

SSIF 1 Update

Margot Brown

Many thanks to all the named schools in the bid for making such an effort to ensure they are participating in the many school improvement strands of SSIF 1. Following much thinking and planning, training programmes are in place and have been well received.

Almost all schools have now had their first Task Group meeting and we know that everyone is putting much thought into how they can put the suggested approaches into place in their own setting in a way that is manageable whilst having the most impact on identified groups of children and young people.

Don't forget that this is a two year project, which will run until July 2019: we're all still very much at the 'input' stage and we know that it will be a while before we see the anticipated impact.

Sophie Thompson and I have been completing half termly Monitoring Reports for the DFE and following our submission of the January report we are pleased to announce that the Warwickshire Teaching Schools' SSIF 1 has been green rag rated in all aspects. We have received a monitoring visit from Richard Sloan of the DFE, who also visited Stratford on Avon School, Bilton School, Wood End and Dordon. These schools have been selected to provide termly testimonials reflecting their views on the cpd they've received and the impact (eventually) that the strategies they're putting into place are having. We anticipate that different schools in the bid will be selected for a visit next term.

As the bid progresses, we hope to share stories of success from the participating schools, either in Heads Up or a separate publication if Heads Up is too full, so do share with us if there is anything you would like to celebrate - and do get in touch with myself or any of the programme leaders for further information or help—all contact details can be found on the back page.

We know that participating schools have already received a lot of information about future training sessions but we have consolidated this information as a point of reference which we hope you will find of use.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Governance Conference..... | 2 |
| Peer Coaching..... | 3 |
| SSIF Bid Launch Event..... | 3 |
| Secondary Leadership..... | 4 |
| Action Research Training..... | 5 |
| Contacts | 6 |
| Key Dates | 6 |

DON'T MISS!

- Contact Information
- Key Dates — Keep updated with events in 2018



The Griffin
Teaching School
Alliance

Lawrence Sheriff School
A National Teaching School



Shires
Teaching School Alliance



Southam
Teaching Alliance



Warwickshire
County Council



COMMUNITY ACADEMIES TRUST
TEACHING SCHOOL



GOVERNANCE

The new date for the SSIF Governance conference which was postponed due to adverse weather conditions is the 8th of May and will take place at the Forest of Arden Marriot Hotel.

The governance element of the SSIF programme provides for supplementary governor development support, so this event is **free of charge** for your school, but is limited to the head/senior leader and chair (or nominee) of each named school.

The session will be led by Philip Hamilton and Edward May, respectively CEO and Executive Director (Education) of the Community Academies Trust Teaching School.

The agenda will provide insights into their recent experience of:

Driving rapid school improvement from a governance viewpoint

Using governor contacts to triangulate evidence of school improvement.

Exploring how effective leadership can impact on school improvement and raise standards.

A conference booklet to support this training session will contain governance documentation, pre-reading and some pre-training tasks.

If you would like to book a place please contact:

Michelle Borders

m.borders@thepolesworthschool.com

“The event is planned as a one-off opportunity, so I strongly recommend that your school attend.” Michelle Borders

THE POWER OF READING

This strand is well underway with training sessions, task groups and coaching meetings already taking place.

(please see dates on back page)

Look out for **another date** tbc in September 2018 on Parental Engagement through the Power of Reading.



PEER COACHING

The next Peer Review Training event will take place on Monday the 26th of March 2018, at the Forest of Arden Marriot Hotel from 8.30 (registration) until 3.00 pm.

If you are not familiar with the practice, a 'Peer Review' is certainly NOT an inspection; it will **not** involve judgments and is unrelated to performance management. The Peer Review is developmental in nature and there will be opportunities for feedback and support. It is also a great opportunity to 'magpie' ideas between schools and share fantastic practice.

At the event you will be taken through the processes of a Peer Review.

The aims of a Peer Review are:

- To celebrate the successes of a school
- To enhance the sense of team – the peer review will involve colleagues from other schools as well as colleagues in schools. It will also be repeated in other schools in the future and will be reciprocal in nature
- To confirm and share the school's developments/on-going practice helping leaders ensure 'the best is the norm'
- To feed into identifying themes for professional development that will influence whole school investment in CPD
- To support the professionals across the school in judging where they are and where best to target on-going systemic improvements.

