

Head Teachers' Bulletin – 24th Mar 2023

Events this week (week beginning 20th March)

Rearranged Y5/6 writing moderation –Wed 29th March 2.30-4.00 All Saints High School

Chairs' Forum – Wed 29th March 6.00-7.30pm – St John Fisher

School visit – Wed 29th March 2.45-5.00pm – St Alban's

Actions from this Bulletin

1. Ask any colleague interested in a conversation about the Headship opportunity at Our Lady and St Joseph's to get in touch with Steve before the Easter break
2. Expression of interest in executive director post by Fri 31st March
3. Let Steve know if you have a data lead with interest in doing some trust wide work during the summer term. Deadline – end of term
4. Please note the dates of the remaining Senior Leader Groups for this term – Wed 24th May and Tue 4th July

New Updates (since last bulletin)

Headteacher conference

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us at the conference and thank you to Matt and Amanda for sharing their time and expertise in planning the conference and leading us.

I hope that everyone who went really got something from our time together that is helpful now and into the future.

We will be sharing slides and notes from the Conference and the next Heads' Forum will feature time to follow up on outcomes.

Last call – Expressions of interest in Executive Director of School Improvement post

Thanks to all colleagues who have provided me with feedback on the proposed role of Executive Director of School Improvement (attached again with this bulletin for reference). The feedback has been positive. Directors have now approved the role and have also approved that we seek to appoint from within the Trust in the first instance.

As explained previously, we are open to alternative ways of filling this post, including a temporary secondment, or by splitting the post including through a job-share arrangement. Directors have approved a salary scale for the full post, but the range will need to be confirmed depending on how the post is filled.

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At the point of sharing the role proposal, I asked for expressions of interest and there are colleagues who have got in touch with me to discuss their interest in the role. At this point, I am making a final call to any colleague who has an interest in the roll, but who has yet to speak to me, to get in touch by Friday 31st March.

I will then move forward with a process to arrive, hopefully, at appointment to the role.

Data lead capacity

I am keen to explore what capacity and interest there may be from data leads within schools to do some work across the Trust in the remainder of this academic year.

There is a relatively small amount of work needed to support the production of some Trust wide reports. There may also be an opportunity to represent the Trust in some work with Learn Sheffield during the summer term. All of this work would be helping to inform the long-term plan for data support across the Trust next year and beyond.

At this stage, I am keen just to speak to colleagues across the trust who have an interest and could have some capacity to support with some work. This will help me to plan the scope of what we can do. I recognise that capacity is stretched everywhere, so I do want to note that there would likely be considerable overlap between some of the work needed and what colleagues will be doing already within their individual schools.

If you have a colleague who may have interest and some capacity to help, please could you let me know before the end of term.

Rearranged Y5/6 moderation

Please note above that the Y5/6 writing moderation event that was cancelled due to the snow has been rearranged for Wed 29th March at All Saints. Thanks to colleagues at All Saints and to Claire and Anita for getting this in place before the Easter break.

Anita has sent out joining information to those colleagues involved.

Headteacher secondment opportunity

I also want to remind you about the opportunity for a secondment to the role of Headteacher at Our Lady and St Joseph's school.

As I explained last week, the governors will be advertising for the permanent post and that advert will go out shortly. At the same time, they are also open to exploring the possibility of a secondment.

If you would be able to support that and you have a colleague who may be interested, please get in touch with me to discuss it. I need to hear about any potential secondment interest by the end of this

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term.

Local Academy Committee Spring Term Report to Trust Board

Just a reminder that your governors should share their spring term report with the Trust Board by Tue 25th April, which is the Tuesday after the Easter break. This report can just be an extract from the minutes where the questions for the report were discussed. Alternatively, it can be written as a separate brief report, again responding to the questions, but this report must have been agreed by the governors.

The Trust board will review these reports at their meeting on 16th May. The reports inform planning for the Trust and allow directors to be informed about life across the Trust which is essential to their role.

Senior Leaders' Group

Unfortunately, colleagues decided on Tuesday to defer the agenda for the senior leaders' group to the next meeting due to the very small turn out to that meeting. We had a significant number of apologies on the morning of the meeting.

Anita has put out a message to everyone on the contact list for the group, with a poll to check the remaining two dates for the summer term, so that if there are problems we can seek to rearrange in plenty of time. I also note the planned dates below so that you are aware and ask you to do all that you can to enable colleagues to attend the group if they wish to go. This is a network that senior leaders have consistently said that they value, but they are very busy and often find it difficult to leave and I am grateful for your support in helping the group to be able to function.

The remaining meetings this year will be on Wed 24th May and Tue 4th July, both meetings running from 1.30 – 3.30pm.

Notices

From Our Lady and St Joseph

Our Lady and St Joseph school are urgently seeking some supply cover, to cover an absence for 6-8 weeks starting on 20th March. They have been let down at short notice by the arranged supply teacher and have not been able to secure a replacement through any of their contacts.

If you have any contacts that it is worth them pursuing then please get in touch with Steve, or directly with Emmeline or Maria.