

Regional Update: February 2021 (#8 2020/21)

Introduction

Welcome to the eighth Lancashire and West Yorkshire TSC update of 2020/21.

This newsletter provides essential system leader news, links and updates that have been issued recently.

Previous newsletters, attachments and other resources can be accessed at <https://greatheightstrust.org.uk/lwytsc>.

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In this newsletter:

School Improvement and System Leadership:

- Teaching School Hubs: DfE national roll-out
- TSAs - transition year
- EEF latest research report
- CV19 urgent STSS – ongoing deployments for NLEs
- Oak National Academy: Virtual Library

Attachments:

- National Tutoring updates
- Updated system leader guidance for STSS

Professional and Leadership Development:

- Ofsted guidance - Remote Education
- Initial Teacher Training, Recruitment & Retention & ECF:
- National Tutoring Programme
- National Leaders of Governance:
- DfE Procurement Notice

E-References:

- CCT Distance Learning Resource Pack [here](#)
- Oak National Academy Virtual Library [here](#)

HEADLINES

Teaching School Hubs (TSHs) announcement

Every school in the country will have greater access to expert teacher training and development, under plans announced by the Department for Education on 10th February 2021. The teaching workforce will get best-practice and expert advice on how best to engage with pupils, lesson planning, and classroom management, as part of new teaching school hubs being rolled out across the country.

81 Hubs will be added to the 6 test and learn TSHs in all of England to provide high-quality professional development to teachers and leaders at all stages of their career and play a key role in helping to build up trainee teachers as they enter the workforce. This will further level up the quality of teaching, allowing every child to receive a world-class start in life no matter where they are born.

Each hub will have its own defined geographical patch and will be expected to be accessible to all schools within its dedicated area, serving on average around 250 schools each. The Hubs will also help in delivering the Early Career Framework reforms when this is available nationally from September 2021, as well as in delivering a reformed suite of National Professional Qualifications (NPQs) including new specialist NPQs. They will also deliver Initial Teaching Training and additional high-quality evidence based professional development.

Richard Gill, Teaching School Council Chair commented: *The Teaching Schools Council congratulates all 81 schools and/or trusts which have been designated as a teaching school hub. They will now join the existing 6 'test and learn' hubs that were announced in January 2020 to form a national network of excellence in teacher training and development. The work of the TSC has been instrumental in supporting this programme to date and we are proud to be the sector body that will continue to be a key partner in these reforms.*

The network of 87 teaching school hubs has national coverage and ensures every school in the country has access to a centre of excellence for teacher professional development.

[List of teaching school hubs by area.](#)



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LANCASHIRE AND WEST YORKSHIRE:

LWY area	No of schools	TSH areas specified	Organisation Lead school /Trust name
LWY 1	290	Liverpool, Wirral	St John Plessington RC Secondary Academy Holy Family Catholic MAT
LWY 2	230	Blackpool, Lancaster, Preston, Wyre	Tauheedal Islam Boys, High School, Star Academies Trust
LWY 3	275	Leeds	The Morley Academy Gorse Academies Trust
LWY 4	281	Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle, Ribble Valley, Rossendale.	Tauheedal Islam Girls, High School Star Academies Trust
LWY 5	211	Chorley, Fylde, South Ribble, West Lancashire	Tor View Special School, Sea View Trust
LWY 6	291	Manchester, Stockport	Altrincham Grammar Sch for Girls, Bright Futures Educational Trust
LWY 7	228	Knowsley, Sefton, St Helens	St Silas CE Primary School, Rainbow Education MAT
LWY 8	192	Salford, Trafford	Altrincham Grammar Sch for Girls, Bright Futures Educational Trust
LWY 9	204	Oldham, Tameside	Blue Coat CE Secondary School
LWY 10	206	Bradford	Copthorne Primary School Exceed MAT
LWY 11	276	Halton , Warrington, Wigan	Evelyn Street Primary School, Warrington Primary Academy Trust
LWY 12	279	Calderdale, Kirklees	Shelley Secondary College, SHARE MAT
LWY 13	294	Bolton, Bury, Rochdale	Eden Boys School Bolton, Star Academies Trust
LWY 14	187	Selby, Wakefield	Grange Lane Infant Academy, Delta Academy Trust

