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Introduction

Dear Colleagues,

Mobile phone use, and our stance regarding that, is on our Headteachers' Meeting agenda this morning. We will be having speakers from UWE to share some of their research on the impact of smart devices on childhood. I am one of those people who feels fortunate to have raised his children in a slightly less social media saturated world. For families with children at late primary or secondary stages now the influence of digital culture is all pervasive. One of our schools is exploring the use of the [Yondr phone pouches](#) to totally restrict the devices on school sites but I think the challenge for us goes even further than this. Are we in a position to lead attitudes and action on phones in our communities? Do we have sufficient status and credit with our families for them to accept that lead?

A wider issue for us might be to consider the level of support and guidance that we give to parents raising children in a time when it is difficult to do so and in a context where often they cannot rely on extended families. It takes us back to the discussions that we all had in the immediate wake of the pandemic about the breaking of the social contract and the need to rebuild it. It is tempting to feel slightly despairing about our capacity to take on this challenge.

A visit that I made to Easton Christian Family Centre (ECFC) last week has really inspired me to think more courageously about the challenge - I had arranged to meet the vicar there as a courtesy now that the school is part of our Trust. ECFC is co-located with Easton CE Primary on an inner city site. Visiting the site at 10.30am on a Monday I did not expect to find the place buzzing with people getting help from volunteers on all manner of matters. And this was not a fluke of timing. The centre is like this virtually all the time and I was visiting on a quiet day because the café was closed. ECFC runs a parenting programme called Kids Matter to support parents: they are often separated from their extended families, many are recent immigrants and quite a few of them are single parents. The help is received with great gratitude and engagement and of the 30 parents who have undertaken specific courses recently 29 completed.

I absolutely accept that context is everything, but Easton CE Primary School and ECFC know their community and mobilise the capacity, mainly from volunteers, to meet its need. I see a real crisis in parenting in our society right now and I'm thinking of how we might be as agile and resourceful as the community in Easton.

As ever,

Gary Lewis

Chief Executive

INSET & Trust Training Days for 2025-26

Following discussions at Headteacher reference/networking groups the following INSET dates have been set, for all schools in LSP, for 2025-26.

We will be having five INSET days and one Trust Training Day. A key thing to note is Friday 13 February 2026 is a Trust Training Day - it is not an INSET day (it is a normal working day for staff) which is important for contractual reasons (especially for part time and support staff).

Primary Schools

- Tuesday 2 September 2025
- Wednesday 3 September 2025
- Monday 3 November 2025
- Friday 16 January 2026 (for Moderation)
- Friday 13 February 2026 (Trust Training Day)
- + one further date of your choice

Secondary Schools

- Tuesday 2 September 2025
- Wednesday 3 September 2025
- Wednesday 19 November 2025 (collaborative content across all LSP secondaries)
- Friday 13 February 2026 (Trust Training Day)
- + two further dates of your choice

Action

You will see that Headteachers have the option of setting one (primary) or two (secondary) dates themselves. Please use [this form to submit](#) your 'school choice date(s)' (both primary and secondary) to the Central Team by **Tuesday 21 January**.

All three local authorities (BANES, Bristol and North Somerset) have the same term dates for 2025-26, and these are the dates we will be following as a Trust:

- Term 1- 2 September 2025 to 24 October 2025
- Term 2- 3 November 2025 to 19 December 2025
- Term 3 - 5 January 2026 to 13 February 2026
- Term 4 - 23 February 2026 to 2 April 2026
- Term 5 - 20 April 2026 to 22 May 2026
- Term 6 - 1 June 2026 to 22 July 2026

You will then be able to publish these dates on your website for staff and parents.

(continued...)

INSET & Trust Training Days for 2025-26 (...continued)

We have created the following calendars showing school term dates for 2025-26, which you are welcome to download and send out to staff/parents. These have been pre-populated with the INSET dates for 2025/26, *except for* the additional date(s) which each school is required to submit individually.

Once your additional INSET date(s) have been submitted, please make sure they are added to the Excel calendar before the calendar is sent out.

