

# CHANGING LIVES NEWSLETTER

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE MAKING LEARNING IRRESISTIBLE



The Manchester Teaching School Alliance, led by Chorlton Park and Brookburn Primary Teaching Schools, is a group of Manchester Schools and other partners working in collaboration.

Our aim is to develop world-class teachers and leaders, provide support to schools and ensure better outcomes for pupils.

[www.manchestertsa.com](http://www.manchestertsa.com)

We are delighted to announce the first ever annual Manchester TSA conference, to be held at the magnificent Manchester Town Hall on 20 November 2014.

Confirmed speakers are:

- Dame Alison Peacock
- Sir Andrew Carter
- Andrew Morrish

with more to be announced. We'll be revealing more information over the coming weeks, but the themes we'll be

covering are current issues facing everyone in education today:

- Beyond levels
- Making learning real, immersive and powerful
- Being creative - The new primary curriculum

**All welcome: teachers, middle and senior leaders, academy sponsors, headteachers. Go to [www.manchestertsa.com](http://www.manchestertsa.com) for up-to-date information and to book your place.**

### SECOND TEACHING SCHOOL STATUS FOR MANCHESTER TSA

Congratulations go to alliance partner Brookburn Primary School, which has been designated a teaching school this term. This gives Manchester TSA a second partner with teaching school status; Chorlton Park became a teaching school in 2013.

Congratulations also go to Loreto Sixth Form College and Piper Hill Special School who have been designated as teaching schools. We are already enjoying working with them and this will extend the reach of support by the teaching schools.



The **BIG 6**

Teaching school alliances must have the experience, leadership and capacity to support schools in six key areas:

- 1. Initial Teacher Training**  
lead role in recruiting and training new entrants to the profession
- 2. Continuing Professional Development**  
peer-to-peer professional and leadership development
- 3. Leadership & Talent Management**  
identify and develop leadership potential
- 4. School to School Support**  
provide support for other schools
- 5. Specialist Leaders of Education**  
SLE designate and broker specialist leaders
- 6. Research & Development**  
engage and lead in educational research

### MANCHESTER TSA STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Our alliance builds on the unique strengths of each of its founding partners:

- Chorlton Park Primary School
- Brookburn Primary School
- Barlow Hall Primary School
- Manley Park Primary School
- Chorlton High School
- The University of Manchester
- Manchester City Council

National Teaching School designated by



**CHANGING LIVES IN COLLABORATION**

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## DAVE WATSON ELECTED TO TEACHING SCHOOL COUNCIL



**Dave Watson has been elected by North West colleagues to the Teaching School Council as the region's representative.**

Dave, Executive Headteacher of Chorlton Park and Old Moat primary schools and a National Leader of Education (NLE), said of his appointment: "It is a privilege to serve as a member of the TSC. Teaching schools should be the laboratories of the system, balancing servant leadership with that of expert leadership.

With the advent of new accountability measures we must learn from global links, deliver cohesion and above all, impact across an ever-changing landscape."

## PLANNING FOR ASSESSMENT WITHOUT LEVELS

**A group of senior leaders and assessment co-ordinators visited South Farnham Teaching School in June. South Farnham's head teacher is Sir Andrew Carter, who was knighted for his services to education, and is known for making his school a beacon for high standards in teaching.**

Our staff went to find out about the approach that South Farnham are taking to assessing without levels. Emma Williams from Brookburn reports back from the visit. "How South Farnham are planning to assess without levels was reassuring because we are thinking along similar lines. The school is going to assess against the new objectives. We discussed the possibility of using tests and found that South Farnham are going to use a tracking system using the yearly objectives to benchmark and measure success. They are also exploring the use of 'end of unit' tests linked to the Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning.

Their assessment identifies pupils who may need extra support. These pupils are withdrawn from class during Literacy and Numeracy lessons and taught the same objectives in a smaller group. We saw the potential benefits for all children, not just those withdrawn.

It was a very positive visit to a school working in very different context."



## SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGERS WORKING TOGETHER

**MTSA doesn't just focus on developing great teachers. One of the benefits of the alliance is the opportunity it provides for school business managers to work together.**

We hold alliance school business managers network meetings, chaired by the partnership business manager which cover topics such as CFR, nursery funding and pupil premium. We share our data and explore where we can make savings and provide better value for money.

For example, we are the first cluster in Manchester to push through the ESPO tender for school meals. We have supported other schools to appoint new school meals suppliers.

Some of our School Business Managers are designated SLEs who have actively supported the business aspect of our work and been deployed to support schools.

