

News Bulletin



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Issue 11: 22 November 2023



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Introduction

On Friday, we enjoyed working with nearly 300 primary teachers and Tom Sherrington on the next stage of our teaching and learning journey. Tom moved us from curriculum design and creation to look at pedagogy based on Rosenshine's principles. We now look forward to seeing the impact of the day in your schools and classrooms and know that you will be planning for this for the spring term.

This conference is part of a larger piece of cross trust collaborative work to produce an LSP pedagogical framework which will give us a shared understanding of best teaching practice. We know the huge benefits of working collaboratively and are therefore looking for a working party of Teaching and Learning Leaders to create the LSP Primary Pedagogical framework. The first session will be on **Thursday 30 November**. If your Teaching and Learning Lead would like to join this group please email [Janine Ashman, Director of Learning](#).

As this bulletin arrives in your inboxes the LSP Education Team, School Leaders and 400 secondary teaching colleagues are gathered at Gordano School for the joint LSP secondary INSET day. The theme of the day is 'teaching to promote inclusion and high levels of success'. A series of workshops and subject special sessions are planned for the day as well as opportunities to network and share best practice.

Eleanor Capel-Davies, Head of Administration

Reminder: Complaints Policy Consultation

A reminder that we are currently consulting on the Complaints Policy and the deadline for feedback and suggestions is this **Friday (24 November)**.

Key changes are:

- Creation of a centrally held complaints log - schools will need to submit complaints response letters to the LSP Central Team so they are noted at Trust level. Please note schools are still required to keep their own complaints logs.
- Clearer guidance for complainants on what details of their complaint letter should contain.
- Guidance around how the complaints policy may be impacted by external investigations.
- Extension of the period of time to organise a Stage 3 Independent Trustee Review Panel. All other response timelines remain the same.

[Click here to view the draft policy document](#) - the uploaded document contains tracked changes so you can see which contents have been amended and updated.

All Headteachers, School Business Managers and Local Governing Bodies are encouraged to engage with this consultation and provide feedback to us for consideration.

Please submit any comments, or changes (you are welcome to use further track-changes) to the [LSP Central Team](#) by Friday 24 November.

Pay Policy

The Trust-wide pay policy has been updated, to reflect the changes in teacher's pay, and was ratified by the Staffing and Pay Committee last week.

You can view a copy of the [policy here](#).

Local Governing Bodies will need to note this updated policy at their next meeting, and it is good practice to advise school staff that this policy has been updated. All teachers will get a letter in December confirming this pay award, and any salary uplift (for those applicable).

If you have any questions about this policy, or any other HR policies, please email the [Central HR Team](#).

Consultation: Admission Arrangements 2025-26

The LSP are consulting on the Admission Arrangements for 2025-26 for all schools within North Somerset. The public consultation is running from Monday 27 November 2023 - 9.00am on Friday 19 January 2024. You can find a copy of the draft policies on the LSP website, and you may like to add a line to your school website directing people to the consultation documents. All comments and questions on this consultation should be sent to the [LSP Central Team](#).

We have also published the Admission Arrangements for infant, primary and secondary schools with Bath and North East Somerset (BANES) on our website. We are not consulting on these policies this year.

Once all of the Admission Arrangements for 2025-26 have been signed off by Trustees on Wednesday 28 February 2024 we will formally publish them on our website and notify schools of this in the weekly bulletin.

If you have any questions about this please email [Eleanor Capel-Davies, Head of Administration](#).



LSP Term 2 Newsletter

The next LSP Newsletter will be published at the end of Term 2. If you have any news stories or photos from your school that you wish to include, could you please email them to [Leah Evans, Communications Officer](#) by **Thursday 30 November**. A gentle reminder that if you are submitting any imagery, please ensure that you have any relevant permissions.

You can stay up to date with Trust news on Facebook, X, LinkedIn and on the LSP website.

Leah Evans

Communications Officer

LSP Christmas card designs

As mentioned at the School Leader's Meeting earlier this month we would love submission of festive designs from children across the LSP to use as Christmas cards and on social media later this term.

If you have any designs you could submit to us please email them to [Leah Evans, Communications Officer](#), by **Thursday 30 November**.



Correction: Increase in RPA

To clarify: The RPA 2024 -25 price is increasing by £2 (not £2k as stated last week!) per pupil from Sunday 1 September 2024 - Sunday 31 August 2025 reflecting recent increases in inflation and the cost of meeting claims.

IMP was projecting £23 per pupil across all years. The Finance Team have already updated this per pupil increase (to £25) on your behalf and the system will calculate the increase in costs for 2024/25 and other years based on your projected pupil numbers.

