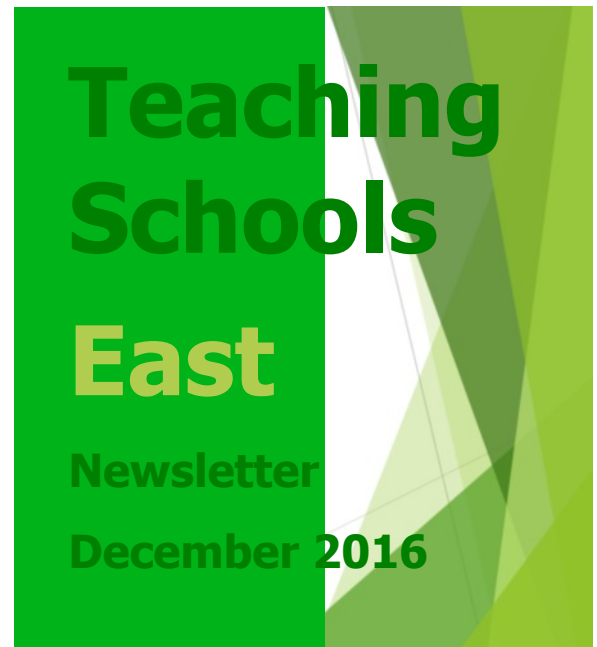




TEACHING SCHOOLS
EAST



Welcome to the December edition of our local newsletter for teaching school alliances in the East of England.

This has been a busy month. We have been working hard to process the school to school support bids so that the money for successful bids can reach schools as early as possible next term. We received a wide range of bids from teaching school alliances across the Eastern region and hope that the majority of them will be successful. As you know, it is sometimes not possible to support proposals for schools which are receiving funding from other sources or in a situation where the RSC has other plans for them but we hope that the funding will allow the reach of our teaching school alliances to increase and support them in the good work they are doing in supporting local schools.

Our Teaching Schools East Steering Group (with representatives from each county) was also pleased to see the roll-out of the SLE training programme across the East, the continuing development of the programme for recently qualified teachers and to be able to report on the highly successful key stage 2 support programme.

We are now asking local authorities to help to broaden the distribution of this newsletter and to support teaching school alliances in their key role of delivering the school led system for every school in the East. Going further, it is good to be able to report that the criteria for application as a teaching school and as an NLE have been widened so that what really now counts is a school's appetite to take part and support others. There is a TSA application round which finishes very soon but there will be two further rounds in this academic year emphasising the DFE's determination to ensure that there are sufficient TSAs in every region to fulfil this challenging role. If your school qualifies, think carefully about what you can offer to support the system and if you need help and advice we are happy to provide it.

Lesley Birch

Eastern Region TSC



Lesley Birch is the East of England TSC representative and Executive Principal of the Cambridge Primary Education Trust (CPET).

Viv Keller-Garnett, Jim Sweetman and Sue Hammond provide support and Mark Lambell from SDSA is the administrator.

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Dates for Your Diary

December 25 2016: As this is the last newsletter of the current term, Lesley and the team would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your commitment and hard work and wish you a peaceful end of term and a restful Christmas! Your next newsletter will be in January.

Regional News

TSC East of England Conference: April 21, 2017

Book the date in your diary now for this major regional conference featuring national speakers and a chance to celebrate the achievements of teaching school alliances across the East of England. Once again, the venue is the Wellcome Genome Campus Conference Centre, easily accessible to the South of Cambridge.

Booking details and more information will come to you in the next few weeks. There are discounts for schools wishing to send more than one delegate and this is an ideal way to reinvigorate your leadership team!

Pupil Premium Reviews

Pupil Premium reviewing is not rocket science and is a great activity for schools to undertake in triads or pairs. Find out how to do it in this new [TSC publication](#) which is bang up-to-date and includes all the templates you will need, as well as a simple six step process for the activity.

The Key Information Form - New Deadline

The DFE is collecting information from TSAs about key contacts and activity and all TSAs have been asked to complete this form. The deadline has been extended to January 12. You can find out more about its purpose [here](#).