Resources, refreshments and lunch will be provided. An agenda for the day will be circulated in due course, but in the meantime, please book your place by completing the form on the link below:

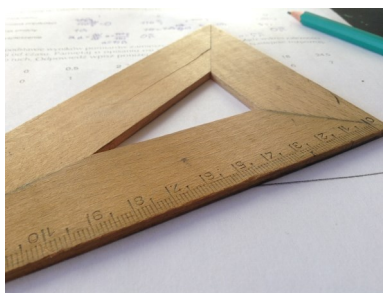
[Peer Review Booking Form](#)

SECONDARY MATHS

There will be a Hub meeting on Thursday 22 March 2018 4.30pm—5.30pm at The Polesworth School.

This networking meeting will be focusing on and building upon a training event run earlier this year as part of the SSIF programme, aimed at supporting KS4 maths teachers to deliver to Y11 students.

To book please email Michelle Borders: m.borders@thepolesworthschool.com



NEWS IN BRIEF

SSIF BID LAUNCH EVENT

Thank you to all involved in the Launch Event held on Tuesday the 21st of November at Nettle Hill Conference Centre Ansty.

The hard work and planning from all of the partners in Warwickshire's Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF) Bid Round 1 ensured the event was a great success.

We were delighted to welcome both heads and governors from schools who have agreed to be included in the school improvement programmes offered through the bid and the representatives from the Teaching Schools* who are delivering the carefully planned programme together with Warwick University, who are leading the Action Research strand of the bid.

Each representative spoke with passion about their particular strand covering a multitude of areas: delegates heard about the leadership programmes which are tailored to primary and secondary schools and include governance, peer review for heads and regular Task Group meetings as well as vital information on the primary and secondary reading and maths programmes.

We wish all the schools good luck as they start the programmes!

*Teaching schools are as follows: Shires Alliance, Polesworth/Birchwood, Hillmorton, Lawrence Sheriff and Ashlawn.

SECONDARY LEADERSHIP

| Session | For whom | Date | Time | Location |
|---|--|-----------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| How to lead others and ensure effective collaboration between teams to improve outcomes. Coaching skills to develop the performance of pupils and colleagues. | Leads for the Disadvantaged, Maths and Literacy | Wednesday 21st March 2018 | 8.45-3.45 pm | Myton School |
| Managing difficult conversations, holding others to account, understanding different leadership skills for working with a range of colleagues. | Leads for the Disadvantaged, Maths, Literacy and SLEs | Wednesday 2nd May 2018 | 1-4pm | Stratford upon Avon School |
| Evidence based approaches to closing the gap. Sharing successful practice and ways of identifying KPIs. Introduce Joint Practice Development. | Leads for the Disadvantaged, Maths, Literacy and SLEs | Thursday 14th June 2018 | 1-4pm | Myton |
| Joint Practice Development visiting other schools in the cohort. | Coaches and Leads for the Disadvantaged Maths and Literacy | Wednesday 17th October 2018 | 1/2 day | All schools |
| Evidence based approaches to closing the gap. Action-planning with the task group leads establishing KPIs and SLE support. | Coaches and Leads for the Disadvantaged | Wednesday 30th January 2019 | 8.45-3.45 pm | Stratford upon Avon School |
| Create the evidence-based toolkit of strategies to support the disadvantaged. | Coaches and Leads, Maths and Literacy invited for the Disadvantaged. | Thursday 11th April 2019 | 1-4pm | Myton |

Please contact Tania Jordon at Studley High School for further information:

tjordan@studleyhighschool.org.uk

SECONDARY SCHOOL READING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

A positive start has been made on the Secondary School Reading Programme with engagement from the majority of secondary schools.

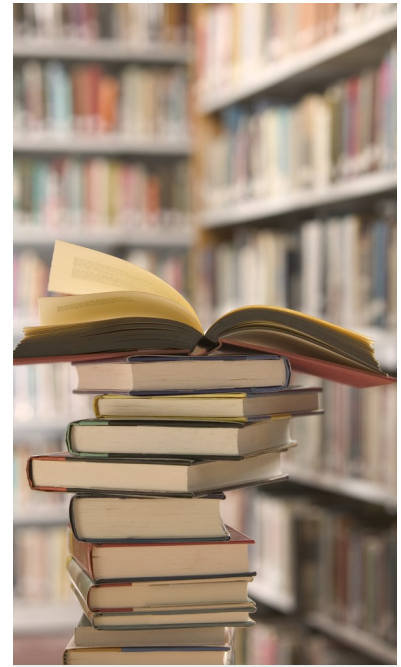
Initial meetings to share the vision, identify and over-come obstacles has given valuable feedback about the programme, which has been welcomed by schools largely because it can operate in conjunction with and complement each school's existing practice whilst offering minimum disruption. The programme will also be developmental to participating colleagues, cost neutral and can be targeted at specific groups or used with whole cohorts.