CPD UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Upcoming Lighthouse Learning and CPD Networks

Please email [Lighthouse Learning](#) if you have any questions about the below events.

Date	Event
Friday 24 November 1.15 - 4.00pm in person	Primary English Network: English Hub Building, St Peter’s School
Monday 4 December 3.00-6.00pm	SEND Law and Funding Training with Garry Freeman Online

Financial Reporting Information Recording

Thank you to all those who attended the Financial Reporting Information Sessions we have held over the past few weeks. We have made a recording of one of the online sessions, for those who were unable to attend or those who want to watch it back, which can be [accessed here](#).



Walk Thru Updates

The person registered as admin for your school's Walk Thru account should have received the following information about the Walk Thru Google Site:

*We've been busy updating some of the core tools in our Google Site. These updates mean that some of your bookmarked or downloaded cluster tools, such as the **Cluster Builder** and the **ECF Cluster Tool**, might now contain some expired hyperlinks.*

To fix this, you'll need to log back into the Google Site through the Members' area online at walkthrus.co.uk and download the latest version of these tools.

This update will also affect any bookmarked pages into the Google Site; please check your links and follow the route above if you experience any problems.

WalkThrus Webinar Event

Walkthrus have announced their latest Webinar Event ('Linking Training Inputs to Coaching Processes').

The training webinar will take place on Monday 27 November at 4.00pm and will be focused on how you can use the WalkThrus toolkit to plan and deliver training inputs as part of an effective coaching process.

You can [register for the training here](#).



‘School Improvement Snippets’ Core Message 3: Use strong evidence to support your disadvantaged strategy

Developing a Pupil Premium strategy is best supported by making use of the best available evidence. This can help you select approaches that are likely to work in your school. You should make use of a broad array of external research evidence to inform your decision-making.

For example, after identifying pupils in need of targeted reading interventions through standardised assessments, school leaders should seek relevant and robust research evidence on which approaches are most likely to provide appropriate and effective solutions. This could include particular phonics programmes or approaches to support reading fluency.

While evidence from research provides valuable insight into what has happened in classrooms in the past, it doesn't automatically mean that approach will be effective in the future. It's important to use careful judgement of the relevance and applicability of any source of evidence.



What is evidence?

‘Evidence’ is a broad term that means different things to different people, which may include:

- Evidence generated through research outside of school by researchers, academics, and others, often assessing the impact of practices or approaches; and
- Evidence generated inside of school through the collection and analysis of pupil assessments and other sources of data.

Given the range of demands teachers and school leaders are faced with, keeping up to date with high quality evidence generated through research outside of school can prove challenging. If, though, you are going to make strategic school improvement ‘best bets’ based on a range of evidence, identifying credible evidence sources and reflecting on them critically is crucial.

The EEF website has lots of advice and support for leaders around best practice in different areas of school life including teaching, learning and behaviour - it is a really good starting point.

The Teaching and Learning Toolkit	A summary of thousands of quantitative and experimental research studies conducted in schools, comparing the average impact and costs of different approaches to teaching and learning.
Guidance reports	Practical advice, recommendations, and tools taken from evidence to help schools develop practice on a wide range of topics.
Early Years Toolkit	A summary of the best available evidence on key areas for learning and development for 0 – 5 year olds.
Early Years Evidence Store	Support to help you put evidence-informed approaches into practice.
Pupil Premium ‘menu of approaches’: evidence brief and supporting resources	Signposts to relevant evidence and practical resources for each approach in the Department for Education’s ‘menu of approaches’.
Programme evaluations	Findings from our evaluations that test the impact of high-potential programmes and approaches in England.
Blogs	Concise and accessible summaries of findings from research evidence and other sources.

KEY LINKS, DATES AND DEADLINES

These reminders do not replace the Annual Planner so please ensure you are checking this regularly.

Please note the following links will only work for those who already have access to the relevant site or folder. If you feel you need to be given permission to access something please let us know.

[Click here to access the Annual Planner \(via Sharepoint\)](#)

[Click here to access an index of previous bulletin articles](#)

[Click here to access previous editions of the LSP weekly bulletin](#)

DATE	KEY DATE OR DEADLINE	FAO
Wednesday 22 November	Secondary INSET Day @ Gordano School	Secondary Heads
Friday 24 November	Deadline for response to Policy Consultation: Complaints	All
Friday 24 November	Submit projected financial out-turn report as at end October following approval by LGB to <u>Central Team</u> .	Clerks/SBMs
Thursday 30 November	Deadline to submit news articles and festive designs for trust-wise newsletter/use	All



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