you through the structure of the training, entry requirements, funding and how to apply.

Book Now!

Email: emead@forestway.leics.sch.uk
to book your place.



Forest Way Teaching School Alliance



FWTSA Network Groups

All meetings are FREE to FWTSA members only and are usually held at Forest Way School, unless otherwise stated.
Agendas for each meeting will be emailed out to schools approx. 2 weeks before each event, and staff are now requested to book a place using our on-line booking system.

Book your Network place at - www.bookwhen.com/forestwaytsa

Primary Maths Group

Lead: Ellie Johnson
All meetings are 1.30 to 3.30pm

Dates for 2020/21

Mon 5 October 2020 - On line
Mon 25 January 2021
Mon 24 May 2021

Primary Literacy Group

Lead: Leanne Woolcock/Emma Mitchell
All meetings are 1.30 to 3.30pm

Dates for 2020/21

Mon 12 October 2020 - 4.00 to 5.30pm - On line
Tue 9 February 2021 - 1.30 to 3.30pm
Mon 10 May 2021 - 1.30 to 3.30pm

Primary SENCO Collaborative Meetings

Lead: Donna Kirby
All meetings are 1.30 to 3.30pm

Dates for 2020/21

Mon 26 October 2020 - On Line
Mon 1 February 2021
Mon 17 May 2021

PHSE Network Meetings

Lead: Rob Cooper
All meetings are 1:30-3:30pm

Dates for 2020/21

Tues 3 November 2020 - On line
Tue 9 March 2021
Tue 15 June 2021

Computing Network

Lead: Kathryn Lester | Russell Thornevill
All meetings are 2.00 to 4.00pm

Dates for 2020/21

Tue 27 October 2020 - On Line
Wed 3 February 2021
Tue 11 May 2021

Early Years Practitioners (Schools)

Lead: Lisa Hicks
All meetings are 4.00 - 5.00pm

Dates for 2020/21

Wed 4 November 2020 - On Line
Wed 24 February 2021
Wed 19 May 2021

Deputies and Assistant Heads Network

Lead: Nicky Walker
at Forest Way School

Dates for 2020/21

Mon 9 November 2020 - On line 1330 to 15:30
Mon 8 March 2021 - 08:00 to 10:00
Mon 14 June 2021 - 08:00 to 10:00

Please note new venue for 20/21

Cover Supervisors Network Meetings

Lead: Elle Mead
All meetings are 1.00 to 3.00 pm

Dates for 2020/21

Fri 16 October 2020 - On Line
Fri 29 January 2021
Fri 23 April 2021

Up-coming courses

Autism and Formative Assessment

On-line Wed 11 Nov and Fri 13 Nov 2020 – 13:30 to 16:30

Led by Tereza Aidonopoulou-Read. How practitioners can include students with communication difficulties in Autism and formative assessments.

Venue: On-line

Cost: £55 for FWTSA members | £65 for non members

Closing date for booking this course is Thursday 29th October.

Professional Network for Maths Subject Leaders

Monday 18 January 2021 – 09:15 to 12:00

Led by Vicki Giffard, participants will receive updates on recent national and international developments in mathematics, explore an aspect of maths subject knowledge and discuss “hot topics”.

Venue: Marlene Reid Centre, Belvoir Road, Coalville

Cost: £30 per meeting for FWTSA Members | £40 for non members

Leading Interventions and small group work

Friday 26 February 2021 – 09:00 to 12:00

Led by Cathi McKillop participants will learn which factors make interventions and small group work effective, how to plan, organise and evaluate and how to use the activities provided to engage learners at the beginning of sessions.

Venue: Marlene Reid Centre, Belvoir Road, Coalville

Cost: £40 for FWTSA Members | £60 for non members

Primary Music Network

On-Line Thursday 12 November 2020 13:15 to 15:15

Sarah Share from Leicester-Shire Schools Music Service will demonstrate music teaching ideas, resources and composition ideas.

Venue: - On-line

Cost: This Network is FREE to all schools

ADHD Training

Thursday 28 January 2021 – 09:00 to 15:00

Led by Cathi McKillop, participants will learn to recognise the signs of and behaviour associated with ADHD, which strategies and adjustments to use and how to support children and young people with ADHD.

Venue: Marlene Reid Centre, Belvoir Road, Coalville

Cost: £60 for FWTSA Members | £80 for non members- Lunch included

Precision Teaching

Thursday 15 March 2021 – 09:00 to 12:00

Led by Dr Sarah Godwin, precision teaching is a practical and highly effective method of planning and evaluating a teaching programme designed to suit the needs of an individual pupil. Participants will gain an understanding of the theory of learning that underpins this intervention as well as the skills to deliver it.

Venue: Marlene Reid Centre, Belvoir Road, Coalville

Cost: £45 for FWTSA Members | £55 for non members

Our face to face training sessions are all compliant with social distancing and COVID regulations, details and Risk Assessments are available on the website www.forestwaytsa.org

BOOK NOW on our booking website

www.bookwhen.com/forestwaytsa