Primary School Term Dates 2025/26 - [click here to download the calendar](#)

LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP **LSP Primary School Term Dates 2025/26**

2025-2026

September '25	October '25	November '25	December '25
M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
January '26	February '26	March '26	April '26
M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
May '26	June '26	July '26	August '26
M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Notes:

School Day

INSET Day* ** one further date of your choice

School Holiday

Bank Holidays*

Term Dates Summary:

Term 1 02 September 2025 24 October 2025

Term 2 03 November 2025 19 December 2025

Term 3 05 January 2026 13 February 2026

Term 4 23 February 2026 02 April 2026

Term 5 20 April 2026 22 May 2026

Term 6 01 June 2026 22 July 2026

Secondary School Term Dates 2025/26 - [click here to download the calendar](#)

LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP **LSP Secondary School Term Dates 2025/26**

2025-2026

September '25	October '25	November '25	December '25
M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
January '26	February '26	March '26	April '26
M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
May '26	June '26	July '26	August '26
M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Notes:

School Day

INSET Day* ** two further dates of your choice

School Holiday

Bank Holidays*

Term Dates Summary:

Term 1 02 September 2025 24 October 2025

Term 2 03 November 2025 19 December 2025

Term 3 05 January 2026 13 February 2026

Term 4 23 February 2026 02 April 2026

Term 5 20 April 2026 22 May 2026

Term 6 01 June 2026 22 July 2026

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to [contact the Central Team](#).

New LADO for North Somerset Schools

We have been informed that the Local Authority Designated Officer for North Somerset has changed.

The LADO is now Allyson (Ally) Donovan. Contact details remain the same:

lado@n-somerset.gov.uk or 07795 092 692

Please ensure you update relevant staff with this information as well.



Consultation on Core Services Charge for 2025-26

We are today launching a consultation on the proposed Core Services Charge for 2025-26. The proposed Core Services Charge consultation is [available on Foldr](#) (please see pathway below to access the Policy) and the proposed changes have been tracked for your information.

Y:\My Files\LSP Communications\Consultations\Core Services Charge for 2025-26

The Trustees will agree the Core Services Charge for the 2025-26 financial year at their meeting on Wednesday 26 February 2025. This is in order to ensure that you have this information in time to prepare your budget, through your Local Governing Body and to submit this information to the Board of Trustees by Friday 4 July 2025. To inform the Trustees' decision making, and to enable you to influence the arrangements for the future, this consultation will run from Wednesday 15 January until **5.00pm on Friday 7 February**.

The consultation is aimed at Headteachers and Chairs of Governors although we would encourage you to consult or share with other key stakeholders such as Business Managers. We would also like Chairs of Local Governing Bodies to ensure that the consultation is reported to their LGB and any response from the LGB is noted in their minutes. Chairs may wish to identify a member(s) of the LGB to lead on making a response to share the workload and benefit from governor skills.

Please submit your comments on the consultation to enquiries@lsp.org.uk. If you would like to submit changes to the policy, please highlight your changes or make them using tracked changes and also send them to this email address.

Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) Funding

Last year, the Central Finance Team developed a tool to help schools track their expenditure against DFC including the additional school capital funding allocated to schools in 2022-23 to improve energy efficiency. This tool has now been updated to reflect final 2023-24 capital balances and is available in Foldr under Information for 2024-25 Budgets.

The DfE terms for Devolved Formula Capital state that schools have the year in which funding is allocated plus two further financial years to spend the funding. Please note that this is based on an April to March fiscal year (although the tool includes DFC expenditure based on financial year for ease of tracking). Although, no school in the Trust has had DFC clawed back, there are a number of schools which have DFC that is at risk of claw back. We would therefore encourage schools to use this tool and work with their Hub Estates Lead to ensure that your DFC is effectively budgeted.

Aspens Spring/Summer Menu - Feedback

Thank you to those who have sent in feedback regarding Aspens' provisional Spring/Summer menus. There is still time if anyone would like to submit any further comments.

Please email comments to jbeavan@lsp.org.uk by Friday (17 January).



Safe Touch Policy

You may have recently received communication from Delegated Services informing you of the requirement to have a Safe Touch Policy in place. There is no need for you to take any action at this time, a model policy is being worked on centrally that will align with Teach Teach training (see CPD section) and will be shared once completed and approved.