We also encourage professional development across the alliance. The following have completed or are studying towards the Certificate in SBM (CSBM):

**Karen Hayes** - St Ambrose

**Anna Barlow** - Chorlton Park

**Carole Laguda** - Chorlton C of E

**Nazmin Dagada-Khan** - Oswald Rd

**Anne Quigley** - St John's RC School

Meanwhile, **Jo Sands** is working towards the Diploma in SBM and **Joan Pennington** has been awarded a first class honours degree in school business management.

## MTSA STRATEGIC PARTNER FOR NATIONAL MATHS HUB



**Manchester TSA has become a strategic partner for the national Maths Hub, a huge £11 million, government initiative.**

Thirty Maths Hubs across the country will provide the strategic local leadership to ensure all schools receive the tailored maths education support they need. This

new way of harnessing all maths teaching expertise within an area will spread excellent practice more widely, for the benefit of all pupils and students.

There are three hubs in the north west and we are looking forward to playing our part in the delivery of this new initiative.



## HOW MOVING ON TOGETHER IS IMPACTING ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

The hugely successful MOT courses for teachers celebrates success. We have been delivering MOT courses at MTSA for the last year and feedback has been very positive.

MOT is quality assured by OLEVI, the International Centre for Leadership in Teaching & Learning. It provides an opportunity to share and develop great practice by coming together to solve educational and pedagogic issues in a stimulating environment.

**Moving on Together 1** for primary school teachers is designed to create a collaborative learning community across schools and maximise achievement for all our pupils. Delegates reflect on their own practice, apply research based ideas and experiment with developmental areas in a supportive context.

**MOT2** is designed for teachers who would like to update their skill set or perhaps reignite their passion for the profession. Great pedagogy is discussed, experienced and exemplified as they access the most recent research on effective practice.

A range of strategies are introduced to engage pupils and encourage excellent practice.

We're looking forward to delivering **MOT for secondary teachers** soon.

**Keen to see how the MOT courses are having an impact on teaching and learning, we asked the last cohort of MOT1 delegates how they are using what they learnt back in the classroom.**

**Here's what they said:**

"This has been a very thought provoking course, I feel I am much more aware about analysing my practice. I have already taken suggestions back to my class. I found the session on questioning particularly useful."

"MOT1 has made me reflect on my practice. I have a list of priorities to implement from September."

"The course gave me motivation and new ideas to use and develop for my own class. I developed an awareness of what we do well and how these could be improved and how areas for development could be approached. It gave me a new way of thinking about planning and preparing."

"I feel more confident about embedding changes to my own teaching. Lots to think about in terms of new learning climate and ideas for the new school year."

"I have lots of ideas to use back in class. It has made me reflect on my current practice. What am I doing well? What can I change and try out? I've already used some ideas and they have worked well."

"The most effective session made me re-think successful lesson structures and provided an excellent variety of ideas. It also made me question the impact of children's dialogue."

"All the work on challenge was very effective. It was also great to have the time to reflect."

"It was very good to go in and see the children in action as part of the session; when the ideas were still fresh in my mind. I went straight back to school and tried them out!"

**MOT1, MOT2 and a new MOT course for NQTs are all running in the Autumn. See [www.manchesterts.com](http://www.manchesterts.com) for details and to book.**



## UPDATE ON RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT



Here at Manchester TSA we are continually striving to improve the learning experiences for our children, and an important way of achieving this is through research.

Manley Park Primary School is the lead partner in the alliance for Research & Development. Sarah-Jane Henderson, the alliance's Operational Lead for Research and Development gives us this term's research update:

We attended the **BERA conference** this half term and were thrilled to meet Anne Liebermann the Keynote speaker. She shared her research from China, Chile and Canada on 'Developing Collaborative Partnerships in Research and Practice'.

We were particularly interested to hear the research findings on a project called 'Who's the child in the woods?' Many of the ideas shared resonated with our own research work on Outdoor Learning.

We also presented at the '**Coalition of Research Schools** annual conference. Here, we shared the action research projects we have been carrying out in school and reflected on our findings.

The evening was a huge success with excellent presentations: both the Primary and Secondary sectors were represented strongly. Networking opportunities gave the chance to consider how the schools could continue to work together in the future, perhaps supporting each other's enquiries.

We presented on our **Reflective Inquiry programme**. This has been a year-long research project which has shaped the level of reflective practice seen both in phases and across phases.

