

Leading Learning Forward

September 2013

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*The official newsletter of
the **Leading Learning
Forward Teaching
School Alliance***

Welcome to the Teaching School Alliance

Welcome to the first issue of the monthly newsletter of the Leading Learning Forward Teaching School Alliance, which was established in July of this year.

In this issue, we outline the vision of the TSA, explain how the Alliance is structured and introduce the key areas for action in 2013-14. As part of a regular feature we answer some of your most frequently asked questions.

On the back page of every issue, you will find a calendar with details of key meeting dates and events as well as a useful list of contacts. The official launch of the Teaching School Alliance is scheduled for late November when the TSA website will be going live and the programme of events for 2014 will be published.

In future issues, we will provide progress reports from each of the five Action Groups, profile some of the key people and organisations within the Alliance as well as keep you informed of forthcoming events. Stay in touch!

Message from the Lead Teaching School

I am delighted to provide an introduction to the first issue of the official newsletter of the "Leading Learning Forward" Teaching School Alliance.

Since our successful application to become a National Teaching School, in partnership with our strategic partner North Lincolnshire Local Authority, we have worked hard to establish an effective and dynamic alliance partnership which is well equipped to lead an comprehensive programme of professional development and support for teachers, support staff and leaders ranging from those in initial teacher training to those seeking to develop their talents further.

Our plans are focused on providing the possible education for every child in North Lincolnshire and beyond. The TSA's title of "Leading Learning Forward" fits with our vision of a partnership where **Leading, Educating, Achieving and Delivering** are valued in equal measure. I hope you will be inspired to join us in our development of a successful Teaching School Alliance.

Tracy Millard

*Headteacher, St Hugh's Communication and Interaction Specialist College
Chairperson, Leading Learning Forward TSA*



Leading Learning Forward

*Improving the attainment
of every child*

*The current list of partners
within the Leading Learning
Forward Teaching School
Alliance is as follows:*

1. Alkborough Primary School
2. The Axholme Academy
3. Bishop Grosseteste University
4. Brumby Junior School
5. Bushfield Road Infant School
6. Castledyke Primary School
7. Frodingham Infant School
8. Huntcliff School
9. Lincoln Gardens Primary School
10. North Lincolnshire Museum Service
11. North Lincolnshire Initial Teacher Training (SCITT & Council)
12. North Lincolnshire Children's Therapy Service (NHS)
13. St Barnabas Primary School
14. St Hugh's Communication and Interaction Specialist College
15. St Luke's Special School
16. Westcliffe Primary School
17. YPEC

The Vision

We aim to drive significant improvement in the quality of professional practice, improving the attainment of every child by:

- ✓ **Leading** the professional learning and development of teachers, support staff and leaders from initial teacher training (ITT) to newly qualified teachers (NQTs), subject-specific, middle and senior leadership...
- ✓ **Educating** and engaging teachers, support staff and leaders, with access to excellent... practice, impacting positively upon the specific and holistic needs of every child;
- ✓ **Achieving** excellent levels of progress, attainment, professional learning and talent development within classrooms, schools and partnerships...
- ✓ **Delivering** inspirational, sustainable training and support, underpinned by innovative research and development projects, in schools across the alliance and beyond.

Strategic Board

The strategic partners of the Leading Learning Forward Teaching School Alliance are St Hugh's Communication & Interaction Specialist College as the lead Teaching School, North Lincolnshire Local Authority as the lead strategic partner.

The full list of strategic partner organisations is currently as follows:

- ❖ **Lead Teaching School:** St Hugh's Communication and Interaction Specialist College
- ❖ **Lead Strategic Partner:** North Lincolnshire Local Authority
- ❖ **Alliance Partner:** Bishop Grosseteste University (Higher Education Institution)
- ❖ **Alliance Partner:** The Axholme Academy (Secondary School)
- ❖ **Alliance Partner:** Brumby Junior School (Primary School)
- ❖ **TSA Governor:** St Hugh's Communication and Interaction Specialist College (Teaching School)

Alliance Partners

The Leading Learning Forward Teaching School Alliance is a partnership of organisations approved and funded by the Department for Education (DFE) & the National College for Teaching & Leadership (NCTL) for a period of at least three years.

The Alliance was established in July 2013 and representatives of each partner organisation have signed a statement of commitment within a detailed Memorandum of Understanding.