Safeguarding training L1 Basic Awareness and Safer Recruitment - iHASCO

We are pleased to inform you that as well as Health & Safety Essentials and Health & Safety for Managers you can also nominate staff for Safeguarding in Education and Safer recruitment courses. This means all schools have access to these accredited courses, free of charge, whilst we wait for iAM Compliant to launch their safeguarding modules later this year.

Please email trustservices@lsp.org.uk with the name, email address and course title of any staff who require this training.

You can still choose for staff to complete their Basic Awareness and safer recruitment training through your Local Authority or the online NSPCC module, although this will be at an additional cost to the school's budget. This may be particularly appropriate for staff that are new to education and have not completed L1 training before.



Additional Bid Fund Allocations

We are opening the bidding process for the Additional Bid Fund allocated in the School Condition Allocation (SCA). The process will remain unchanged from last year.

Whilst it is important that we continue to prioritise significant condition issues, there are likely to be other projects that could have a huge impact on the outcomes or wellbeing of our pupils, or staff, that are not likely to be identified for funding for a considerable number of years.

Each year we now set aside a small proportion of our SCA funding for these more developmental projects. The amount of funding for this purpose is determined annually and will depend on the funding available and the cost of addressing the most serious condition issues in our school estate.

The funding available for 2024/25 is £60,000. SCA funding can only be used to address building condition, building compliance, energy efficiency or health and safety issues and therefore, any additional projects must also meet these criteria.

Rather than create a bureaucratic process that requires significant work for both schools and the Central Team, we would like to utilise Estates Development Plans that you should already have in place.

Schools will be able to apply for this funding for projects between £2.5k and £30k in a Primary School and £15k to £50k in a Secondary School. We will need the following information:

- Description of the project
- Estimated cost
- Impact on outcomes or wellbeing and for what group e.g. pupils, staff, community
- Proposed timescales
- Whether any other funding sources are available and what they are

If all this information is already available in your Estates Development Plan, then you will only need to provide this plan to apply for funding and a breakdown of the planned use of your devolved capital.

If the information above is not in your Estates Development Plan, then it will need to be provided in addition.

Estates Development Plans need to have been approved by your Local Governing Body (LGB) before they can be used to support this application.

Applications for this funding need to be submitted by **Friday 21 March 2025** and should be emailed to [Callum Fear, Estates Support Officer](#). The outcomes of applications will be shared by Tuesday 22 April. This is earlier than in previous years to provide time for projects to be delivered during the 2025 summer break, where appropriate.

14 February Conference - Updates for Headteachers

With a month to go to our **Advancing Equity, Unlocking Excellence Event** on Friday 14 February we are swiftly heading towards the final planning stages.

Those colleagues on the attendance list were emailed yesterday and have been asked to start thinking about logistics for the day. Please can you encourage and support staff in your schools to do these tasks:

Attendees need to start planning transport to Ashton Gate. Parking at the venue is limited, and subject to charges, so it is essential they arrange lifts/car shares and use public transport or walk if they live locally. Please also let lighthouselearning@lsp.org.uk know if you will be bringing a school minibus as soon as possible.

Dietary needs/allergies to be reported by 3.30pm on Monday 27 January [via this form](#).

The final list of attendees will be sent to Headteachers by Friday 24 January. Going forward if you are aware of someone who can no longer attend (signed off sick, error etc) **you must email lighthouselearning@lsp.org.uk** so the list can be amended and updated.

You can click here to view the [latest Conference Brochure](#).

ELSA training 2025

Educational Psychology Service's Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) training for 2025 is now available to purchase on the SSE website, via this [link](#) (please note, you will need to login to your school account to access this link).

Full details of the training can be [found on this poster](#).

The deadline for booking is Monday 31 March 2025. Spaces will be offered on a first come, first serve basis.



**ADVANCING EQUITY
UNLOCKING POTENTIAL**
Lighthouse Schools Partnership 14 February 2025



Team Teach Training

We are pleased to offer a comprehensive, long-term plan for Team Teach CPD across our Trust. These sessions will be delivered by Elementa Education and will enable schools to plan this training over the coming months. Dates we have available are:

Date	Programme
Monday 24 February 2025	Refresher Level 2 Team Teach Training
Tuesday 25 February & Tuesday 11 March 2025	Level 2 Team Teach Training
Wednesday 26 March 2025	Level 1 Team Teach Training
Monday 2 June & Thursday 12 June 2025	Level 2 Team Teach Training
Wednesday 17 September & Wednesday 1 October 2025	Level 2 Team Teach Training
Wednesday 15 October 2025	Level 1 Team Teach Training

All training will be held at English Hub Room, St Peter's Primary, BS20 6BT.

