

Improving education and life chances for all children and young people



Kehri Ellis
Chief Executive, NTLT

Welcome to TRUST. We have lots of exciting developments to share with you this term, namely; the Trust has expanded to welcome 5 new schools, 10 Trust Governors, 3 new members of the School Improvement Team and a new Programme Coordinator has joined the Trust's core team; the Trust has been awarded a contract to become a regional Science Learning Partnership which will provide opportunities for high quality science CPD, and plans for the NTLT children's Star Awards ceremony are well underway! I hope you enjoy reading about these and much more in this edition of TRUST.

Trust News

NEW The Trust Welcomes 5 New Primary Schools

The Trust is delighted to welcome five new schools into membership. Balliol Primary School, Ivy Road Primary School, Preston Grange Primary School, Richardson Dees Primary School and Whitehouse Primary School all officially joined on 1st April 2014, bringing the total number of schools supported by the Trust to 45. This is fantastic news as it further increases our ability and scope to improve education and life chances for all children and young people in North Tyneside through our formal collaborative partnership.

Headteachers and Chairs of Governors were invited to a welcome event hosted by Employer Partner Shasun Pharma Solutions. This was an excellent opportunity to introduce new schools to the Trust directors, staff, current programmes and partnerships. Membership is likely to grow again in 2014/15 as the Trust is in discussion with a number of other schools in North Tyneside who have expressed an interested in learning more about the Trust and the advantages of Trust school status.



NEW Science Learning Partnership Awarded

The Trust has been approved to run a Science Learning Partnership as part of a Regional Science Learning Consortium for the North East, Derbyshire, Yorkshire and the Humber. The Trust will offer high quality Science CPD to teaching staff across North Tyneside, Newcastle and Northumberland.

After receiving specialist training, the newly appointed Trust Primary and Secondary Science Leads will be involved in the initial auditing of local needs in relation to science teaching and learning and then plan and deliver funded CPD programmes to address the identified needs. As well as offering a programme of local training available through the National Science Learning Centre and Sheffield Hallam University Centre for Science Education, a series of bespoke courses will also be made available to meet specific local needs.



The Science Learning Partnership will generate a valuable income stream for the Trust with an initial allocation of £5,000 to cover start-up costs, £11,300 annually to coordinate the partnership, plus a percentage of all course fees.

Think Physics £1.2 Million Grant Success

Think Physics, a pioneering project led by Northumbria University aimed at getting more young people to consider studying Physics, has been successful in its £1.2 million funding bid to Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). The Trust is a key partner in the 3 year project and will benefit from the two key strands: i-Think Physics, aimed at young people from early years to 6th Form, and Think Physics 4 All, which will focus on teachers, families and the wider community.

The project will address the gender imbalance by changing the way young people, particularly girls, and other under-represented groups engage with science. The project will also seek to address the local and national shortage of STEM skills by inspiring more young people to take up these disciplines at university. Updates about this exciting project will feature in future editions of TRUST.



A Think Physics Hub will be established at Northumbria University and a team of staff will be recruited including a Director of Think Physics and Think Physics Outreach Specialists who will focus on early years, careers and employers and technology in learning. For more information on the project click here.

NEW Trust Inspire Network

This term sees the launch of the Trust Inspire Network, an exciting new database of volunteers from business, industry and a range of employers who the Trust can call upon at various times throughout the year to inspire children and young people by supporting schools with a variety of events e.g. career speed dating, assembly talks, interactive workshops. Individuals from a very broad range of industries and job roles will join the database and there is no minimum requirement in terms of time commitment.

Our aim is to make business engagement with schools as simple and easy as possible and to ensure children and young people attending Trust schools have a broad knowledge and awareness of different career opportunities.

If you are interested in joining the Trust Inspire Network and supporting important school based events, or are a teacher running an event and would like to make use of the database, please contact chloe.mortimer@ntlp.org.uk.

NTLT Star Awards Update

The Trust is delighted to have received 365 nominations for the NTLT Star Awards 2014. Shortlisting took place on 6th May and the finalists will soon be invited to the awards ceremony

at the Village Hotel, 4-7pm on Monday 23rd June, which is sponsored by Vision For Education. Every child who was nominated will also receive a certificate.

