

## Teaching School Who's Who

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## GOOD NEWS!

We offer our **Congratulations** to our colleagues at **Aston Tower, Clifton, Conway, St. Anne's, St. James' CE, Welford** and **Yew Tree Schools** who were all graded **Good** at their recent inspections, along with **Gracelands** Nursery School who retained their **Outstanding** grade.

## Goodbyes....

We said goodbye at the end of the summer term to a number of valued colleagues, to include: **Rob Strang, SLE** (Arden); **Yasmin Sherbaz, DHT** (Hodge Hill); Headteachers **Sue Hughes** (Anglesey) and **Carole Harris** (Bordesley Green) who both retired. We also said farewell to our own Co-Headteachers **Sheenagh Edger** and **Emma Tyler** who left us for new ventures.

This term we warmly **welcome: Sam Mason**, Head of School & **Jennifer Gregson**, DHT at Greet; **Karl Holmes**, HT Bordesley Green, **Paul Doddridge**, HT Anglesey and **Alison Williams**, HT at newly amalgamated Marlborough Primary.

Dear Colleagues

Welcome to the latest edition of the Greet TSA Newsletter. I hope you have had a relaxing summer and a positive start to the new academic year.

I am pleased to welcome Tania Yasmin, Headteacher of Conway Primary School, to the Teaching School team. Tania will be supporting the teaching school in a strategic capacity. She brings with her great energy and enthusiasm in these ever challenging times in education. Already a member of the TSA Board, Tania has a deep commitment to the self improving school system and the moral purpose we all share. I am sure you will enjoy working with her.

Pat



I would like to introduce myself and say how much I am looking forward to working with the Teaching School and Alliance colleagues and to developing programmes to support Alliance schools' needs.

I have been both a teacher and school leader in Birmingham for nearly two decades and have worked with many of you already. I hope this academic year brings stronger links and closer working relationships to enable a great partnership.

I firmly believe that we can work together as Birmingham school leaders to create a great future for the children of Birmingham!

Tania



We were very sad to be say Farewell to Emma Tyler and Sheenagh Edger, our Co-Headteachers here at Greet, who are both left us at the end of the Academic Year.

Between them, Emma and Sheenagh served 43 years at Greet and led the Teaching School over the last year. Their wide ranging experience, depth of knowledge and enthusiasm will be very hard to replace.

A loyal and dynamic duo, Emma and Sheenagh are missed immensely here at school and across the local networks.

We wish them well as they begin new chapters .....



## OUNP EXPERT EVENTS

The **Jean Gross 'Closing the Word Gap'** half day workshop in June was very well received. Colleagues who came along found the afternoon to be of great value and left brimming with ideas to use in the classroom.



As we go to press the **Andrew Jeffrey** full day workshop is taking place. 'Mathmagician' Andrew is spending the day sharing new ways of thinking about teaching and learning. Participating Senior Leaders and Teachers will explore Mathematical problem solving, place value, shape, area, division and sequences and will be using playing cards to support fluency.

## AUTUMN TERM EVENTS . . .

We are in the process of arranging a variety of CPD opportunities and other events for the autumn term. This will include 3 new training offers for leaders and teachers all led by Tony Whatmuff; watch out for the Clevermail which will be arriving in your Inbox very soon!

We are also in discussion with our Strategic Partner BCU about expertise within the university that will be of interest to us all.

**Save the date!** We are holding an Alliance EdTech Speed Date on the morning of **Friday 15 November**. This will have a curriculum focus and will give us the opportunity to explore technologies available to enhance teaching and learning.

*Further information and dates on all of the above will be confirmed during the term by email!*

## SCHOOL DIRECT



2018/2019 was a busy year for School Direct. As usual we were training one cohort alongside recruiting another as the cycle goes each year .....

In addition, we were growing a new relationship with a new university partner, University of Birmingham, and further developing our School Direct programme as a result.

We attended more teacher recruitment events than ever before and met many people who will make great teachers in the future!

As we reflect on the last academic year we celebrate our School Direct Class of 2018/19. We are delighted offer our **Congratulations** to Amna, Huma, Sara, Wendy and Zarqa who all passed their Masters level in July! They join our School Direct Alumni of 41 teachers who have trained with us over the last 7 years with Newman University. We have really valued our great partnership with Newman throughout this time, and hope that it will continue in the future in other ways. We say a big thank you to our Newman colleagues, especially Angela Sawyer, Kate O' Mara and Martin Husbands who have been so supportive to us and our trainees throughout this time.