The Leading Learning Forward TSA consists currently of 17 partner organisations of which 13 are schools, from across North Lincolnshire and beyond.

Action Groups for 2013-14

The Strategic Partners conducted a needs analysis and consultation with potential Alliance Partners during the summer. As a result of this analysis and period of consultation, detailed strategic and operational plans have been drawn up and submitted to the National College for Teaching & Leadership.

These plans and the national key performance indicators (KPIs) will drive the work of the Alliance through the next twelve months. Five groups have been established to achieve the first year objectives.

The ITT Group will focus on delivering an excellent programme of initial teacher training in schools of all phases across North Lincolnshire. The CPDL Group will develop a programme of delivery and support. The SPTM Group will focus on supporting and developing talent at all levels, whilst the S2S Group will provide a programme of school-to-school support including key research & development projects.

Finally, the Governance Group of the Strategic Board will ensure that the TSA has the necessary structures, policies and protocols in place to ensure the smooth-running of the Alliance.

The TSA has established five Action Groups for 2013-2014, they are:

1. **Initial Teacher Training (ITT)**
2. **Continuing Professional Development & Leadership (CPDL)**
3. **Succession Planning & Talent Management (SPTM)**
4. **School-to-School Support (S2S)**
5. **Governance (GOV)**

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What are teaching schools and what do they do?

A teaching school is an outstanding school that has a strong track record of collaborative working, and has been designated by the Department for Education (DFE) to play a key role in the leadership of a teaching school alliance.

This new designation gives outstanding schools the role of leading the training and professional development of teachers, support staff and headteachers as well as contributing to the raising of standards through school-to-school support. Teaching schools will bring together provision for training and development from initial teacher training (ITT) through to headship under a single school designation.

How long does teaching school designation last?

Designation will usually be for four years, subject to teaching schools continuing to meet the criteria and carrying out the role effectively. The term is also dependent upon continuation of government funding. In order to ensure momentum in a teaching school's work (for example initial teacher training), the timing of re-assessment and re-designation, where appropriate, will be carefully managed.

If the headteacher of a teaching school leaves, the teaching school will not automatically lose its designation, however the DFE will undertake an assessment to evaluate the capacity of the school to continue to support the work of the alliance.

*"A **teaching school alliance** is a group of schools and other partners that commit to working collaboratively, supported by one or more teaching schools. It includes all those schools that benefit from the alliance by receiving support, as well as teaching schools and strategic partners that offer support. Alliances may be cross phase and cross sector, work across local authorities and may include different types of organisations."*

Meeting Dates

Strategic Board	Mon 16 Sept	9.30 – 11.00 am
Alliance Partners	Mon 16 Sept	11.15 – 12.45 pm
ITT Action Group	Thu 19 Sept	1.00 – 3.00 pm
CPDL Action Group	Thu 26 Sept	1.00 – 3.00 pm
SPTM Action Group	Thu 3 Oct	1.00 – 3.00 pm
S2S Action Group	Thu 10 Oct	1.00 – 3.00 pm
Governance Action Group	Thu 17 Oct	1.00 – 3.00 pm
Official TSA Launch Event	Fri 29 Nov	TBC
Strategic Board @ St Hugh's	Thu 5 Dec	9.00 – 10.30 am
Alliance Partners	Thu 5 Dec	1.00 – 2.30 pm

Meetings take place at the **LDC** in **Scunthorpe** unless otherwise stated.

TSA Contacts

If you would like to get involved in the work of the TSA, then please contact the people below. It is hoped that the TSA website will go live at the launch event in November.

Chair of Strategic Board	Tracy Millard	St Hugh's
Chair of Alliance Partnership	Tracy Millard	St Hugh's
ITT Action Group Convener	Jo Leedham	N. Lincs. LA
CPDL Action Group Convener	Ben Creasy	Axholme
SPTM Action Group Convener	Joe Sellars	Axholme
S2S Action Group Convener	Paul Foster	Brumby Juniors
Governance Group Leader	Tracy Millard	St Hugh's
TSA Office Administrator	Sarah Mumby	LDC

For further information, membership enquiries or to request an initial visit from a TSA partner, please email sarah.mumby@northlincs.gov.uk or phone **01724 297932**.

The official newsletter of the Leading Learning Forward Teaching School Alliance is published monthly. The next issue will be published before the October half term break.

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