

News Bulletin



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Issue 22: 26 February 2025



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Introduction

Dear Colleagues,

You will see that Janine Ashman, Director of Learning, has written a report on our Teaching and Learning Conference which took place on the final day of Term 3. I want to begin my introduction this week with thanks to her and also to Eleanor Capel-Davies and the rest of my team who worked so well and so hard in bringing together an inspirational day. The morning session spoke directly to our moral purpose, but it was the afternoon session with Doug Lemov and Hannah Solomon that really left my head spinning. Their ethic or really precise planning and tight implementation gave us a benchmark in measuring how our teaching should and could lift the outcomes and experience for all children and especially those from disadvantage. We will be returning to exactly that theme at our Headteachers' Meeting next week.

I am delighted to share the news that Horfield CE Primary School has received an academy order from the Secretary of State and will be joining LSP before the end of the academic year. This is wonderful news and I look forward to welcoming Rae Harris to our meetings and networks and working closely with her towards a smooth transfer. Horfield will be our fourth Bristol school and I know that they will have much to bring to us now and in the future.

With warm best wishes,

Gary Lewis, Chief Executive



Horfield Primary School

Achieving Equity, Unlocking Potential - 14th February 2025

Our first cross-trust conference provided a valuable opportunity for us to explore the complex issue of overcoming the multiple challenges posed by economic disadvantage within our schools. As a Multi-Academy Trust, investing in professional development in this area is a priority, and the conference enabled us to approach this goal on the largest and most cost-effective scale.

The morning sessions deepened our understanding of the impact of poverty and highlighted the unique opportunities that schools within our Trust have to minimise and overcome these challenges. Our thinking was undoubtedly stretched, and the call to tackle these issues was made clear. Early feedback indicates that the conference helped us develop a shared understanding of why this work is a central priority for our Trust.

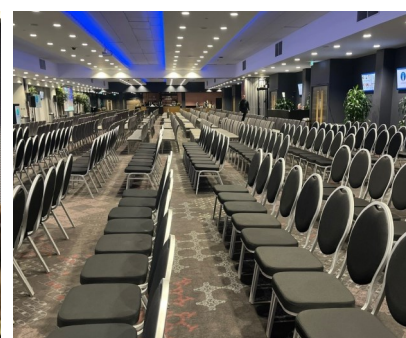
One of the greatest levers we have to improve outcomes for our pupils is the quality of teaching. The afternoon session delivered by Doug Lemov and Hannah Solomon from Teach Like a Champion (TLAC) focused on how lesson preparation—rather than lesson planning—can help teachers deliver precise lessons that lead to the best outcomes for our students. We would like to thank everyone who shared feedback and contributed to the success of this session.

This conference marks the beginning of a sustained effort, which will include continued focus on pedagogy, curriculum, and community cohesion and engagement. We will be discussing these themes with Headteachers at our meeting next week to ensure that all aspects of our strategy continue to develop, strengthening our focus, skills, and outcomes in this vital area.

We have received feedback from just one-tenth of staff who attended the conference. To enable all staff to respond, please take five minutes during your next staff meeting or briefing to complete the feedback form. The link is [available here](#) or use [this slide/QR code](#).

Slides from the morning sessions [are here](#) and the [Teach Like a Champion](#) booklet is here.

Janine Ashman, Director of Learning



Upcoming LSP Headteachers' Meeting

Our next Headteachers' Meeting is taking place on Wednesday 5 March at 8.30am-12.30pm at Nailsea Baptist Church (BS48 2DS).

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

School Closure in Backwell Area

You may have seen in the news that [Fairfield School in Backwell will be closing](#) at the end of this academic year due to financial reasons and low pupil numbers, exacerbated by the VAT charge on private school fees.

Gary has been in conversation with North Somerset Council in regards to the children looking for new school places. Some are expected to move to other private schools but others (around 20) are looking for places in local schools.

Gary will also be writing to the Headteacher of Fairfield School, to see if we can work collaboratively, alongside the LA, to offer school places and inform parents of LSP schools in the area.

We are not entirely sure exactly where Fairfield families reside but would expect a number of LSP schools, mostly in the Backwell hub, to be approached by parents/carers looking for school places.

We are currently thinking of offering an online drop in for Fairfield parents to find out about LSP schools in the area.

Depending on interest it may be more effective for schools to organise additional open mornings/evenings for interested parents. You may be happy to deal with each tour/school visit enquiry on an individual basis otherwise.

We are keen to capitalise on these opportunities - we have children in our community looking for new school and we are confident that our schools can step in and support these families at this unsettling time following this decision.

In-year admissions for NSC primary schools are delegated to the North Somerset Council, so please ensure you are directing parents appropriately as well as working with our colleagues in the School Admissions Team to share information, respond to queries etc.

Also please ensure that you are aware of the 2024-25 Admission Arrangements, and timescales, for application requests. A copy of these, and the LSP in-year application form (which we have to provide as a MAT, but parents can use ours or the LA application form), can be found on the [Trust's website](#) - we recommend linking to this page from your website.

