

Head Teachers' Bulletin 3rd October– 2025

Upcoming Events

~~8th Oct – Geography Subject Immersion @ St Alban's CANCELLED~~

7th Oct – Making Sense of Autism (see SEND Training plan)

15th Oct - Curriculum Working Group 9.15-12 @ St Catherine's

17th Oct – Trust Mass 10am @ St Marie's Cathedral

21st Oct – Writing Fundamentals Secondary session 9.30 - 12 @ Notre Dame

22nd Oct – SEND Network 1.30 @Learn Sheffield

~~23rd Oct – PHSE Subject Immersion CANCELLED~~

5th Nov – Writing Subject Network 3.45 online

10th Nov – Prayer and Liturgy Network 1-3

Actions from this bulletin

Actions from previous bulletin

- Remember to send your simile for hope (for the Trust Mass) to Steve by the end of the day on Friday 10th October.

New Updates (since last bulletin)

Trust Mass

Thank you to everyone who has responded regarding the Trust Mass. It is going to be our biggest turnout so far, with 400 pupils and almost every school in the family represented. I really appreciate the work that goes into making the mass happen, so thank you.

Attached with this bulletin is a copy of the information for schools which has been updated since I sent it out earlier in the term.

We are asking every school to come up with a simile for hope. There is some guidance in the attached information. We really need you to send your simile by the end of the day on Friday 10th October. Please send your simile by email to sdavies@stclarecmat.org.uk

We will send a Liturgy for use in schools in the week of the mass once we have all the similes in.

Subject Immersion dates

The Geography and PSHE subject immersion dates have been cancelled due to low numbers.

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Trust INSET 23rd February 2026

Our first Trust INSET Day will take place on Monday 23rd February 2026 from 9.30am to 3pm. We are very grateful to All Saints Catholic High School for hosting this important event for us. Shortly you will receive an invitation for each school which will contain information about the day, particularly transport to All Saints on the day.

Our plan is that 23rd February is a day FOR ALL of our staff, a chance to be together as a Trust, to focus on our Mission and ambitions for all of our children, families and our staff. It will be an opportunity for everyone to engage in the launch of the next stage of our Trust Development. The Executive Team are working to plan and prepare the keynote sections of the day alongside a number of workshops that will be delivered by a range of colleagues from across the Trust. More information will follow, and this will include requests for members of staff to deliver workshops on the day.

We are excited by the opportunities the day will provide for everyone across the Trust, and we ask all of our leaders to raise the profile of the day with their staff and as more details emerge to encourage staff to participate in the day either by leading workshops for us or by participating in them fully.

Making Sense of Autism – 2 hour session

This module is for anyone working in a school environment.

This module is an awareness-raising module that introduces autism and the areas of difference, which can include: Social Understanding and Communication, Flexibility, Information Processing and Understanding and Sensory Processing and Integration, among other things. We explore areas of difference in terms of strengths and support needs and identify some initial reasonable adjustments that need to be considered when supporting neurodivergent pupils.

We are offering 2 dates for this training, staff only need attend one session, the second session is a repeat.

Please book these sessions here

Dates and times for training:

07/10/25 @ 3.45 – 5.45

26/03/26 @ 3.45 – 5.45

Items from previous bulletin

Teacher Pay Progression

Just a reminder to schools in the Trust to let Steve know if there are any issues with teachers progressing through UPS (i.e. UP1 to UP2 or UP2 to UP3). Directors will be considering the move to making this progression annual, to bring it in line with other changes. We need to understand if there are any specific challenges this would cause in school. Please also remember to share applications for progression to upper pay spine, with your recommendation, with Steve so that he can carry out a moderation exercise in line with the revised pay policy.

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SEND Network

Fiona has arranged an additional SEND network meeting. This will be on Wednesday 22nd October from 1.30 – 3.30pm and will be at Learn Sheffield (Suite 6, Albion House, Savile Street, Sheffield, S4 7UD)

Prayer and Liturgy Coordinators Network Meetings

You will see that there is a PLC Network meeting added to the Trust calendar for 10th November 1-3pm. We want to support all Prayer and Liturgy Coordinators in their job of implementing the Prayer and Liturgy Directory in their schools. Last term Prayer and Liturgy Coordinators identified aspects of implementing the PLD where it would be useful to collaborate. These include the development of Annual Plans of Provision, Liturgical Music, Monitoring and evaluation of Prayer and Liturgy and opportunities to gather students from across our schools to create opportunities for peer ministry and to start to develop a better understanding of 'progression'. The Prayer and Liturgy Coordinators Network meetings are a forum for all Prayer and Liturgy Coordinators to be able to consider these aspects of the PLD, and to inform and shape the development of any shared Trust-wide approaches that we choose to implement in these areas.

Writing Subject Network meeting

5th November 2025: 3.45pm – 4.45pm (online)

The subject network meeting is for any literacy lead or teachers interested in developing writing in their school.

Following on from the writing fundamentals work and the Trust subject immersion days, we are re-establishing the subject leader networks to ensure that we can continue the work we have started across the Trust.

The writing network meetings will be hosted and led by Claire Round. The first meeting in November will be an opportunity for literacy leads to discuss the implementation of the new Trust assessment framework. Please let Anita know [here](#) who from your school to add to the mailing list for these meetings, the link to join the 5th November session will be emailed directly to them.

Relational Practice (Trauma Informed) Conference - 10 October

Attached with this bulletin is a flyer with details of this year's Relational Practice (TI) Conference 2025 on Friday 10 October, 9.00 – 4.00pm at Niagara Conference Centre. Following the conference there will be a training offer for Sheffield schools from both our presenters Jenny Mosley and Carr Manor Community School. The cost is £75 per person.

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Bethlehem Care and Hospice Trust Appeal

The Bethlehem Care and Hospice Trust is a Diocese of Hallam charity supporting palliative care in Bethlehem. Many schools in the Trust have supported this charity over the years.

Joe McNally spoke to us at the Heads & Chairs meeting this week, explaining the desperate situation in Bethlehem at the moment and the challenge of raising the funds that are needed. In order to try to boost the fundraising, they hope to make the 1st December a day focused on Bethlehem across as many schools as possible, with the aim of boosting fund raising and awareness. It would be great if we could support this across the family of schools.

The charity can provide fund raising materials, support for assemblies, etc. We would also want to coordinate the gathering and payment of any funds raised.

As a first practical step, if you can support this appeal, please could you identify a member of staff to be a point of contact for this appeal that we can liaise with directly to plan. **Please send the name and email of the contact person to Anita.**