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Introduction

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to Term 2! We have begun with some exciting events. On Monday we took possession of the new Infants' building at Yatton Schools. I'm yet to visit but by all accounts the space is fantastic and it was really wonderful to receive a text from Yatton's Executive Headteacher, Jo Keeble, expressing her delight with the new building. We all know that Jo managed the aftermath of the fire at Yatton brilliantly but has since experienced illness and is currently on leave prior to her retirement in January. She was instrumental in the vision and design of the new building so it is terrific that we have it in operation and full of children during her tenure at the school. I look forward to the official opening next month.

The changes to the Ofsted framework are potentially less 'feelgood' but very important. Neil Lankester and I had our training as inspectors on the new methodology in the last week before the half-term. They are saying that it is a renewed framework rather than a new framework but there really are some very significant changes. The 'curriculum turn' has passed. It is now a minimal expectation that pupils experience a logically sequenced and carefully enacted curriculum that builds on previous learning. Our effective work on that has been a key theme in Ofsted Reports up to now, but we will clearly not be able to rest on those laurels. The focus is now very sharply in adaptive teaching and it will be through the lens of disadvantaged and other priority children. 'Deep dives' are being replaced by 'case sampling' and inspectors will be exploring whether the theory of provision as described by leaders and policies is what pupils actually experience day by day. We should not be afraid of this as it is exactly what our own school improvement model explores with schools term by term but we should recognise that the bar has been raised once again, and rightly so.

The teaching unions have been very critical of the new framework as they see it putting more pressure on school leaders. I can see that that would be the case in maintained schools, but in a multi-academy trust where we share the burdens and challenges of inspection I do not share that worry. Indeed the new framework really recognises the shared responsibility for standards between school and the whole Trust. Neil will be leading training on the framework (see article below) and I hope that we will have an early experience of an inspection in one of our schools so that we can 'get our feet wet'!

As ever,

Gary

Gary Lewis, Chief Executive

New appointments in the Central Team

Over half term there have been some new additions to the Central Trust Services Team:

- Toni Corp, formally of the Central Finance Team, has moved into the team as Trust Services Officer. Toni's knowledge of the Trust and our processes will be really beneficial in her new position.
- Virginia Cannon has also joined Trust Services as Trust Services Officer. Virginia is new to LSP and brings lots of experience of key tasks, including compliance and procurement, means she will be a great addition to the team.



We are delighted to welcome them both into their new roles.

A reminder that you can see who's who in the LSP Central Team by [clicking here](#), or [on our website](#).

Reminder: Headteachers' Meeting

A reminder of the LSP Headteachers' Meeting taking place tomorrow (Thursday 6 November) from 8.30am at Nailsea Baptist Church (BS48 2DS).

[Click here](#) to view the agenda - there is some pre-reading to do.

As ever, car sharing is encouraged and please park respectfully on surrounding roads. Local car parks are available but are likely to have charges and/or time limits.

LSP Autumn/Winter Newsletter - The Beacon

The next LSP Newsletter (The Beacon) for staff will be published at the end of Term 2. The theme of this issue will be Investing in our staff.

As always, we would love to include any positive or interesting news stories from across the Trust. If you have any news stories or photos from your school that you would like us to include, could you [please email them to me](#) by **Monday 1 December**. This is a great opportunity to share with colleagues across the Trust and help to inspire one another. A gentle reminder to please ensure that any photos and images you send have all required permissions.

We will also be creating a parents' edition of The Beacon in the new year so stories are needed/will be included in this edition as well.

Leah Evans, Communications Officer

Ofsted Updates for Leaders and Governors

As you are already aware the updated OFSTED Framework becomes live from **Monday 10 November**. In the Headteachers' Meeting this week we will be spending some time unpacking what the changes mean; how we should prepare if we are due an inspection as well as how some of the key messages from the updates link to the work we already have underway. The following link will take you to a folder of documents to support you if you are due an inspection including:

- Quick guide to the changes
- Inspection toolkits and operating guide
- Preparation checklist
- Updated Ofsted SEF

Click here to view folder: [Ofsted Updates for Leaders & Governors](#)

We will also be holding a webinar in Term 3 (January 2026) for Governors on the new framework, and how LGBs can support schools during inspection.

Neil Lankester, Director of Primary Education



Reminder: Recording Shared Parental Leave in IMP

You will be aware that the Central Finance Team reviewed the leave types available in IMP for the recording and budgeting of Shared Parental Leave and produced some guidance in the summer term to help you.

The aim was to ensure that all Shared Parental Leave is recorded accurately using the updated leave types and to delete any obsolete leave types in IMP once the 2024-25 financial year was closed. We have reviewed the leave types in use for 2025-26 and have found a few examples where old leave types are being used. We have contacted these schools directly, but thought it was worth reminding schools of the guidance [available in Foldr](#):

School Business Managers - Trust Wide - Finance Documents and Forms - IMP guides - Adding Shared Parental Leave & Neo Natal Leave to IMP

Sue Warneford-Thomson, School Finance Support Manager

Approved Budget on PSF

The Approved Budget V6 (APPBUD2526.V6) has been uploaded into PSF as the 'Approved Budget'. This will enable schools to provide monitoring reports to budget holders from PSF as appropriate.

