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Introduction

Dear Colleagues,

I had the pleasure of attending the Churchill Music Young Musician of the Year competition on Monday evening. The event is run for Churchill Academy and Sixth Form by a local charity called Churchill Music. We heard a number of very accomplished performances on strings, piano, brass and voice and the panel of judges was chaired by Richard Crabtree, Professor of Viola at the Trinity Laban Conservatoire.

When the panel gave their feedback and comments to the contestants Richard also called up the two violinists and the pianist one by one to offer some direct coaching. As you can imagine, the atmosphere was electric with tension for the young people being corrected and put through their paces by an eminent stranger in front of an audience. What happened was remarkable. He got the pupils to play a section of their piece, asked them questions about what they were doing and affirmed or corrected their responses. He made adjustments to posture, phrasing, dynamics and tone and then asked them to put it all together. In each case the transformation was incredible, the pupils smiled with pleasure and the audience applauded. This was a cameo of what great teaching is: challenging, forensic, expert and transformational.

In our work none of us are ever the finished product. We all benefit from the challenge and critique of others in line management, coaching and governance. Seeing Richard Crabtree do his stuff on Monday was a brilliant affirmation of that for me.

As ever,

Gary Lewis, Chief Executive



The Beacon - Parents' Edition



Further to our [most recent edition of the Beacon](#), which was emailed out to all staff in December, we have created a parents/carers' version of The Beacon, which includes news stories and updates from across the trust.

Headteachers will be emailed the direct link to this Parents Edition of The Beacon later today - please can you ensure you include this in upcoming communications to parents. Thank you to all those who have submitted articles for the Beacon so far this year - it's great to be able to share news from across all of our schools.

Leah Evans, Communications Officer

Upcoming LSP Primary Headteachers' Meeting

The next LSP Primary Headteachers' Meeting is taking place on Wednesday 5 February 8.30-11.30am at Nailsea Baptist Church.

[Click here to view the agenda for this meeting](#)

Reminder: Consultation on Core Services Charge for 2025-26

A reminder that we have launched the 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 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. The consultation will close at **5.00pm on Friday 7 February** (next week). Please submit any 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.

Website compliance and recent communication from Juniper

We are aware that schools [received emails/letters from Juniper](#) who are the website provider for the vast majority of LSP schools (previously known as E4Education) over the past few days. This letter covers important information, and will require some action, however schools do not need to rush to purchase the package from them.

We have confirmed with Juniper that no LSP school is to be automatically allocated/charged for the Accessibility Compliance package. The letter covers two areas and the key actions required can be done at school level, without any additional charge:

- Website accessibility
- Policy compliance

Website Accessibility - statement required (applies to all LSP schools)

In October 2024, [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.2](#) came into force. However, primary and secondary schools or nurseries are partially exempt, with the exception of the website content people **need** in order to use their services (for example a form that lets you outline school meal preferences). Schools are also required to publish an accessibility statement.

Juniper has already created a template accessibility statement for your website which you can go in and edit/update and then publish. You can find this by searching for [accessibility statement](#) in the help section of your Juniper website (it may automatically load as a pop-up when you log into your website this week).

For schools that do not have a Juniper Education website, [there are templates here](#). For another example you can view the LSP website accessibility statement via the [footer of our website](#).

Please note: Your accessibility statement should be reviewed annually to check it still contains relevant exceptions/provisions.

Website accessibility involves designing/configuring your website, and adding and formatting your content so people can easily access it using assistive technologies, for example, screen readers and braille displays. As you upload future information/images/pages etc to your website, and regularly review and update the information, you may like to take this opportunity to make it more accessible. Within the Juniper Help section there are lots of useful guides on ways you can make your website more accessible. [This article in particular explains](#) how you can put content on the page to make it easier to read/access for all.

Continued...

Website compliance and recent communication from Juniper

Continued...