Aspens catering: messaging for parents

Please see below some promotional messaging from Aspens Catering, related to their service and/or upcoming theme days. You are welcome to include any relevant messages in emails home to parents, or on your school social media accounts over the next few weeks. The images below can be [downloaded on Foldr](#).

A new menu will be launching for all schools after the Easter break. We will share content related to this at the end of Term 4. We are also in the process of updating the Aspens webpages that are linked across Juniper websites - we will let you know when the pages are up-to-date - as well as sharing information with schools who are not on a Juniper website - so that this information can be shared with parents.

Primary content



Happy World Book Day!

Get ready to dive into the magical world of stories and imagination as its a day to celebrate authors, illustrators, books, and the joy of reading! Many of our schools will be celebrating will be gearing up for a day filled with fun and adventure, including special themed menus that will ignite the imagination and fuel the love for reading!



Special Diets & Food Allergens

Don't think that your child can't enjoy our great food if they have a special diet - this is an important part of our catering service. We can provide food if they have an intolerance, an allergy, or require an alternative choice due to religious beliefs. Aspens already caters for lots of children with allergies, we have robust food safety procedures and our staff has regular allergen and food safety training. It is important that parents talk to us so we can work together and continue to provide meals that are safe for your child to eat.

Secondary content



Vegan & Free-From Options!

Vegan and free-from ingredients are key to our recipe development. We have a great range of Plant Power options as part of our menu cycle as well as our well as our pop up special days. Whether your dietary requirements are vegan, free from or you are just curious, we love giving everyone more chances to try delicious, alternative dishes. Who's ready to dig in?



Did you know it's British Pie Week? (3-9 March)

This month's promotional stopover is all about Great British Pies! Indulge in a delicious array of pies and celebrate one of Britain's most beloved culinary traditions! Whether you're a pie enthusiast or just discovering this classic comfort food, there's no better time to treat yourself to a tasty slice in the dining room this lunch.

Fixed Asset Submissions

With the Interim Audit coming round fast on the week commencing Monday 16 June, and Fixed Assets being a firm focus of the Auditors, could I please remind you that the Fixed Assets form is part of your monthly checklist. To date we have received only one submission across all schools.

For those that are unsure of what qualifies as a Fixed Asset:

Long-term tangible assets, that are used in the operations of a business. That provides long-term financial benefits, have a useful life of more than one year, and are classified as property, plant, and equipment

(PP&E) on the balance sheet. Examples of fixed assets include Land, Machinery, Buildings and facilities, Vehicles (minibuses, trucks forklifts etc), Furniture, Computer equipment (IT Suites) and Tools. Please note only purchases of £5000 or more are reportable.

Please ensure that all purchases of items qualifying as a Fixed Asset purchased up to and including 31 March are submitted [on the MS Office form found here](#) no later than **Tuesday 1 April 2025**.

Please add a further diary note to submit any later purchases up to and including 15th May, to be submitted by Friday 16 May 2025 to allow the Finance Team to prepare the Fixed Asset Register and upload to the Interim Audit File.

Thank you for your support.

Natalie Fear MAAT, Finance Manager

Lloyds Bank Fraud Prevention training

Please see below a link to a training video provided by Lloyds Bank (the bank that the Trust uses) on the subject of Fraud Prevention. This video should be a good support tool in this subject. Please feel free to share with any staff who may find this useful.

[Click here to view training video.](#)



Staff Data Collection

We have allocated a document to **all employees** via [Employee Self Service \(ESS\)](#) to ensure that we are complying with data protection regulations and ensuring that employees' personal data is accurately recorded.

This will be visible when employees log in to ESS and we are asking them to review their personal data and electronically sign the document to confirm the details we have on the system are correct and up to date.

In your next staff meeting/briefing please can you bring this to colleagues attention so they can check their details.

If there are any queries, please contact hr@lsp.org.uk

GOVERNANCE UPDATES

Upcoming Clerks' Network

Our next Clerks' Network is taking place on Wednesday 5 March from 1.00pm.

Chris Hills, Governance Professional, will circulate the MS Teams link directly to Clerks.





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
Monday 3 March 3.30-5.00pm	Primary Assessment Network Online via MS Teams	Primary Assessment Leads
Tuesday 4 March 6.00-7.00pm	Governor CPD: Pupil Premium Click here to sign up for this webinar	All Governors
Wednesday 5 March 3.30-4.30pm	SEND Webinar: Memory and Processing Click here to sign up for this webinar	All staff
Monday 10 March 1.00-4.00pm	Primary English Network English Hub @ St Peter's	Primary English Leads
Tuesday 11 March 6.00-7.00pm	Governor CPD: Secondary Assessment Data <i>Webinar link to be released shortly</i>	All Secondary Governors
Wednesday 12 March 3.30-4.30pm	Trust-wide Priory Pupils Network Online via MS Teams	Priority Pupils Leads
Wednesday 12 March 3.45-5.15pm	White Rose Maths Mixed Age Webinar: Enable and Extend Link already circulated to attending schools	Specific LSP Schools
Monday 17 March 1.00-4.00pm	Primary History Network English Hub @ St Peter's	Primary History Leads



Upcoming Lighthouse Learning Sessions and CPD Networks

Continued.....