NSC Changes to Top Up Funding

Some of you may have attended sessions held by North Somerset Council on Monday 3 November, about the changes being made to top up funding from 1 January 2026. We thought that it might be helpful to arrange a follow up session to provide greater clarity on the new arrangements and to collate any outstanding questions. A webinar has been arranged for this purpose on Monday 17 November from 11:30am to 12:30pm. The session is designed for Heads and School Business Managers of schools in North Somerset or who have high needs pupils from North Somerset. SENDCos are welcome to attend but this will also be discussed at the SENDCo network meeting on Monday 24 November.

Please [click here](#) to register for the session.

Reminder: Pay Progression - Teaching and Leadership

A reminder that the deadline for returning completed Teaching and Leadership Pay Progression spreadsheets to the HR Secure Team channel is **10.00am, on Friday 7 November 2025**.

Prior to this, the completed spreadsheets need to be checked and reviewed by the Headteacher and Line Manager (Member of Central Education Team) to sign off.

Your Headteacher's Report to LGBs in Term 2 will include an overview of pay progression, and UPS applications. Letters to staff will be produced and added to the HR Secure folders and uploaded to iTrent in readiness for December pay.

TRUST SERVICES & ESTATES

DPO Follow Up Actions

Following on from the DPO workshop and the information circulated [in the bulletin](#) on 8 October; this is a gentle reminder of the remaining actions.

- Schools that were allocated a DPIA were asked to complete it and send off to One West by **Friday 7 November**
- Schools to review the ROPA in their Teams channel, aiming to complete by **end of Term 2**

Following a really useful drop in session on 15 October where several schools utilised a few minutes to ask various questions of One West, you have been sent an invitation for another Drop-In Teams Session on **Wednesday 26 November at 11.00am**. All questions are welcome, no matter how small or simple, so please make the most of these sessions. You only need to pop in for the few minutes it takes for your questions to be asked and answered.



Bromcom Migration Update

Thank you to all who attended the primary school general information session this week, we've recapped on a couple of key points below. There are handouts from the session which can be found [in Foldr](#) (*School Business Managers/Trust Wide/Bromcom*). We will continue to put regular updates into the Weekly Bulletin so please do check these for useful information.

Secondary Schools- hopefully you are all accessing your test sites successfully. We will shortly be organising a separate information session for you and will advise a date in due course.

Migration Dates - the dates for all schools can be accessed [in Foldr](#) (*School Business Managers/Trust Wide/Bromcom*)

Functionality - Bromcom will provide schools with a wider range of opportunities to streamline processes and activities. Initially however, the main priority is to migrate schools' data, ensure staff are using the system in the same way they use SIMS currently and embedding familiarity with the system. In time schools can review their contracts for other functions and decide when they may wish to transfer over to Bromcom for these areas. We confirm we are in a trust-wide contract with ParentPay (payment module) until August 2028 so that will continue to be used until then. Schools will have various local end dates for areas such as communications systems, parents evening systems etc so they can be moved over at a suitable point for the school.

Training - this is essential for the staff who will be using Bromcom daily within their role. It is strongly advised to look at the training matrix and determine the training you need over and above the basic system navigation, attendance and student management modules. For example, the dinners module won't be required where schools are using Select/Swift for ordering. For the staff management module, you will need to know how to navigate round the staff section to be able to input new staff, but you won't need to do the full training module as we use iTrent for a lot of our staffing functions.

Previous information circulated regarding training [can be found in Foldr](#):

School Business Managers / Trust Wide / Bromcom

Trust Services will contact each tranche of schools ahead of their migration dates to touch base and remind of any actions required.

If you have any queries, please [do not hesitate to contact Jo Beavan](#).

Governor Recruitment Reminder

How to you go about recruiting new governors or trustees? This is often a question I get asked and where the [DfE's NEW Effective Governance Resources](#) can be of help.

The wider you cast your net, the more diverse your search is likely to be, as well as finding governors or trustees with the skills your LGB requires. It is important to remember that boards need a broad set of skills to be effective as well as representation from within the community it serves.

The role of school governors / trustees continues to evolve. The new Leadership and Governance grade under the revised Ofsted framework is a critical grading in terms of the inspection process.

One of reasons why governors often step down early is due to the quality of their induction and training. It is important that an induction process is in place, I would also recommend that new governors are given a mentor or buddy (at least for their first year).

I am developing a range of resources to support your LGB with the induction process but in the meantime, I am always on hand to provide advice and support. Please [get in touch with me](#).

Sarah Cran, Lead on Governance

Model LGB Agenda for Term 2

Just a reminder that the Term 2 model agenda is available on the [LSP Governance SharePoint](#). Please do use this to ensure that you cover everything. This should also help to reduce workload.

Clerks' Appraisal

Thank you to everyone who completed the online form around clerks appraisals. The Clerks' Appraisal process is now well underway and I hope it is proving useful.