Policy Compliance - optional offer

As you may be aware there are a number of 'bolt-on services' that can be purchased by schools to add additional functionality to Juniper websites. One of these is their new policy dashboard, which helps you keep track of any policies/documents uploaded to your website and sends a reminder when these need to be reviewed. This is an *element* of compliance which could be looked at by Ofsted, but not all of it. If you are regularly reviewing your website to make sure it is up to date, and have a robust process in place to review school-based policies you should not need this bolt-on. A reminder that the DfE guidance on what you should publish on your website [can be found here](#), and there is the [helpful checklist provided by The Key](#) which you may find helpful.

If you wish to purchase this bolt-on, or any others from Juniper for your website, this would come with an additional cost that would be from your school's budget.

Next steps

Log in to your website and set up your accessibility statement:

- For schools with a **Juniper website**, you can edit and upload the template accessibility statement that Juniper have created - see previous page for details of how to access this.
- For schools that **do not have a Juniper Education website**, [there are templates here](#). For another example you can view the LSP website accessibility statement via the [footer of our website](#).

If you have any questions on the above please contact the [Central Admin Team](#) in the first instance and we will respond to you as swiftly as possible (please note that Leah Evans, Communications Officer works Tuesday, Wednesday and Fridays).

Trust Services are going to check with other website based essential services (ParentPay, School Cloud etc) to ensure that these websites are WCAG 2.2 compliant.

We have fed back to Juniper that the communication was potentially alarming and misleading and have asked that should a mass-communication be sent out to all users again the Central Team are aware of the contents first so we can confirm the Trust's position if required.

Flexi-Schooling Requests

We are seeing a small but growing number of parents expressing an interest in "Flexi-schooling" their child.

This is not something that we or the Department for Education would recommend as it allows children to miss significant chunks of our well-sequenced curriculum. We have thought long and hard about our curriculum design so would want to avoid children missing full days wherever we can. Flexi-schooling is different to a part-time timetable as there is always a specific reason for this to support a child's needs and there is always a defined time frame.

If you have any questions, [please get in touch](#).

Natalie Wilcox, Director of Secondary Education

Review of Centralised Services

As you will know, the Centralised Services for Finance, HR, Estates and Business Support were expanded following the Operational Review and are currently delivered to 13 primary schools across the Trust. The service is also provided to our 3 new Bristol schools as a continuation of the service that was provided by DBAT.

Having extended the service significantly in September 2025, we would like to take this opportunity to review how well the service is operating and to consider what amendments could be made to provide clarification or improvements. The Managers of the services are each reviewing the service level agreements and I will be meeting with the Headteachers of the 13 schools after Easter to seek their feedback and input.

Louise Malik, Chief Financial and Operating Officer

North Somerset S175 Safeguarding Audits

The deadline for North Somerset S175 Safeguarding Audits to be submitted to Paul Cox is 25th February. Please copy in jashman@lsp.co.uk when you submit them. If you have any questions about your audit, please contact [Janine Ashman](#).



Breach of Sensitive Data

BBC News have recently reported on a breach of sensitive data at a school in Keynsham. The data was shared following a Freedom of Information (FOI) request about the use of the school's withdrawal room. A spreadsheet was shared containing pupil details that included SEND data (and/or the links to the sensitive data).

Please avoid sending spreadsheets in response to an FOI request and convert the information to PDF prior to sending. We would also always recommend a second pair of eyes prior to any release of information.

Furthermore, pupil names should **never** be shared in an FOI. Names are personal data, which is exempt under FOI law. If a request for personal data is made, this would be a Subject Access Request (SAR), and limits the requestor to only information about themselves (or their child), rather than statistical information.

If you have any questions about FOI or SAR then please contact i-west@bathnes.gov.uk or trustservices@lsp.org.uk.

Caution using Microsoft Teams

We've been alerted to recent news articles regarding hackers using Microsoft Teams to pose as remote IT staff in order to gain access to their network. With this in mind, please remind all staff to be on alert when using Microsoft Teams - particularly when receiving messages or calls from unknown contacts.

