



Issue 5—Summer 2020

Upcoming CPD training / Network Groups

RQT Programme	11 th November
Beyond Differentiation	21 st October
New To Year 2	10 th February
New to Year 6	10 th February
Secondary NQT	23 rd September
Teaching Reading to Lower Attainers	10 th March
The Complete Guide for Spelling for KS2	24 th February
Maths Mastery for LSAs	16 th October
Phonics for KS2 Teachers	4 th November
Supporting Children with SLCN	14 th October

Updates

Science Subject Leader	7 th October
Computing Subject Leader	14 th October
School Assessment Leader	11 th November
Early Years Subject Leader	9 th October
Maths & English Subject Leader	1 st October
English Subject Leader	23 rd September
Maths Subject Leader	30 th September

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An Expanding Alliance

The alliance continues to go from strength to strength and we are building an effective and diverse membership whilst fostering a collaborative approach. The current climate has put pressure on all our colleagues, and it has never been more important that teachers and staff have a network of support to rely upon. I am immensely proud of the work the CTSA does and the way in which we approach challenges and how our members work together in difficult times.

I am therefore delighted that Alliance membership is expanding significantly in 2020-21. We will welcome 18 new schools, 17 of whom are members of the current Chelmsford Education Network. We very much look forward to learning further from their experience of effective collaborative working and expanding the scope of our Directory of Expertise, published to all member schools to support and facilitate school-to-school sharing of expertise.

The CTSA mantra of 'working together to be better together' has never been more relevant and I am excited to see what 2021 brings – I know that our collective teamwork will enhance our partnership.

Susannah Edom-Baker

Essex Primary SCITT

When our 2019-20 cohort of trainees started their training back in September, they knew it would be challenging but no one could have predicted just how challenging!

Their training was interrupted just as they were about to start their teaching practices and they have sadly not had the usual opportunities to put into practice everything they have been learning. However, they have been amazing, volunteering in schools, adding much needed capacity as well as continuing to work on their tasks and assignments plus additional online learning modules.

With 44% fewer primary posts nationally, it has also been a real challenge for them to secure NQT posts. Lots have been successful, and we have been delighted with feedback from heads about how well prepared our trainees have been for interviews. Not only a testament to them but also to all our wonderful tutors and mentors who prepare them so well. This is from 1 head employing 2 of our trainees.

"I felt that I had to let you know that your students were so well prepared for their interview and the lesson plans that they presented stood far above the trainees from other providers, who were of a high standard, and who on another occasion I would have appointed."

We are so proud of them and their resilience and determination to make the most of their training during such difficult times. Thank you for your continued support.



A Research Engaged Alliance

Promoting participation and inclusion in PE, Sports and Physical Activity – secondary phase.

6 CTSA member secondary schools are now engaged with a Sport England Secondary Teacher Training fund project focused on developing inclusion and participation in PE, Sports and Physical Activity. This supports Sport England's mission of creating a more active nation, as well having links to promoting emotional health and wellbeing.

The schools are now involved in detailed planning for individual projects that will run in the 2020-21 academic year. The schools have access to online student and staff survey tools to inform the focus for these projects, and to date this has provided access to the views of well over 1000 students and 80 staff. Focused areas identified include promoting participation and developing confidence for girls in Years 7 and 8, developing inclusive participation for SEND students and using physical activity to tackle potential exam stress in KS4.

Precise timescales of project completion are under review due to the current school closure situation, but CTSA is committed to sharing the learning from the project with all schools as and when it is available.

Moving CPD online

The current restrictions on group meetings and social contact have presented the Alliance with the unforeseen challenge of continuing to deliver high quality professional development in a 'virtual' environment. In fact, the experience has been a largely positive one, and this term has seen 3 CPD sessions delivered via the magic of the Zoom/Teams platforms. Feedback has been very positive, and as a result we are considering how online learning could potentially form a permanent part of our offer to schools. For the Autumn Term it is likely that online delivery will replace some face to face sessions, and we will continue to review and act in accordance with the latest Government guidelines on group gatherings and social distancing.

CPD 2020 – 21

Our programme for 2020-2021 is now confirmed and the opportunities available can be found on our **website** (<http://www.chelmsfordteachingschoolsalliance.co.uk/>) Bookings can be made via the online booking form on our website or by contacting Lisa Weatherhead on adminctsa@newlandsspring.essex.sch.uk

Working in partnership

As well as promoting close partnerships between our schools, CTSA is delighted to be working closely with the **Best Practice Network** (BPN), one of the UK's largest providers of training, development and support for educational professionals and also the **Professional Learning Network** (PLN).

Via BPN we can make available high quality CPD and accredited training opportunities for teaching, support and administrative staff in our schools. As part of our 2020-21 programme, we are offering the following 3 opportunities:

The National Award for SEN Coordination (NASENCO) The award is a statutory requirement for all SENCOs appointed new to the role, and an excellent development opportunity for professional development for current and aspiring SENCOs.

HLTA Status Preparation; gaining HLTA status is a recognised progression route for school support staff. This HLTA Status preparation course will help Teaching Assistants understand the HLTA Standards, the Assessment Process itself and help them prepare their portfolio of evidence ahead of their assessment.

Level 4 Diploma for School Business Managers is a fully online programme. It will develop the professional knowledge, understanding and competencies of those working in school business management.

More details for all three programmes can be obtained via the Best Practice Network **website** (<https://www.bestpracticenet.co.uk/courses>)

As part of our partnership with the PLN, we offer training opportunities for those staff members wishing to transition in to management roles. In collaboration with the Surrey Teaching Schools Network, the following accredited programmes are available : **NPQSL, NPQML & NPQEL**. More details can be obtained on the PLN **website** (<http://www.prolearnnet.com/training/>)