Sarah Cran, Lead on Governance

Lighthouse Learning Governance CPD Programme

A reminder that we have a [comprehensive programme of CPD for Governance](#) across the Trust. During this term there are some key online webinars taking place on the following topics:

- Safeguarding—the role of Governors
- Financial Forecasting—understanding and challenge for LGBs
- Effective Quality Assurance for LGBs
- SEND and Inclusion

Sign up links will be released in due course, but please take a look at the programme and make a note of the dates you are interested in attending .

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 2025-26 can be found on the [LSP website](#).

DATE	EVENT	AUDIENCE
Monday 10 November 3.30-4.30pm	Primary Priority Pupils Network Online via Teams	Primary Priority Pupil Leads
Wednesday 12 November 3.30-4.30pm	Secondary Priority Pupils Network Online via Teams	Secondary Priority Pupil Leads
Monday 17 November 8.30-11.30am	Primary English Network @ St Peter's Primary	Primary English Leads
Monday 17 November 1.00-4.00pm	Church Schools Network @ St Peter's Primary	Church School Leaders
Wednesday 19 November 3.30-4.00pm	Secondary Raising Standards Network. Online via Teams (link to be sent from Natalie Wilcox)	Secondary T&L Leads
Monday 24 November 8.30-11.30am	Primary Geography Network @ St Peter's Primary	Primary Geography Leads
Monday 24 November 1.00-4.00pm	Primary SEND Network Online via Teams	Primary SENDCOs
Monday 24 November 3.30-4.45pm	Primary Assessment Network Online via Teams	Primary Assessment Leads
Wednesday 26 November 3.30-4.15pm	Secondary Attendance Network Online via Teams	Secondary Attendance Leads

English Hub CPD Offer

Unlocking Excellence English Hub provides fully funded, high quality CPD across a range of areas. We are delighted to share our updated CPD offer with you. Our updated [CPD Booklet is available here](#).

This term we have the following programmes starting - they are open to all schools & staff:

Reading for Pleasure: Transforming Your School's Reading Culture



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

Transform Your School's Reading Culture (TSRC)

**21st November in-person, 9th January online, 27th February online,
24th April online, 3rd July in-person
All sessions 1:00 – 3:45pm**

We are excited to run the fifth wave of the Reading for Pleasure: Transforming Your School's Reading Culture programme. A programme of Reading for Pleasure CPD aimed at English or Reading Leaders. The programme will support you to:

- Understand the research underpinning RfP practice and pedagogy
- Widen your knowledge of children's literature
- Transform whole school reading culture in your school
- Develop the leadership skills to initiate and sustain change
- Become advocates for RfP and share experiences and best practice

[Book here](#) (essential to attend all)

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

Funded by

Department
for Education



Christopher Such - Primary Reading Simplified

Don't miss your chance to join Christopher Such and our English Hub team for this inspiring online twilight training series – starting Wednesday 13th November.

[Book now to reserve your place.](#)



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

Christopher Such: Primary Reading Simplified

Join Christopher Such and our English Hub team to explore how to lay the foundations for reading development. Learn effective approaches to organising classroom instruction and understand how to build a reading curriculum and nurture a reading culture. Based on Chris's latest book 'Primary Reading Simplified', this will be an online series of twilight training.

Dates: 13th November, 4th December, 15th January

Time: 3:45 – 5pm

[**Click on first date to book all sessions \(essential to attend all\)**](#)



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

Funded by

Department
for Education

ULS training for LSP Staff

We are funding a session each term for new LSP staff to receive ULS training. The next training is 23rd January (moved from 16th January) and you can book here: [LSP Unlocking Letters and Sounds Training 2025-26 - Fill in form](#)

Sessions are in person in the English Hub room 8.30am - 3pm (participants need to attend the full day) with lunch provided.

LSP Writing Progression

We are delighted to share the updated and improved [LSP Writing Progression](#). This is a key document for all staff that shares our:

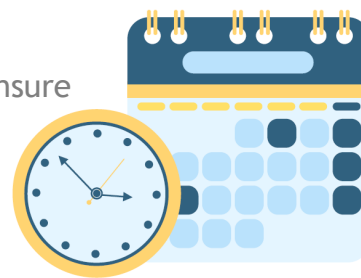
- Writing sequence
- Writing curriculum and progression (Nursery - Y6)
- Exemplification at ESX and GLD
- Assessment and KPIs

We will give English Leads a hard copy at our next English Network but please can you share the link to the document with all staff. We will do more work around the document with English Leads and how it can be used in schools.



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
20 October–7 November	Primary Pupil Progress Meetings	Primary Heads
Thursday 6 November 2025 8.30am onwards	LSP Headteachers' Meeting @ Nailsea Baptist Church Click here to view the agenda.	Headteachers
Friday 7 November 2025, 10.00 am	Deadline for schools to return teaching and leadership pay progression spreadsheets to the HR Secure Team channel.	Heads, SBMs & HR Leads
Friday 28 November	Deadline for submitting LGB minutes and changes to LGB to Central Team	Clerks



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 2025/26

Click to view the Annual Planner for next academic year (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