Any suspicious calls or messages should be reported to trustservices@lsp.org.uk.



Upcoming Clerks' Network

The next LSP Clerks' Network will take place on **Thursday 6 February** from 1.00pm.

Clerks will be sent the Teams Invitation directly by Chris Hills, Governance Professional.

Looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this session.

Follow up from Chairs' Forum - Thursday 23 January

It was good to see so many of you attending the Chairs' Forum over the two sessions, we had attendees from 23 or our 25 Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) including our new Bristol schools.

The focus of the Forum was a presentation from Gary Lewis on Nurture and SEND strategies in LSP, followed by some perspective and challenging questions. I know Gary took notes! Please ensure you share your learning back to your LGB in the coming weeks.

I gave a few brief updates, sharing an exemplar RAG rating of minutes, and a reminder of the LGB responsibility to challenge and question attendance and behaviour data shared at LGB meetings. In addition, I mentioned the need for LGB minutes to be focused, avoiding a meeting transcript. I would encourage any Clerks or Chairs who are not sure to reach out to [Chris Hills, Governance Professional](#) for guidance on appropriate detail for minutes.

Attendees in the morning session would have also experienced the impromptu AI demonstration, we are looking further at how this might enhance our governance work.

We heard the question around how LGBs engage in meaningful stakeholder engagement, this is something for thought and discussion in your LGBs before we come back for our next Chairs Forum in March (Wednesday 19 and Wednesday 26 March) where I would like to make this our meeting focus.

Adele Haysom, Chair of Trustees



14 February - Logistic reminders

All Headteachers were emailed with the confirmed list of attendees from your school on Wednesday 22 January. We are at capacity, so cannot accommodate anyone who is not on your list at the event. Please **do not** forward communications about the conference to colleagues who are not on your list to attend.

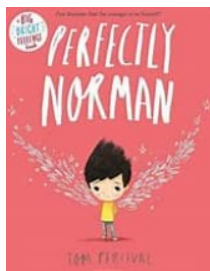
If you know of anyone on your list who will no longer be attending please email lighthouselearning@lsp.org.uk as soon as possible, and we will be able to allocate any spaces which arise to those on the waiting list.

Finally as you are aware car sharing and use of minibuses will be essential as parking is limited. Please facilitate conversations and arrangements between staff. Please email lighthouselearning@lsp.org.uk by **Wednesday 5 February**, with the number of minibuses your school will be bringing, if you have this resource to utilise.

LSP Writing Units - Spring 2 Term

We are excited to share spring 2's Writing Units for FS, Y3 and Y6:

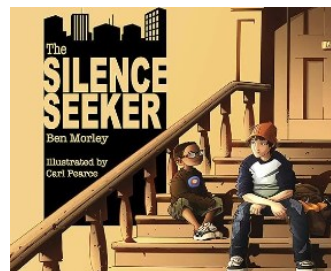
FS



Y3



Y6



It was fantastic to see the impact of the units in moderation and hear positive responses from teachers who have used them.

We will, as always, be doing a short briefing for all staff who are using the unit on **Tuesday 4 February, 3.45 - 4.15pm**. It is essential that staff using the units attend the briefing in order to understand the rationale and thinking from the team who have developed them. It is also an opportunity to ask any questions.

Staff need to [register for this webinar](#) to attend the briefing.

As always, we would love to hear some staff feedback on this term's units - please feel free to [share this form](#) with relevant staff.

Janine Ashman, Director of Learning

Phonic Essentials for KS2/3 - Wednesday 5 February



**Unlocking
Excellence**
English Hub at St Peter's School

Phonics Essentials for KS2 and 3

Dates: 2nd October or 5th February 3.45 – 5.15pm (attend one)
Venue: Online

The ongoing impact of the pandemic has resulted in an increased number of pupils entering Key Stage 2 and 3 who are not yet secure in their phonics skills. We also have struggling readers who take longer to embed their phonics knowledge.