## SCHOOL DIRECT 2019/2020

In 2019/2020 there is also much to celebrate. ITT for the Alliance will be led by Tania Yasmin and Nicola Mills (pictured overleaf at the recent Train to Teach event at the Council House) who have both been committed to all aspects of our School Direct Programme, from recruitment to training, since we began delivering Initial Teacher Training. We welcome them aboard!



We also welcome Aliya, Aroosa, Atiyah, Frazana, Kasir, Roma, Shane and Shari, our new cohort of School Direct trainees. This lively group has already connected with one another very quickly and we could see straight away that are they are going to have a great training year together!

They are now four weeks into their PGCE year based in Alston, Benson, Conway, Nelson Mandela, St. George's CE, St. John's CE, Starbank and Wyndcliffe where they will begin to grow their craft as a teacher.

We would like to offer a sincere **thank you** to those Headteachers on our ITT Working Group (ITTWG) who have worked tirelessly throughout the last year to ensure that our School Direct offer is both attractive to new applicants and relevant to the needs of our pupils and schools. Their unwavering commitment to bringing new talent into the system enriches all our school communities.

We welcome schools who would like to offer their support to School Direct and any other teaching school activities. If you would like to know more or would like to get involved please contact Shirley.

Recruitment to our School Direct PGCE 2020/2021 will be commencing soon. Potential applicants will be able to view available courses from Tuesday 1 October, with the application window opening on Tuesday 8 October 2019. To find out more about training to be a Teacher please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/find-postgraduate-teacher-training-courses>

### CUREE WORKSHOP

In June we held the first of two workshops in a pilot led by Rebecca Raybould of Curee. Six Alliance schools put themselves forward to trial the DfE CPD Standards Pathway Tool to support continuing professional development in their school. All leaders in attendance felt that it had been a valuable opportunity to share good practice and liked the CPD model shared. They left the workshop eager to create teacher focus groups back in their own settings and were given a practical research task to be completed before the next session in November when useful case studies will be developed.

### NQT INDUCTION PROGRAMME

Our Cohort 7 NQTs reach the end of their NQT year! It has been a pleasure to get to know them over the last year and we wish them every success as they begin a new journey as RQTs.

We met our new Cohort 8 NQTs on 13 September as they commenced their induction year. If you are still recruiting NQTs please let us know and we will accommodate them on the programme.

Our thanks go to Jo Jones and Alan Beale who had oversight of the NQT Induction Programme during 2018/19. This has enabled them to tweak the programme slightly for 2019/20 in response to the needs of our NQTs and schools.

#### Our TSA Board:

Azita Zohhadi (Chair) (Nelson Mandela); Julie Greenwood (Leigh Trust); Joanne Hill (BCU); Jo Jones (Story Wood); Shirley Queenan (TSA); Pat Smart (TSA); Tania Yasmin Conway).

#### Our Alliance Partners:

Acocks Green Primary; Alston Primary; Anglesey Primary; Arden Primary; ARK Tindal Academy; Aston Tower Community; BCU; Beeches Infants; Benson Community; Blakesley Hall Primary; Bordesley Green Primary; Brookfields Primary; Canterbury Cross Primary; Chandos Primary; City Road Academy; Clifton Primary; Conway Primary; English Martyrs Catholic Primary; Gracelands Nursery; Greet Primary; Hillstone Primary; Hodge Hill Primary; Ladypool Primary; Leigh Primary; Lillian de Lissa Nursery; Marlborough Primary; Nansen Primary; Nelson Mandela; Newman University; Park Hill Primary; Redhill Primary; Regents Park Community; Robin Hood Primary; Shaw Hill Primary; Somerville Primary; St. Anne's Catholic Primary; St. James' CE Primary; St. John's CE Primary; Starbank; Story Wood; UoB; Ward End Primary; Wattville Primary; Welford Primary; Westminster Primary; Wyndcliffe Primary; Yardleys; Yew Tree Community.

### The Greet Teaching School Alliance

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