School Improvement and System Leadership

Teaching School Alliances – Transition Year

The academic year 2020/21 sees the transition to a new system leadership model across the country. The first major step in this process is the announcement this week of the 87 Teaching School Hubs. Existing Teaching School Alliances are becoming strategic partners and contributing to the work of the TSHs, focusing attention on current ITT provision, providing ongoing CPD and linking with specialist curriculum hubs and research schools. The TSC in LWY is here to support that transition process.

Please do contact and keep in touch with your local regional TSC LWY representative for any further advice and support.

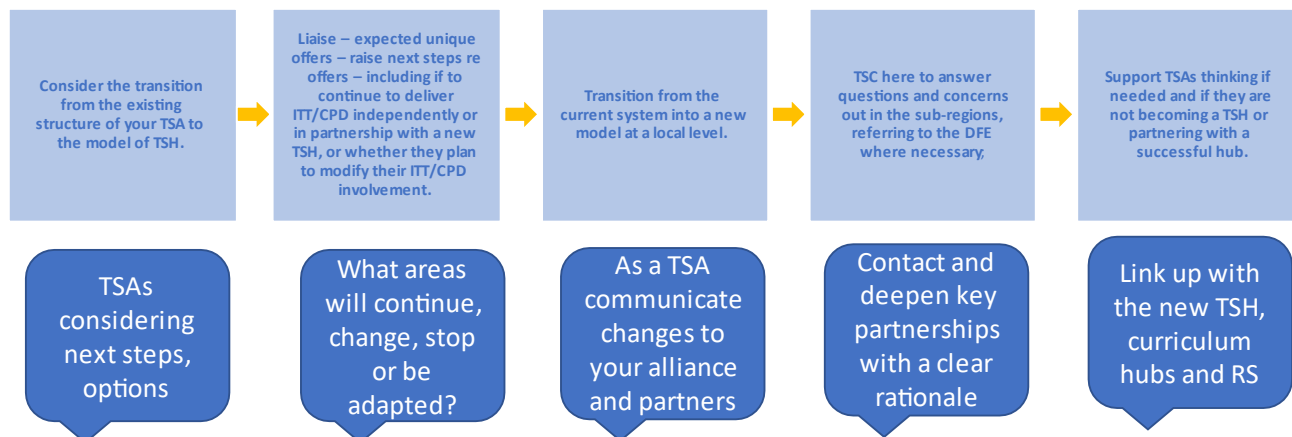
The Department recognises the valuable work which TS do, covering school-to-school support, continuing professional development and initial teacher training. We also recognise that you need as much notice as possible of our intentions so that you can have adequate time for planning. **I am, therefore, confirming today that the funding rates for TS applying in the current academic year will apply also for the whole of the academic year 2020/21.** I trust that this will provide you with the confidence to continue with your plans for the whole of the next academic year. We anticipate, however, that this will be the final year of funding for TS, and that existing TS designations will end in August 2021.

'System Leadership Reform' letter Feb 2020

System Leader Newsletter Nov 2020

Future funding - The Department has already committed to funding all TSs who wish to continue until the end of academic year 2020 to 2021, this means that we will release £26,666 to your school in the Autumn term and the final payment of £13,334 will be made in the summer term 2021. The grant should be used to support the delivery of ITT, Continuous Professional Learning and Development (CPLD) and school-to-school support however, as detailed in the terms and conditions it cannot be used to cover redundancies or associated costs.

Teaching Schools- transition year 2021



Knowledge Mobilisation at the Education Endowment Foundation

New study finds “significantly lower achievement”, with a “large and concerning gap” for disadvantaged pupils.