Join us for a twilight session designed for staff in Key Stage 2 and 3. This session will introduce the principles of phonics teaching and provide valuable insights into utilizing your school's Systematic Synthetic Phonics (SSP) program to support these essential learners.

Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your teaching strategies and better support your pupils in overcoming these challenges. [BOOK HERE](#)



**Unlocking
Excellence**
English Hub at St Peter's School

Funded by

Department
for Education

Talk Through Stories - Thursday 6 February



Unlocking
Excellence
English Hub at St Peter's School

Talk Through Stories

Enrich Your Classroom with the Power of Children's Literature and Expand Your Students' Vocabulary with Talk Through Stories

Talk Through Stories is designed to enhance children's spoken vocabulary by utilising the finest in children's literature. Developed by the experts at Read Write Inc, this programme is available to all schools, regardless of their current phonics programme. **Join us for this full day of CPD on Thursday 6th February.** Training will be hosted at St Peter's Church of England Primary School, Portishead.

Comprehensive Training: Gain a thorough understanding of how to use stories to develop and support pupils' vocabulary and early language skills.

Expert Insights: Benefit from RMT's extensive expertise in language development.

Limited Availability: Only 20 schools can participate in this CPD session.

Attendance Policy: A £50 fee will be charged to schools that book but do not attend.

Required Materials: Schools will need to purchase the books used in the programme.

Don't miss this opportunity to empower your students with a richer vocabulary and a love for literature. Secure your place today!

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for Education



Unlocking Reading Fluency - Friday 7 February



1 day face to face and online coaching follow-up
£180 for two members of staff.

Unlocking Reading Fluency

Fluent decoding allows us to understand what we read. Because the reader has gained accuracy and automaticity in word reading, the brain's resources are available to focus on lifting the meaning from the page: connecting the words and sentences, and making connections across the text. As pupils gain fluency, their motivation increases: they start to enjoy reading more and are willing to do more of it. Reading Framework

We will provide you with the knowledge needed to teach fluency across your school and how to identify pupils who need additional support with this. We'll support you to create an action plan to implement or enhance the fluency provision in your school. We recommend that two leading members of staff attend this training.

7th February

9.00am – 3.00pm

At St Peter's in Portishead

9th May

1.30pm – 4.00pm

Online coaching follow up

Book here: [Book now](#)





Upcoming Lighthouse Learning Sessions and CPD Networks

Please email [Lighthouse Learning](mailto:info@lighthouselearning.co.uk) if you have any questions about the below events.

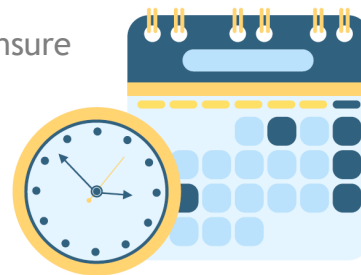
Agendas, Teams links (if required) and other resources will be emailed one week in advance of each network. The full programme of Lighthouse Learning CPD on offer for 2024-25 can be found on the [LSP website](https://www.lighthouselearning.co.uk).

DATE	EVENT	AUDIENCE
Monday 3 February 1.00-4.00pm	Early Years Network English Hub @ St Peter's	EYFS Leads
Monday 10 February 1.00-4.00pm	Primary Assistant/Deputy Heads Network English Hub @ St Peter's	Primary Assistant/ Deputy Heads



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

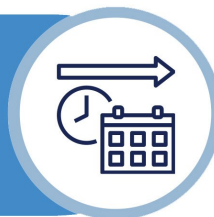
DATE	INFORMATION	FAO
5.00pm, Friday 7 February	Deadline to respond to Core Services Charge Consultation	All
Friday 21 March	Deadline to submit to Estates Additional Bid Fund requests to Callum Fear .	Heads, SBM/ OMs & Estates



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