

Dear All,

The Ashford Teaching Alliance celebrated its second anniversary at the Holiday Inn, Ashford on Wednesday 3 June. Over 50 people attended to hear Mike Sheridan, Senior MHI, talk about 'Busting the Ofsted Myth'. His honest talk was enjoyed by all, as were the cream scones, cakes, biscuits, tea and coffee. Thanks again to all who attended and helped to make our celebration a success.

We are very proud of all that we have achieved in the two years we have been running:

- Over 120 schools from Kent and Medway have made use of us either through CPD training, school-to-school support or Research & Development involvement
- We have secured over £200,000 for school-to-school support and Research & Development projects
- We have run over 30 CPD courses
- We have 13 SLEs - and would like more!
- Over 40 School Direct candidates have trained with us and secured employment
- We have 30 candidates completing the NPQSL and 47 LDML in 2014-2015 alone!
- We have undertaken 6 Research & Development projects and have a Research Champion who will broker individual needs for schools
- Justin Dodd, Maths SLE, was selected by the NCTL to visit China in January 2015 and is now a Director of the Maths Hub for Kent and Medway - sign up and get involved via our website - www.ashfordteachingalliance.co.uk.

We are already starting to think about applying for funding next year and organising CPD events that local teachers want. If you have any suggestions, please get in touch. I love visiting schools and finding out how we can support each other - I would be delighted to receive an invitation!

I hope the remainder of the term goes well and I wish you all a very happy and enjoyable summer holiday!

Best wishes, Lesley.



Lesley Donald
Director of ATA

CPD Opportunities

- Our first Essence of Teaching course for primary teachers has just been completed. The 6 sessions were organised by SLE, Liz Pope, in conjunction with 6 primary schools who each hosted a session. Evaluations have been very positive and the course will be on offer once again next year. Already one school has requested a bespoke Essence of Teaching package!
- NQT training ends on 17 June at Aldington Eco Centre. We have been asked once again by Kent to host the sessions next year. Don't forget to put the dates in your diary!

Session 1	Monday 28 September 2015	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Aldington Eco Centre, TN25 7DX
Session 2	Thursday 12 November 2015	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Aldington Eco Centre, TN25 7DX
Session 3	Wednesday 13 January 2016	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Aldington Eco Centre, TN25 7DX
Session 4	Monday 14 March 2016	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Aldington Eco Centre, TN25 7DX
Session 5	Thursday 28 April 2016	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Aldington Eco Centre, TN25 7DX
Session 6	Thursday 16 June 2016	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Aldington Eco Centre, TN25 7DX

- 14 participants are about to complete the Leadership Development for Middle Leaders (LDML) with a new cohort promptly starting! This very popular and successful course already has a waiting list for next year - sign up and join them!
- 10 candidates are looking forward to their next NPQSL face-to-face day on 30 June. It is hoped to issue details and costs for the next cohort starting in October/November by the end of the term.
- The OTP continues to go from strength to strength with 19 teachers currently taking part.

Finally, congratulations to our School Direct trainees who will be qualifying in July. We wish them every success and happiness in their teaching careers.

Contact Us

Write: Lesley Donald
Director of ATA
c/o Highworth Grammar School
Quantock Drive
Ashford
Kent TN24 8UD

Tel: 01233 624910
Email: office@ashfordteachingalliance.co.uk
Website: www.ashfordteachingalliance.co.uk

Follow us on Twitter @ashfordtsa



Pupil Premium Champion Network Meeting

Venue: Downs View Infant School
Date: Tuesday 23 June 2015
Times: 3.00pm - 5.30pm

A fantastic opportunity for staff with a Pupil Premium Champion Role to network and share strategies.

Areas for discussion will include: identifying and overcoming barriers to learning; ways to spend pupil premium funding; pupil premium on the website and Ofsted expectations.

Behaviour Management with Peter Hobbs

Venue: Highworth Grammar School
Date: Friday 26 June 2015
Times: 9.15am - 12.00pm

Peter will be dealing with the need for consequences to focus students on work and behaviour, a study of rewards and punishments as a motivator and the "carrot and stick" approach to behaviour management. Be sure not to miss it!

More at Four! Ofsted - The Inside Story

Venue: Lady Joanna Thornhill (Endowed) Primary School
Date: Thursday 2 July 2015
Times: 4.00pm - 5.00pm

An exciting new opportunity for Headteachers and Deputies to hear about and discuss a current topic on the education agenda.

Come along, enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and hear about Ofsted - The Inside Story!

Research & Development Symposium

Venue: The Marsh Academy
Date: Friday 3 July 2015
Times: 9.15am - 12.00pm

Two keynote speakers, Claire Kelly (Director of Mindfulness) and Robbie Coleman (EEF Manager of Research and Communications) will provide a chance to hear useful ideas and challenging questions on Mindfulness and Narrowing the Gap. There will also be a range of workshops in the afternoon offering you the chance to explore one of the day's key themes in more depth. Book via our website!

Full details are available on our website - www.ashfordteachingalliance.co.uk