

News Bulletin



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Issue 25: 21 March 2023



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Introduction

A rather short edition of the News Bulletin this week doesn't indicate that we are having a quiet week in our Trust - quite the opposite! We are at peak recruitment season and have appointments taking place in schools and in the central team. I will admit that I had temporarily forgotten just how much work these processes are.

In very good news, I am delighted to announce that we have appointed Natalie Wilcox, currently head at Yate Academy to the new role of Director of Secondary Education. Natalie brings a wealth of experience in school leadership and completely shares our ambition for deep partnership and mutual flourishing. I really look forward to seeing the impact of her work with us.

Gary

HANS Conference 2023

As detailed in last week's bulletin, the Central Team has agreed to fund 50% of the members fee for attending the HANS conference. The school(s) of Headteachers attending the conference will be reimbursed 50% of the members fee (excluding accommodation). The reimbursement amounts to £115.00. If you are attending the conference, please let Diane know (dlogan@lsp.org.uk) and we will organise your reimbursement. If you are the Head of more than one school, please let Diane know which school you want to receive the reimbursement. Reimbursements will be coded to 9316 Suspense account.

Operational Away Day

Thank you for the responses from Business Managers to the possible dates for our Operational Away Day. I am pleased to confirm the date as 19th June. I recognise that this will be a non working day for some SBMs but would like to encourage you to make arrangements to attend if at all possible. We will be in contact with details of the venue and timings in due course. The day will provide an opportunity for networking, training and discussion, but we would also like to build in some time for relaxing/fun activities too. We may be able to extend the invitation for all or part of the day to other colleagues, such as finance, admin or site staff. We would be very grateful for your suggestions of topics or workshops that you would like us to include.

Applying for additional SCA funding

A gentle reminder that any applications for additional SCA funding need to be submitted by 21st April 2023. Details of how to apply were in bulletin issue 22, dated 28 February 2023.

Changes to National Insurance Rates & SMP rates on Orovia - action required

Orovia has updated the National insurance rates for the 23/24 financial year. There hasn't been any update to the employer's threshold allowance, and so there shouldn't be any impact on your budgets.

They have also updated the SMP value in the system so that it reflects the increase to £172.48. This will impact any live budgets that you have with members of staff on maternity leave and you will notice a slight difference in costings once you have regenerated your employee scenarios and repopulated your budget forecasts. It is essential that this is updated to ensure that your budgets are as accurate as possible, so please regenerate your current working scenario on Orovia as soon as possible and in time for your next budget monitor.

IMP has not yet been updated, but we will advise schools when this has been actioned. Thank you.