The Trust has secured sponsorship from the Apartment Group, Capita, Day8 Productions, Gentoo, Kier, Muckle LLP, Newcastle United Foundation, Procter & Gamble, Sage, Sidekick Office Products and STEM North East for each award category which means that every award finalist will receive a Goodie Bag worth over £100! The award sponsors will have the honour of selecting the overall winner from the shortlisted finalists, who will be announced at the ceremony.







DfE Maths Hub Application

The Trust recently submitted an expression of interest to the Department for Education (DfE) to become one of 30 Maths Hubs nationally. The DfE has set aside £11 million to run the Maths Hubs with the aim of every school and college in England, from early years to the post-16 sector, to access locally-tailored and quality support in all areas of maths teaching and learning. The National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM), with whom the Trust already has strong links, will provide specialist advice and support to each hub. The Trust has been invited to progress to the full application stage, the outcome of which will be known in June. Further updates will appear in future editions of TRUST.

Step into STEM - Students Rise to the Challenge!

The first stage of the exciting new 5 year Step into STEM project launched last term with Year 9 children from Burnside Business College, Longbenton Community College, Marden High School, John Spence Community High School and Norham High School taking part in a free STEM Day. Students were put to the test with a one day 'Wind Turbine Challenge'. The STEM Days included guest talks from Newcastle University and Tyne Metropolitan College.



Each school will also receive a free STEM-in-a-Box kit, which will enable them to set up a STEM Club for up to 20 Year 8 or 9 students. The next round of STEM days will take place at Whitley Bay High School, Seaton Burn College, Churchill Community College and Monkseaton High School.

The STEM Day was run by the independent educational charity, The Smallpeice Trust. The Step into STEM project will continue to deliver hands on career focussed activities designed to raise awareness of engineering and inspire young people to consider engineering as a career option. We are particularly grateful to our funders; The Shears Foundation, Ballinger Trust, R.W. Mann Trust and The Barbour Foundation for making this project possible.



Congratulations to our Outstanding Schools

Congratulations to all staff, governors, parents and pupil's at Denbigh Community Primary School and Beacon Hill School on receiving an 'Outstanding' rating by Ofsted across all areas. This is a testament to the hard work, dedication and commitment of staff and governors in both schools and brings the Trust ever closer to reaching its target of all schools rated at least Good. 93% of Trust schools are now rated as Good or better by Ofsted.

NEW Programme Co-ordinator Appointed



Heather SmithProgramme Co-ordinator

Heather Smith joined the Trust's existing core team on 6th May as the new Programme Co-ordinator. Heather was previously employed by Santander and is a recent Philosophy graduate from Newcastle University. Heather will be a valuable asset in terms of increasing the Trust's operational capacity to continue to provide excellent opportunities for Trust schools. Heather will lead on handling existing and emerging programmes, including liaison with funders and employers and ensuring monitoring and delivery requirements are met. Heather can be contacted at heather.smith2@ntlp.org.uk.

Trust School Improvement Team - Updates

NEW Primary & Secondary Science Support

The Trust is delighted to welcome two new Science Lead Teachers, Vicky Raynor (Primary) and Louise Maule (Secondary). Both Vicky and Louse will dramatically increase our capacity to affect change in the four identified priority areas in science namely; raising aspirations, subject knowledge, enquiry based learning and assessment. Both lead teachers will be available to support individual schools and plan and deliver CPD programmes to groups of practitioners. They will also lead on identifying need and delivering CPD as part of the new Science Learning Partnership. They will work alongside the Local Authority School Improvement Service to raise standards and narrow achievement gaps in science teaching and learning across Trust schools. Vicky and Louise can be contacted at vicky.raynor@ntlp.org.uk louise.maule@ntlp.org.uk. Regular updates and CPD opportunities will feature in future editions of TRUST.



Vicky Raynor
Primary Science Lead



Louise Maule Secondary Science Lead

Primary Maths

It has been one year since Wendy Mitcheson was appointed as Maths Lead Teacher for the Trust and so far Wendy has supported 22 Trust schools and hopes to make contact with a more schools in the very near future.