Effective Primary Teaching Practice

This project report from the TSC is a great example of practitioner research, full of practical, sensible advice which can lift standards and it should be compulsory Christmas reading for any primary school leadership team. You can find a copy on the TSC website [here](#).

Aspire to Headship: January 27, 2017

This annual conference designed to support teachers in primary, secondary and special school leadership teams into headship is recruiting for January 2017. It is open to teachers from Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

The conference has an excellent track record in helping teachers take the final steps in applying for and achieving headships. Delegates will hear from a range of head teachers discussing issues like developing vision, working with governors, and providing school support as well as receiving guidance on making applications and maintaining a work-life balance.

Booking opens on November 28 at 12:30 PM and you can apply [here](#).

New TSA and NLE application Round

This application round (November 9 - December 11) is particularly important because it introduces new criteria which allow more schools and head teachers to qualify as TSAs and NLEs.

As a TSA, check to see whether other schools in the alliance might now qualify - thereby building up the resources and capacity of the Alliance. Also, let colleagues know. Building a powerful network of teaching school alliances across the whole country is a major priority for the Teaching Schools Council. You can find more details for TSAs [here](#) and for NLEs [here](#).

In the eastern region there are many very small schools which might not appear to have the capacity to be teaching schools but which do qualify. We want to help these schools either to be linked together to form new alliances or become a teaching school within an existing alliance.

If you'd like to be involved or simply find out more, contact us.

If there is somebody else in your organisation who would like to receive this regional newsletter each month, send their email address to [Mark Lambell](#). To submit news about your TSA email [Jim Sweetman](#)

Regional News

Find out more about MATs

NCTL and the NLG network are running a series of conferences on Understanding and Supporting Multi-Academy Trusts. The events are free and are taking place at a number of venues across the East. For more details contact Rosemary Lovatt, the NLG advocate for the Eastern Region: rosemarylovatt@hotmail.co.uk

Ensuring Success at KS2

The programme has been highly successful across the Eastern region and the meetings have been well attended. The feedback and evaluation has been overwhelmingly positive and the TS East Steering Group is currently drawing together the findings. We hope to publish a brief report before Christmas which will have more details on suggestions like 'next step' marking, Scoop Friday and the 'Super Cool Reading Club'.

Maths Hubs

A quick correction to our last issue. The Maths Hub at Isaac Newton Free School in Norwich is run in conjunction with Kesgrave High School near Ipswich.

Spanish Teachers Coming!

Spain's Visiting Teachers programme provides opportunities for schools in England to recruit 'high quality' teachers from Spain to not only teach the language but also immerse pupils in cultural aspects.

Visiting teachers from Spain will be available from September 2017 for one year initially, with the option to renew annually for up to 3 years. If you would like to know more register your interest [here](#).

The new application process for SLEs

There will now be two application windows for new SLEs each year on May 31 and October 31. Having two dates makes it easier to plan the training courses offered by teaching school alliances.

The region still needs new system leaders so if you are interested watch out for information sessions offered by teaching school alliances, download an application form and check the head teacher supports you. Head teachers can build these new arrangements into professional development programmes and their financial planning.

The assessment day structure involves a presentation, a formal interview and some kind of written or group exercise. It's a really good qualification to have!

Big changes coming for LLE recruitment

With SLE recruitment and training being so important, Local Leaders of Education (LLEs) have taken a back seat in the past few years. This will change in 2017 when new arrangements for the local recruitment of LLEs will be introduced. The form of the new arrangements reflects the pilot scheme which operated in Cambridge in 2015 and 2016.

The TSC and TSAs will now recruit LLEs and we expect to develop a regional training model for the eastern region following the pattern of the SLE model. As system leaders, LLEs provide local outreach and support. More details of the new arrangements will be sent to schools in the New Year.

The TSC website

The new TSC [website](#) is now up and running and in January we'll be loading up the Eastern Region content and news. Let us know if you have an event or training you'd like promoted.

If there is somebody else in your organisation who would like to receive this regional newsletter each month, send their email address to [Mark Lambell](#). To submit news about your TSA email [Jim Sweetman](#)