Today, the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has published [interim findings](#) from a study assessing the extent to which Key Stage 1 pupils’ attainment in reading and maths were impacted by partial school closures during the first national Covid-19 lockdown, and particularly the effect on disadvantaged pupils.

This paper focuses on the gap in attainment likely caused by March 2020 school closures (commonly called ‘learning loss’), and the disadvantage gap for Year 2 children as measured in autumn 2020 [here](#)

Key EEF messages and accurate measures of impact - challenges during the effects of the pandemic on schooling:

1. Great teaching remains the biggest school lever to improve pupil outcomes;
2. New habits, routines and approaches will likely make teaching trickier than before (a significant implementation challenge during CV19)
3. Meaningful and manageable assessment is key to supporting great teaching, identifying interventions and monitoring improvement - the importance of effective formative assessment as well as summative assessment will be paramount.
4. New challenges may mean that existing evidence is a helpful and important steer e.g. home learning, parent support, TA deployment, closing gaps.
5. Effective implementation in uncertain times is crucial and well informed,
6. Well coordinated leadership is the key.

Rapid evidence assessment examining the existing research to support the remote learning of pupils:

When implementing strategies to support pupils’ remote learning, or supporting parents to do this, key things to consider include:

- Teaching quality is more important than how lessons are delivered
- Ensuring access to technology is key, especially for disadvantaged pupils
- Peer interactions can provide motivation and improve learning outcomes
- Supporting pupils to work independently can improve learning outcomes
- Different approaches to remote learning suit different types of content and pupils

[Rapid Evidence Summary can be found here.](#)



Education
Endowment
Foundation

[LINK: SCHOOL-LEADERSHIP-SUPPORT](#)

The DfE are currently running a targeted support offer to help a number of schools deal with some of the challenges they have faced from the impact of Covid-19. LA officers, Diocesan Officers, Mat CEOs and NLEs can nominate a school for support via this email address: LWY.RAF@education.gov.uk

- **What** – an initial offer of up to 5 days’ support delivered flexibly, drawing upon capacity from within your own school/trust if appropriate.
- **When** – support can be offered until the end of the autumn term (2020) in response to school need.
- **Who and How** – support from a system leader who may draw upon or signpost to additional expertise, guidance or support. This offer will provide up to 5 days of support from the assigned system leader and their school.

**Improvement 2019/20 - pause and cancellation of the offer due to COVID19.
Replaced with a new School to School COVID19 offer.**

DfE - “We are offering time-limited school-to-school recovery support to schools and trusts, provided by an experienced system leader. This support can help schools to overcome the challenges faced or exacerbated as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.”

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-leadership-support/school-leadership-support>

School-to-School Support COVID-19 Recovery Offer			
<p>What is the offer and who can access this? An experienced system leader will provide time-limited school-to-school support to schools and trusts to help them to overcome the challenges they face or have been exacerbated as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>This support offer can be accessed free of charge by any school who may-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have educational issues that have either been caused or exacerbated by COVID-19 or, • are facing full or partial closure because of COVID-19 and would benefit from additional leadership capacity including help with their remote learning offer. 			
<p>Who will provide the support? An experienced school leader (either a National Leader of Education, MAT CEO or teaching school lead). They may also draw on others from within their own school or trust.</p>	<p>When will the support take place and for how long? Support will be available as soon as a suitable school leader has been identified to provide support. It will be offered for an initial five days on average. Additional support can be provided to those schools with challenging needs.</p>	<p>What type of support will be offered? Support will be tailored to the individual needs of the school or trust, but could include, for example, a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planning for closures/remote learning • addressing gaps opened in learning – use of catch-up funding • lost leadership capacity 	<p>Who will the DfE work with? Regional DfE teams will administer the support offer and will work with Local Authorities, Dioceses, the Teaching Schools Council and local MATs to identify schools and trusts who may benefit from support and to match them with an experienced school leader.</p>
<p>My school needs support, how do I access this? Please contact your local Regional Schools Commissioner's office for further information.</p>			

Oak National Academy: Support for Learning at Home - Virtual School Library

The Virtual School Library is brought you by Oak National Academy in partnership with the [National Literacy Trust](#).

