



Teaching School Hub Newsletter - December 2022

From all the team at Manor Teaching School Hub we would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas.

As the year draws to a close, I feel we can reflect on amazing resilience across the staff in schools who every day do their absolute best for children in our area. Do continue changing lives but during Christmas also recharge yourselves.

If any of you have a leadership book on your list for a fireside read, then you might want to look at these [leadership book summaries](#) written by a number of colleagues – these may point you in the direction of some books that will invigorate you this Christmas.



I hope you enjoy this more reflective newsletter which has a strong focus on the amazing engagement on National Professional Qualifications this year.

Best wishes to you all for a fun-filled Festive season.

from the TSH Team

Leading Literacy

Alex Quigley's Confident Teacher Blogs are really engaging and highly informative for all teachers but particularly for those who are aiming to improve literacy in their school. This blog ["Why teaching academic vocabulary matters"](#) is an excellent reflection for every teacher on the importance of focusing on language essential for accessing a subject, yet unlikely to be part of everyday vocabulary.

This is just one of the facets of literacy covered in the new [NPQ for Leading Literacy](#) that commences in February 2023. The programme covers:

- **Developing Language** - including high-quality talk, questioning to improve class discussion, collaborative activities to probe and remedy misconceptions and support for language difficulties.
- **Developing Reading** - including using systematic synthetic phonics, reading aloud, improving reading comprehension, building a reading culture and the importance of disciplinary literacy.
- **Developing Writing** – including systematic teaching of spelling, sentence construction, letter formation and handwriting, composing and co-constructing texts and editing and reviewing techniques.

MANOR
TEACHING SCHOOL HUB
Proudly serving South Staffordshire,
Walsall and Wolverhampton

Ambition Institute

"Every schools' Literacy Lead should be fully aware of this evidence"

The new National Professional Qualification in Leading Literacy is designed for both Primary and Secondary settings. It will ensure YOUR Literacy Lead has full command of the latest research and knowledge to implement effective literacy improvement strategies in your school.

Literacy is the gateway to success in every other subject. Accelerate learning in your school with a focus on literacy!

NPQLL is a fully funded programme over 12 months for every state school. Take this opportunity to provide excellent CPD for your Literacy Lead.

Register with the QR code or email info@manorteachingschoolhub.com

NPQ Kick-off Conferences

Six cohorts of NPQs commenced this term with full day conferences in fabulous face to face environments. The opportunities to meet colleagues from across Walsall, Wolverhampton and South Staffs is so powerful for leaders as they create buddies and networks on these programme who will stay with them throughout their careers. We loved meeting you all and these are some of the pictures and quotes from the days!



“Very pleased with the communication and enthusiasm of the facilitator”

“The facilitators on the NPQLL were both excellent. The conference was very well run and made me feel welcome and very prepared for what would be coming up on the course”

“Really liked how both facilitators are grounded in the reality of the job and could offer advice and thoughts on discussions we were having. Enjoyed listening to both of them and look forward to learning from them”

If you are considering an NPQ for the forthcoming cohort here is a list of the Conference dates so that you can check them in your diary.

- [Leading Behaviour and Culture](#) - Thursday 9th February
- [Leading Teaching](#) – Monday 6th February
- [Leading Literacy](#) - Thursday 2nd February
- [Leading Teacher Development](#) – Friday 3rd February
- [Senior Leadership](#) – Wednesday 1st February
- [Early Years Leadership](#) – Friday 10th February



[To register – Click here or use the QR code](#)



A view from a CPD Lead

Tim Evers is a great advocate for NPQs. Not only is he undertaking the NPQH himself, he also has a raft of leaders from within Bloxwich Academy undertaking programmes across the various cohorts. [Listen to this video](#) to hear why Tim feels these are a great benefit for any school.



Early Years Success



We are excited to announce that Ryders Hayes, one of the Strategic Partners of the Manor Teaching School Hub, has been appointed as the local Early Years Stronger Practice Hub. Their work will complement the [NPQ in Early Years Leadership](#) currently available for leaders of pre-reception provision.

[This NCB website](#) tells you more about the Stronger Practice Hubs.