In essence the Programme has a light footprint but offers a substantial outcome.

Follow up sessions to train each of the teams engaged in the programme are underway with progression to a third session which will assist and support planning before implementation.

For further information contact:

Saron Urding: urdings@ashlawn.org.uk



“The programme complemented her strategic approach of reforming each schools’ approach by operating a knowledge-centred curriculum ” Saron Urding

ACTION RESEARCH TRAINING

Two workshops have now taken place with Des Hewitt from Warwick University leading the training.

Looking closely at the SSIF project in particular addressing:

- * Action research/ school/ practitioner research
- * SSIF Research evaluation
- * Where are you now?

The training also provided a clinic for further information.

Based on delegate feedback following on from these sessions we have created:

- Surveys and focus group interview schedules for each of the SSIF area for age phases from EY to KS4 for pupils and teachers;
- Integrated parents’ survey for reading, maths and governance
- We sent you amended surveys and focus group questions
- There are word and Qualtrics versions of the form as requested by schools

In recognition of time scales and the time needed to complete this work, we have extended the submission date to Thursday the 29th of March.

Please ensure you complete the first round of surveys and focus groups; Submit the focus group data for each of the SSIF areas.

Meetings to be agreed: Spring and Summer

For forms please visit:

<http://www.warwick.ac.uk/SSIFforms>

Action Research is...

a disciplined process of inquiry conducted by and for those taking the action.

The primary reason for engaging in action research is to assist the “actor” in improving and/or refining his or her actions.

CONTACTS

Leadership Strand

Governance Conference:

Booking Details: Michelle Borders
m.borders@thepolesworthschool.com

Secondary Leadership / D Coaching / Task Groups

Lee Gray
lgray@studleyhighschool.org.uk

Primary Leadership and Coaching for the disadvantaged

Marcus Gregory
marcus.gregory@lawrencesherriffschool.com

Gwen Temple
gwen.temple@lawrencesherriffschool.com

Primary Task Groups

Margot Brown
margotbrown@warwickshire.gov.uk

Lee Gray
lgray@studleyhighschool.org.uk

Primary Peer coaching

Michelle Day
day.m@welearn365.com

Secondary Peer Coaching

Alexis Rickus
a.rickus@thepolesworthschool.com

Primary Reading:

Sarah Burgess
mrburgess@hilmortonprimaryschool.com

Primary Maths:

Alexis Rickus
a.rickus@thepolesworthschool.com

Michelle Borders
m.borders@thepolesworthschool.com

Secondary Reading:

Saron Urding
urdings@ashlawn.org.uk

Secondary Maths:

Alexis Rickus
a.rickus@thepolesworthschool.com

General Enquiries

Margot Brown
margotbrown@warwickshire.gov.uk



KEY DATES 2018

March

21st 8.45am—3.45pm Myton School

How to lead others and ensure effective collaboration between teams to improve outcomes. Coaching skills to develop the performance of pupils and colleagues.

22nd 4.30pm The Polesworth School

Secondary Maths Hub Meeting

26th 8.30am—4.00pm The Forest of Arden Marriot Hotel

Peer Review Training

29th

Submission deadline—Action Research Training

May

2nd 1pm-4pm Stratford upon Avon School

Managing difficult conversations, holding others to account, understanding different leadership skills for working with a range of colleagues.

8th 8.45am—3.00pm The Forest of Arden Marriot Hotel

Governance Conference

10th Rainsbrook Conference Centre, Rugby

Power of Reading Training

June

14th 1pm-4pm Myton School

Evidence based approaches to closing the gap. Sharing successful practice and ways of identifying KPIs. Introduce Joint Practice

July

12th Rainsbrook Conference Centre, Rugby

Power of Reading Training

October

17th Half Day All Schools

Joint Practice Development visiting other schools in the cohort