News Bulletin



Issue 4: 28 September 2021





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ANNOUNCEMENTS, INFO & UPDATES

Introduction

Being involved in Headteacher Appraisals in recent weeks has drawn me much further into thinking about curriculum than I had expected. My main takeaway so far is that developing a curriculum is not an event but rather a process or perhaps even a different way of thinking. We asked our leaders and teachers to rethink what they teach and how they teach it. We now need to ask what that looks like to pupils in class and what sort of connections and understanding our new curricula is allowing them to make. We also need to consider the relationship between assessment and curriculum and teaching; they should be in constant dialogue with each other.

Several Heads have described their discussions with staff about what is working well and what needs to be adjusted. I think that advice will serve us all well as leaders and governors in the Trust. We still have a long way to go and if our aim is to have excellent curricula in our schools being taught by reflective professionals then we must support that by making the space in leaders' and governors' meetings to hear how the curriculum is developing and changing. To use Ofsted's Intent-Implementation-Impact model, we need to really think about implementation, be open to change and adjustment and see those as a positive part of the journey.

With best wishes,

Gary Lewis

School Leaders' Meeting (Wednesday October 6th Hangstones Pavilion, 8.30 am for 9.00am start)

It will be so good to be able to gather together again. Please bring a copy of the <u>OFSTED Inspection</u> <u>Handbook Section 5</u> with you as we will refer to this for some important updates. A full agenda will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Risk Registers

Please could all schools send their current risk register to enquiries@lsp.org.uk by Monday 8 October.

In order to ensure the quality and consistency of risk registers, could I please ask you to check that the following common mistakes are addressed before sending:

- Incorrect template used (this is the correct template)
- Information missing, such as no one named in the Risk Owner column, or the second Risk Score missing (this is the risk score, which should reduce after considering the Mitigation Additional Controls in place)
- Incorrect Risk Score calculation is (likelihood score x impact score) + impact score

Please do contact me if you have any questions or would like some help. (nbird@lsp.org.uk)

Neill Bird

Reminder: Health & Safety minutes

Please send your most recent Health & Safety committee minutes (or equivalent/LGB meeting which included H&S agenda item) to jnorris@lsp.org.uk by 8 October 2021.

Energy costs

In early 2020 we took advantage of a depressed market to extend fixed pricing for our Trust gas contract in line with advice from our energy brokers, Powerful Allies. This has proved to be an advantageous step as demonstrated by the chart below:



The contract is fixed until 2024, and whilst this is good news, it does mean that we may face a significant increase in costs once the fixed price period ends.

We have also fixed our electricity prices until 2023 for Half Hourly meters & 2024 for Non Half Hourly meters, and whilst electricity hasn't seen the same increases as gas, this has still been of benefit to school budgets. Seven schools left their Local Authority electricity contracts last year and joined the LSP contract. At this point in time we entered into an agreement to fix their unit price for 12 months due to the uncertainty being caused by a Targeted Charging Review taking effect in April 2022. Whilst again this has been beneficial to the schools over this 12 month period, we are anticipating an increase of approximately 30% when the contract comes to an end in March 2022. The schools affected will be informed individually of the potential financial impact.

Catch up Numeracy & Literacy training

This resource has been discussed as part of the recent SEN intervention review. Whilst it was not chosen as one of the preferred tools, it might still be something that you are interested in purchasing.

More information can be found here: https://www.catchup.org/training.php

If we have a minimum of 10 delegates across either literacy or numeracy (this would usually be 10 per intervention) the price would be reduced from £450 to £399. Please email bwatts@lsp.org.uk if you would like to be included in any central procurement.

Asset Module

Following the feedback regarding the asset module demonstration that we received in the Summer term, it has been decided that we will not be investing in the module centrally.

Whilst the majority of schools agreed that the module was useful, there were concerns raised over the time available to staff to maintain the system as well as constraints on budgets making the cost prohibitive to them.

Any school still wishing to purchase the module is able to at the previously advertised prices (determined by school size), please contact bwatts@lsp.org.uk if you are interested.

Please continue to update your existing records, whether that be a spreadsheet or another method.





Odyssey Computing Hub



Bristol and North Somerset

Primary Computing Subject Leader Network

About Us

The National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE) was set up in November 2018 by the DfE to increase the number of pupils in schools and colleges who study computer science. Pates Grammar, in partnership with Adfecto, was successful in its application and Odyssey Computing Hub was formed. We are one of 34 hubs across the country and we serve Gloucestershire, Bristol, Bath, Swindon, Wiltshire and North Somerset.

Network Meetings

We are keen to develop local subject leader networks so that we can get to know you and you can get to know each other. Our aim is to support you in your role and, hopefully, ease your workload.

Network meetings will be held each term. These meetings will be an opportunity for you to meet with each other, share your experiences and for us to:

- update you on the latest local and national initiatives
- signpost you to curriculum information and useful resources
- provide you with support in your role as subject leader

We would also like your input to influence the direction of meetings to ensure that they address your local needs.

Date and Time:

Where: Zoom (initially, I very much hope that we can meet face to face in the near future)

When: October 19th **Time:** 16:00 – 17:00

Agenda:

- Teach Computing and Odyssey Computing Hub updates
- Further progression resources for the Teach Computing curriculum
- Assessing computing

Please come along and share your experiences of assessment too.

Booking link: https://www.stem.org.uk/cpd/499611/bristol-and-north-somerset-cs-sl-update-meeting-invite-only

In order to book, you will need to sign up for a Teach Computing account, but this will give you access to the free Teach Computing resources and will enable you to track your progress towards a Teach primary computing certificate (a nationally recognised qualification awarded by the BCS).

We are really looking forward to seeing you!