The Maths PD Lead programme, in which 15 teachers from the Trust have participated, has been a great success this year. Staff have thoroughly enjoyed the course and have developed a range of fantastic ideas to take back into school and share with children and colleagues. These new methods and resources will support the implementation of the new curriculum. The nature of Wendy's role allows her to collaborate and share these methods/ideas with schools which did not have a staff member on this course.

During last term, Wendy organised a 'Singapore Maths' course, which was held in Newcastle in February. The course was extremely informative and inspirational. This term, Wendy will be involved in a Mini-maths conference, hosted by Whitley Bay High School, in which she will lead a workshop based on her knowledge and understanding of Singapore Maths; sharing the ideas from the course with several teachers in North Tyneside.

Due to the changes in the National Curriculum in 2014, Wendy has participated in workshops related to 'The National Curriculum' and 'Assessment'; working alongside the School Improvement team and teachers within North Tyneside, sharing ideas on how to implement these significant changes in our schools. The workshops have been successful and the outcomes of these workshops will be shared with all staff within North Tyneside. One of the main focuses for Wendy this term will be supporting schools with changes to the New Mathematics Curriculum.

Finally, Wendy remains in touch with her colleagues in China, following her recent visit, and is currently working on a curriculum project with a school in Shenzhen. Updates on this will feature in future editions of TRUST.

Wendy is based at The Langdale Centre and can be contacted on 0191 643 8535 or wendy.mitcheson@ntlp.org.uk.



Claire Blair

NEW Primary English Support

The Trust is pleased to announce that Claire Blair from Hadrian Park Primary School has joined the Trust's School Improvement Team as the Primary English Lead Teacher specialising in Year 6 and Gifted and Talented pupils.

Primary Literacy

Deborah Hughes and Colleen Stephenson have been supporting Denbigh Primary School, Battle Hill Primary School and Grasmere Academy with reluctant writers, KS1 Literacy interventions and SEN groups. This term Deborah will be working with Monkhouse Primary School. Colleen will be going into hospital later this term, so the Trust wish her well and hope she has a speedy recovery. Jackie Glazzard was working in Amberley Primary School last term to support EYFS & KS1 staff with training, tracking and resources. Jackie will be working in Battle Hill Primary this term, assisting staff with phonics teaching in Year 3 and 4. Jackie and Deborah also attended Talk for Writing training led by Gill Kemp, which they have enjoyed trialling in their own schools.

If any Trust school is interested in receiving free support from the Trust's School Improvement Team to develop an area of Literacy in the Autumn term, please contact, gill.kemp@northtyneside.gov.uk

Trust Governors

Welcome to our new Trust Governors

- Paul Attrill, Advanced Industrial Solutions, King Edward Primary
- Abigail Christie, Northumbria NHS Trust, Burradon Community Primary
- Catherine Hine, TSB Bank, Whitley Bay High
- Amanda McCarthy, NHS, Greenfields Primary
- Lynn Miller, Sainsbury's, Benton Dene Special
- Deborah Stains, Durham City Council, Monkhouse Primary
- Vicky Sturrs, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Appletree Gardens First
- Ellen Temple, IBM, Fordley Primary
- Rachel Taylor, NHS, George Stephenson High
- Stephen Telford, The Prince's Trust, Monkseaton High



Trust Governor Network

The Trust hosted a successful and well attended Trust Governor Network Event on the 26th March 2014 at Marden High School. The event was a fantastic opportunity for new and existing governors to share their experiences and learn from each other.

Jim Cockburn (Headteacher, Longbenton Community College), Anupama Sethi (Trust Governor, Grasmere Academy) and Andrew Sugden (Trust Governor, Churchill Community College) all made presentations to governors about the benefits and challenges of the role from their different perspectives. All agreed that the importance of getting to know your school e.g. attending events and finding out how lessons are taught; asking challenging questions e.g. why do we do it like this? what is the impact of this?; and sharing best practice from the world of business, is the best way for governors to make the most of their rewarding role and support schools. Copies of the presentation can be found here.

NEW Trust Governor Induction Event

The Trust is planning to host a special Trust Governor Induction Event to welcome new governors, inform them about the key aspects of the role and provide them with details of Trust programmes and partnerships. The event will take place on Tuesday 1st July at Benton Dene School. Invitations and further details will be distributed via e-mail.