DATE	EVENT	AUDIENCE
Monday 17 March 1.00-4.00pm	Trust-wide SEND Network Online via MS Teams	SENDCOs
Wednesday 19 March 3.30-4.15pm	Trust-wide Attendance Network Online via MS Teams	Attendance Leads
Wednesday 19 March 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 19 March 7.00-8.00pm Or Wednesday 26 March 10.00-11.00am	Chairs' Forum Online via MS Teams. Link will be circulated by Governance Professional in due course.	Chairs
Thursday 20 March 3.30-5.00pm	LSP Secondary Network for English Online via Teams (link to be sent from Natalie Wilcox)	Secondary English Leads
Monday 24 March 3.30-5.00pm	Primary Science Network Online via MS Teams	Primary Science Leads
Wednesday 26 March 3.30-4.30pm	Secondary Raising Standards Network Online via MS Teams	Secondary Standards Leads

Updated EEF Implementation Guidance - Jon Eaton

We are looking forward to working with one of the authors of the recently updated EEF implementation guidance on **Wednesday 26 March, 12.30 - 3.30pm**. We know that implementation is key to any work we do in schools so this session is essential for all school leaders.

The session will take place after the Headteachers meeting and we will provide lunch so headteachers can stay for the afternoon session. There are also additional places if you would like other staff to join the afternoon - it would be especially useful for any leaders who are / will be leading key school improvement projects this or next year.

The deadline for booking your place is 9.00am on **Friday 14 March**.

[Click here to book your place.](#)



External Visit Coordinator Training - Friday 7 March

North Somerset Council are offering a course on External Visit Coordinator training at The Campus, Weston Super Mare, 9.30 - 3pm. This training is designed for staff within a school that has a role of assessing and approving school trips, including residentials and adventurous activities. The cost of the course is £80, with £10 going to the Outdoor Education National Panel.

Description

This full-day External Visit Coordinator course is ideal for newly appointed External Visit Coordinators who require an understanding of their roles and responsibilities when monitoring and endorsing off-site visits and outdoor education activities, within their school or educational setting. The course is also suitable for existing External Visit Coordinators who need a training refresh to gain updates, new skills and concepts to the promotion and delivery of Outdoor Education.

Course modules include

- the barriers and benefits behind off-site visits,
- legal duties,
- planning for the unexpected and
- evaluating off-site visits within your setting.

The course will also include a session on the EEC health and safety website, the site used by Schools throughout Somerset for its risk assessment and external visit application and endorsement process.

This course is accredited with the Outdoor Education National Panel, the Governing Body that provides guidance on outdoor education nationally for all schools, academies and learning establishments. Please note that as this course is accredited with The Outdoor Education National Panel, £10 of your course charge helps to fund the panel with its on-going administration costs, guidance and information as published on the Outdoor Education National Guidance website.

Outcomes

The course aims are to give newly appointed and existing External Visit Coordinators skills and knowledge to the concepts and procedures surrounding the safe and successful delivery of school trips and Outdoor Education.

Please feel free to share with any colleagues who may be interested in this training.

For further information, please email Steve Dorrall (steve.dorrall@n-somerset.gov.uk)

SEND webinar: Memory and Processing - Wednesday 5 March



SEND WEBINAR: MEMORY & PROCESSING

WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH 2025

3.30-4.30PM

ONLINE: MS TEAMS WEBINAR

Open to all LSP Employees (not just teachers)
Delivered by Suzy Divine: LSP Lead Teacher
for SEND.

This session will focus on:

- An introduction to memory and processing - how we use these to learn.
- What can happen when memory and processing is an area of difficulty.
- How we can help those with memory and processing difficulties in the classroom.

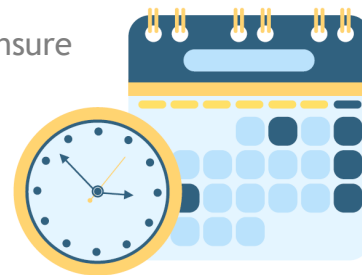
Sign up for this webinar using link below.

Any questions email lighthouselearning@lsp.org.uk

[Click here to book your place](#)

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
Wednesday 5 March	LSP Headteacher's Meeting @ Nailsea Baptist Church	Heads
Friday 21 March	Deadline to submit to Estates Additional Bid Fund requests to Callum Fear .	Heads, SBM/ OMs & Estates
End of Term 4	Ensure mid-point review 1 is completed for both teachers and school leaders are completed as per Performance Development Policy	Heads & Leaders



KEY LINKS

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

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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