

Head Teachers' Bulletin – 17th November

Dates for the diary

Writing Leads Mini-Conference – Thus 23rd Nov 9am-12pm @ Pastoral Centre

Senior Leaders' Network – Tue 28th Nov 1.30-3.30pm @ Pastoral Centre

*Proposed additional Heads' Forum – Tue 5th Dec 8am-11am @ Pastoral Centre

Actions from this Bulletin

- Let Steve know ASAP if you can't make the proposed additional Heads' Forum on Tue 5th Dec
- Schools in the Trust and Associate members – Ogden Trust opportunity – Note that you received an email last week from Anita regarding an opportunity to work with the Ogden Trust around the science curriculum. There was a request for responses from interested schools (via link in the email) **by Monday 20th Nov**

Actions from Previous Bulletins still outstanding for some schools

- **Wellbeing and Health and Safety Data** – Thanks to all schools who have already completed this. At the time of writing, ahead of the **deadline of 17th Nov**) we are waiting for the final 4 schools to respond. Thanks in advance for those responses which will allow me to pull the information together for a meeting with Directors on 21st Nov ahead of our routine meeting with unions.

New Updates (since last bulletin)

Heads' Conference

Thanks to everyone who was able to join us last week for what I thought was a really great couple of days. Thank you for the feedback from many of you. I reflected afterwards that we have moved forward again since our conference in March in the way that we are thinking about our work together and the opportunity it gives to reshape the way we lead and we develop leadership in school, particularly where we feel that we are pulled away from the things we really believe in by wider societal pressures.

I will share copies of David Wells' slides as soon as I get them. In the meantime, I have attached with this bulletin copies of the slides that Fiona and John shared on Friday and a copy of notes that Frank kindly took during David's time with us on Thursday.

Heads' Forum

One of the things we all committed to during the conference was creating more time to check in with one another.

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With that in mind, I have revisited the timings for the Heads' Forums in the Spring and Summer and propose that we move them to start at 8am and finish at 12pm (a change from the current 9.30-11.00 timings). This will allow some time to check in with each other over breakfast or lunch and give us a bit more time to build on work we have been doing through the conferences and in school visits.

We are also proposing an additional Heads' Forum for Tue 5th Dec (8-11am) again to allow for check in and then to allow us to update on the task we took away to develop your work on a way of communicating what the Trust is about to staff more widely. We will also update on the data collection work and the Heads' reports for next term.

We realise that it is not easy to add something into the diary at any time of the year, so please let Steve know as soon as possible if there is no way that you can make the additional date on 5th Dec. If it is clear that this date won't work, we will look for some time in the last week of this term. I will let you know in the next bulletin if that is the case.

I have added the remaining Heads' Forum dates and times at the end of this bulletin, showing the proposed additional date on 5th Dec and the revised timings for the dates already in the calendar for Spring and Summer.

Senior Leaders' Meeting – Tue 28th Nov 1.30-3.30pm

This is the meeting formally known as the 'Deputies Group' which was expanded to be open to all senior leaders' working in our schools. During the meeting, Fiona will be sharing some of her experience as part of the series of inputs from Heads that we are offering through these meetings. We will then have time for sharing of practice and this will include some time looking at feedback from the subject leader network and the writing mini-conference, while looking ahead to writing moderation next term.

The meeting is at the Pastoral Centre.

Ofsted notes from All Saints

Many thanks to Sean and colleagues at All Saints who have taken the time to put together a really useful set of notes covering their experience of and reflections on their recent Ofsted inspection. I think the notes serve as a helpful guide for preparation for inspection for schools that are 'in the window' and I am sure that we will be able to develop this resource over time based on other experiences.

I have attached the notes with this bulletin. Thanks again to Sean and his team.

Learn Sheffield Evaluation

On 27th Nov I will be meeting with someone who is helping Learn Sheffield with an evaluation of their work and planning for their future. If there is anything that you would want me to feed into that process on your behalf, then I would be very happy to do so. Please just drop me an email.

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To be clear, I am not expecting everyone to send me something, just do so if there is something that you are keen for me to share.

Items from previous bulletins for reference

School Experiences and Internships

Our SCITT has asked us to help their ongoing recruitment by sharing the Twitter link below which invites people to arrange a school experience day at Notre Dame or St Catherine's before Christmas. It also has details about how to apply for the paid internships this summer for maths, physics, chemistry, MFL and computer science (£900 for 3 weeks experience in one of our partner schools this June/July)

<https://x.com/SheffieldSCITT/status/1722266622533284225?s=20>

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Heads' Forum – Dates and Times of meetings this academic year

Tuesday 5th Dec 8-11am @ Pastoral Centre - Proposed additional Forum

Dates already in the calendar, but with revised timings:

Tue 30th Jan – 8-12 @ Pastoral Centre

Tue 19th Mar – 8-12 @ Pastoral Centre

Tue 7th May – 8-12 @ Pastoral Centre

Tue 18th June – 8-12 @ Pastoral Centre