Every week a popular children's author or illustrator will provide you with free books, exclusive videos and their top three recommended reads. [Virtual-Library](#)

Having access to a school library is really important for children. School libraries nurture a love of reading that can enrich children’s literacy skills, academic achievements and mental wellbeing. Our Virtual School Library will complement existing school libraries and will ensure that children have access to the magical world of stories all year round, whether they are learning at school or at home.

We’ve worked with brilliant publishers and inspiring authors and illustrators to ensure that the books and activities in our Virtual School Library will support children’s wellbeing through reading.

Join your local library service to discover hundreds more books and e-books to borrow for free and take part in fun online activities.

Professional and Leadership Development:

Ofsted guidance - Remote Education

[Ofsted has published some advice to help school and college leaders and teachers develop their remote education offer](#)

The advice has been written by the head of Ofsted’s research team, Professor Daniel Muijs, and draws on [findings from Ofsted’s interim visits](#), as well as wider sources.

This guidance sets out some common myths about remote education and counters them with evidence-based pointers. The guide has been designed to help schools and colleges deal with some of the difficulties and challenges they face under current circumstances.

The guide sets out that the remote education curriculum should be aligned to the classroom curriculum as much as possible, and carefully sequenced to ensure pupils obtain the building blocks they need to move on to the next step. It suggests that whether learning is delivered through worksheets, textbooks, or via an online platform, it is a good idea to keep resources simple and straightforward to use. And feedback and assessment are still as important remotely as they are in the classroom.

From 18 January, Ofsted will resume [monitoring inspections of schools](#) judged to be inadequate at their previous inspection, as well as some schools graded 'requires improvement'. Monitoring inspections look at the progress a school is making and encourage improvement. Unlike full inspections, they do not result in a grade.

Inspectors will look at how well schools are educating pupils in the current circumstances – which for most pupils means being educated remotely. Unlike during the first lockdown last year, the government has set a clear expectation that schools must provide remote education, so pupils can continue to learn away from the classroom.

Initial Teacher Training, Recruitment & Retention

National Tutoring Programme (see attachments)

Supporting online tuition at home – briefing from the National Tutoring Programme

The National Tutoring Programme (NTP) has published a new briefing for schools on [supporting online tuition at home](#). The briefing aims to support schools participating in the National Tutoring Programme to maximise the impact of NTP tuition while it is being delivered remotely to pupils at home.

National Leaders of Governance

DfE Procurement Notice

Notification of NLG reform ITT procurement launch: the Invitation to Tender (ITT) for a contractor to deliver the reformed NLG programme was launched last week.

DfE have notified stakeholders including the NLG brokerage leads - [further details can be found here](#)

The DfE aims to procure a supplier to deliver the reformed NLG programme.

The DfE's vision is to see robust and effective governance in every school and academy trust.

As the first line of accountability, high quality, effective and ethical governance is key to success in our school system and for the future of children and young people.

The programme will recruit, train, and deploy a high calibre cadre of experts in school and trust governance to deliver peer-led support for governance improvement.

Contracts will run for an initial period of two years from May 2021 to April 2023 with provision to extend for two further single year periods. Consortium bids, particularly including or led by multi-academy trusts, are welcomed.

As part of our scope we are looking to draw on expertise from strong, well-governed multi-academy trusts and continue to build capacity so that, in the future, trusts will be well-placed to deliver governance improvement support.

Further information is contained within the tender documents.

[Please ensure you have signed up to the Departments e procurement system using this link.](#)



[The Teaching School Council](#) (TSC) is a national body representing all Teaching Schools in England. The Council is made up of membership with either a national or regional remit, who direct or shape the work of Teaching Schools through discussion with government ministers and senior officials. The Teaching Schools Council believes that **every child is entitled to be in a great school.**