Schools will be recharged for the cost of the courses (we expect this to be £120 for L1 training and L2 refresher courses and £240 for L2 training but, when we have numbers confirmed, we will see if we can reduce the costs).

There is also a Team Teach subscription for schools who have training which is £180 a year (again, when we have trust numbers confirmed we will try and negotiate this cost).

[Please book here - places are limited](#). You will need to complete the form for each delegate you want to sign up. **Deadline is 12noon on Friday 24 January.**

If you have any questions please email [Lighthouse Learning](#)





LIGHTHOUSE
LEARNING

Upcoming Lighthouse Learning Sessions and CPD Networks

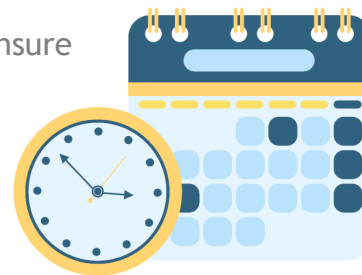
Please email [Lighthouse Learning](#) if you have any questions about the below events.

Agendas, Teams links (if required) and other resources will be emailed one week in advance of each network. The full programme of Lighthouse Learning CPD on offer for 2024-25 can be found on the [LSP website](#).

DATE	EVENT	AUDIENCE
Wednesday 15 January 3.30-5.00pm	LSP Secondary Networks for Maths and MFL Both Online via Teams (link to be sent from Natalie Wilcox)	Secondary Maths and MFL Leads
Wednesday 15 January 3.30-4.30pm	LSP Secondary Teaching & Learning Network Online via Teams	Secondary Teaching & Learning Leads
Thursday 16 January 3.30-5.00pm	LSP Secondary English Networks Online via Teams (link to be sent from Natalie Wilcox)	Secondary English Leads
Monday 20 January 1.00-4.00pm	Primary English Network @ English Hub Room, St Peter's Primary School.	Primary English Leads
Monday 20 January 1.00-4.00pm	Trust Wide SEND Network Online via Teams	SENDCos
Tuesday 21 January 6.00-7.00pm	Governance CPD Webinar: Primary Assessment Click here to sign up	Primary Governors
Wednesday 22 January 3.30-4.00pm	LSP Secondary Raising Standards Network Online via Teams	Secondary Standards Leads
Wednesday 22 January 3.45-5.15pm	WRM Mixed Age Classes Webinars: Episodic Teaching and Lesson Design. <i>Link already sent to Headteachers</i>	WRM Mixed Age Schools
Thursday 23 January 10.30-11.30am & 7.15-8.15pm	Chairs' Forum Online via Teams. <i>Link will be circulated by Chris Hills in due course.</i>	Chairs
Monday 27 January 3.00-4.30pm	Trust Wide Safeguarding Network Online via Teams	Safeguarding Leads

KEY DATES, DEADLINES & REMINDERS

These reminders do not replace the LSP Annual Planner so please ensure you are checking this regularly (link on next page).



Key Dates

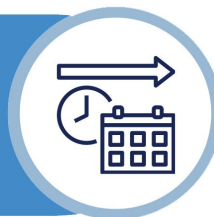
DATE	INFORMATION	FAO
13-17 January	LSP Primary Moderation Sessions	Primary Staff
Thursday 16 January	School Census Date	All
5.00pm, Friday 7 February	Deadline to respond to Core Services Charge Consultation	All
Friday 21 March	Deadline to submit to Estates Additional Bid Fund requests to Callum Fear .	Heads, SBM/ OMs & Estates



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](#).

Annual Planner 2024/25

Click to view the Annual Planner
(Via Sharepoint)



Bulletin Index

Click to access an index of
previous bulletin articles

Previous Bulletins

Click to access previous editions of the
LSP Weekly News Bulletin



The Beacon

Click to read the latest edition of the
LSP Newsletter: The Beacon



SHARE WITH US

Don't forget, you can submit your school news stories to
be shared in our newsletters and on our social media.

Email your stories to: newsletter@lsp.org.uk