The results of the inquiry saw 100% of the focus pupils making expected progress and 56% making more than expected progress. The Reflective Inquiry process draws together key ideas from previous research: the importance of being reflective and collaborating. The focus is to develop teachers' ability to be reflective and develop their pedagogical understanding.

## SCHOOL DIRECT - BECOMING A TEACHER WITH MANCHESTER TSA

**Graduates can train to be a primary or secondary teacher with School Direct at Manchester TSA. Training with us means you become a staff member from day one while receiving academic and University support.**

Our secondary teacher training is provided by Chorlton High School, while Brookburn Primary works closely with a number of schools to deliver exceptional training to our students at primary level.

We welcome our first School Direct trainees in September. They have already undertaken some visits to our schools and we are very excited to begin the delivery of the bespoke provision we have planned for them. Student feedback will also be an important part of our approach.

School Direct is a one-year teacher-training course for graduates. Schools work in collaboration with a University to provide training. Manchester TSA is working with The University of Manchester.

Thanks go particularly to Zoe Pearce, Sally Hindson and Sarah-Jane Henderson for their hard work in this first year developing the programme plus all those other alliance staff that have given their time so freely to become mentors.

### Advantages of School Direct with MTSA

- **Job prospects.** One of our KPIs is employment rate. It is hoped that trainees will be employed by an alliance school.
- **School input** is extremely relevant and context based, giving trainees heightened awareness of the profession and additional experiences, knowledge

and skills in order to prepare them for their career.

- MTSA assures trainees of the **highest quality mentoring**, superb training opportunities including residentials, lesson study triads and weekly training sessions from experts around the collaborative.
- The opportunities and training provided is also intended to provide teachers from within the alliance with **high quality CPD**.
- **Networking opportunities** support the trainees in their training and beyond. These include weekly meetings between trainees, as well as the breadth of professionals students encounter

As well as taking on our first trainees in 2014 we have recruited and trained mentors, recruited facilitators to lead on certain aspects of the course, designed handbooks for all stages of the course for both mentors and trainees, sat on MU School Direct Boards in order to gain information to help us plan our year and planned the year for all our trainees.

### WELCOME TO THE FIRST MANCHESTER TSA SCHOOL DIRECT STUDENTS

#### Primary trainees:

Christopher Stevens  
Kelly Louise Grant  
Emma Jarvis  
Laura Thomas

#### Secondary trainees:

Lauren McIntosh - Maths  
Kayleigh Torpey - English

Contact us about joining the next cohort of Student Direct trainees



### IN BRIEF

#### EVERY CHILD A READER

The innovative ECAR (Every Child a Reader) programme is a whole school professional development programme for reading. See **our website** for the latest developments in ECAR.

#### BEYOND MONITORING

Piloted this year and coming to MTSA again soon: This acclaimed course that has improved standards in schools all over the country is designed to empower primary heads and their senior leaders. Watch this space...

## MANCHESTER TSA COURSES AND EVENTS AUTUMN 2014

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE - MAKING LEARNING IRRESISTIBLE

20 NOVEMBER

Manchester Town Hall

### MOVING ON TOGETHER - MOT 1

1 OCTOBER - 5 NOVEMBER

Manley Park Primary School

### MOVING ON TOGETHER - MOT 2

12 NOVEMBER - 10 DECEMBER

Manley Park Primary School

### MOVING ON TOGETHER - FOR NQTs

17 SEPTEMBER - 22 OCTOBER

Manley Park Primary School

### GUIDED READING IN RECEPTION

8 OCTOBER - 12 NOVEMBER

Barlow Hall Primary School

### ITT SCHOOL DIRECT - SECONDARY

SEPTEMBER - JULY

Chorlton High School

### ITT SCHOOL DIRECT - PRIMARY

SEPTEMBER - JULY

Brookburn Primary School

### WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH TO GUIDED READING - ECAR

24 SEPTEMBER AND 19 NOVEMBER

Barlow Hall Primary School

### CPD FOR QUALIFIED READING RECOVERY TEACHERS - ECAR

SEPTEMBER - JULY

Barlow Hall Primary School

### READING NETWORK - ECAR

15 OCTOBER AND 5 NOVEMBER

Barlow Hall Primary School

### INITIAL TRAINING FOR NEW READING RECOVERY TEACHERS - ECAR

SEPTEMBER - JULY

Barlow Hall Primary School

### INFERENCE TRAINING: A READING COMPREHENSION INTERVENTION - ECAR

1 OCTOBER

Barlow Hall Primary School

You can read more about all of Manchester TSA courses and events and book your place at [www.manchestertsa.com](http://www.manchestertsa.com)