Subject Networks for Spring Term

Following extensive consultation across the area there is a focused schedule of Subject Networks planned for the Spring Term. Most of the sessions are for primary subjects as it seems that between MATs, Subject Associations and Curriculum Hubs many of the secondary subject areas have very well-functioning networks already. We want to offer additionality so our focus will be :

- Primary Geography
- Primary History
- Primary Art and D&T
- Primary MFL
- SEN

The dates for these sessions will be on the website in due course and if you are interested in attending and want dates to be forwarded, [please complete this link](#).



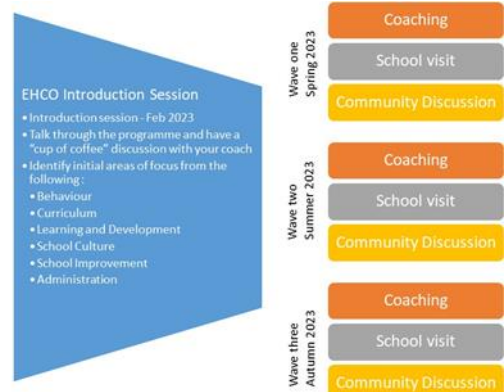
Early Headship Coaching Offer

The EHCO is free for any Head in their first 5 years of Headship who has completed, or is completing, an NPQH.

The aim of the EHCO is to support you in the areas of Behaviour, Curriculum, Learning and Development, School Culture, School Improvement and Administration to diagnose and tackle the persistent problems of school leadership and access the expertise of others.

It consists of three waves of support over 12 months which provides you with coaching plus a school visit plus a Community meeting every term.

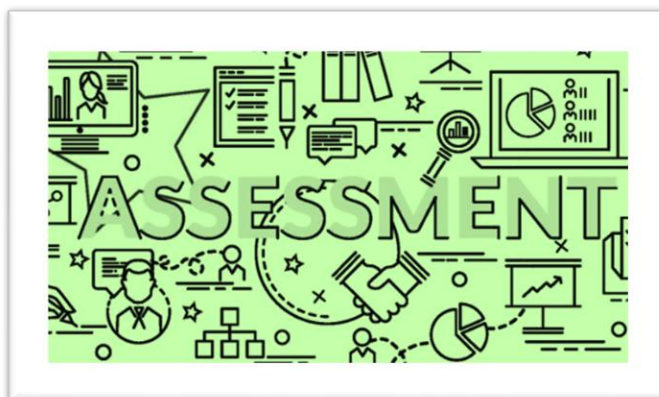
If you would like to register for January or April 2023 – [click here and we will commence this for you](#).



NPQ Assessment

– not just “Talking the Talk” but showing they can “Walk the Walk”

We have recently experienced the first round of NPQ assessment and, as an NPQ assessor for many years, I was pleased to be involved in marking the new format. Assessments no longer involve an in-school project, instead, it is a reflection on a case study which lands with all participants across the country at the same time. With eight days to reflect on the case study and write a response, participants were naturally a little concerned - but my reflections are that they don't need to worry – they did a great job!



Our assessors noticed the following excellent competencies. Participants showed their **strong analytical skills** in reading the extensive case study information and **identifying the relevant and important data**. There was **excellent synthesis of the evidence** in order to **diagnose the priority issues** to be tackled. Once the key area for improvement had been identified leaders put together a **comprehensive implementation plan** which took into account how they would address wider stakeholders to gain further clarity, **collaborate across the school** to identify a change team, use the **research evidence** to consider high leverage interventions and plan with an end in mind so that they knew what the **success criteria** would be.

All that before diving into action. By focusing on the explore and plan stage the proposed action plans were more robust and well-considered such that if they were implementing this in their own school, they would be able to walk the walk and be more assured of successful outcomes.

Assessments from these qualifications really stood out to me:

Leading Teaching where it was clear the extensive research base behind pedagogy is really becoming explicit in schools – spreading deep into the practice of leaders of teaching at subject and phase level.

Leading Teacher Development which is based on the same robust evidence around Teaching and Learning but layers onto that the evidence about structuring and implementing professional development of teachers so that there is the common language of pedagogy across the school. This qualification I believe is a superb investment for a school, training leaders to embed excellent teaching not only in their own practice but also in their influence upon others' development in school.

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