

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2022

# AUTUMN TERM

14/12/22

**HITSA**  
HACKNEY TEACHING  
& SCHOOLS' ALLIANCE



Senior Leadership Conference in Whitstable

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# Happy Holidays!

We can't believe the holidays are here already, but we are extremely happy about the successful start we have had to this academic year. Our Annual Leadership Conference in October received rave reviews, while the launches of our Middle Leadership Programme, years 1 and 2 of our Early Career Teacher training and our Initial Teacher Training apprenticeships started positively. Take a look through the rest of our Autumn issue to find out more about what we have been up to this term!

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE

13th-14th October 2022

This year's Annual Conference took place in October, where senior leaders from across our network had the opportunity to connect, share experiences and discuss the impact of the pandemic on schools, and the ways in which we can move forward. We were also delighted to welcome the Blossom Federation, made up of Lauriston, Sebright and Daubeney Primary Schools, and their partner school Colvestone, to the HTSA. The Marine Hotel in Whitstable was the perfect location, with sea views, excellent facilities and delicious food for our network.







On the first day, we had an interactive case study on SEND led by Meret Stokes and Fran Slot from Mandeville Primary School, where they shared what they have been doing to develop a more inclusive curriculum and learning environment. They then presented information on their recent experience with Ofsted, giving other schools the insight they need to prepare for their own visits.



On the second day, we were joined by guest speaker Katie Greenwood (Dramatherapist, EMDR therapist, Clinical Supervisor), trainer and Reflective Practice Facilitator, who delivered a workshop which allowed senior leaders to pause and reflect on the past two years, and consider what is needed to maintain resilience, compassion and hope moving forward after the pandemic in their respective schools. Check out some the fantastic feedback we received from delegates below! We are already looking forward to hosting everyone again next year.





# Conference Feedback

Having a safe space to talk with other leaders about the difficult current and historic climate, sharing ideas and talking about our own solutions that could be useful to others has been extremely beneficial.

I loved the Katie Greenwood session - extremely engaging, thought provoking and useful!

SEND Session was very informative, supporting and challenging. Friday's session was hugely successful and valuable - personally and professionally.

This was a really impactful and relevant conference. Thank you.

The conference was very well organised and an overwhelming sense of kindness and high expectations ran throughout the whole programme. Job very well done!

Another brilliantly organised event, a great mix of professional dialogue, learning, sharing and fun. Participating but non-intimidating activities. A lovely opportunity to meet new people and spend time reflecting and connecting.

Having the time for discussion and sharing experiences, especially around Ofsted and curriculum, and of course around reflection of leadership and the pandemic was great.

# MIDDLE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME



We are excited to have launched this year's Middle Leadership Programme this October, with 11 participants attending from across our network. Dez Veares from Evolve, and Kate O'Shaughnessy from the Institute of Education, kicked off the course with a session which allowed everyone to get to know each other and discuss expected outcomes. Since then, we have had sessions focused on the difference between leadership and management, setting your teams up for success and building trust within your team. Participants are loving the content of the course so far, and particularly value the bespoke coaching they receive as part of the course.

The programme will run right up until the summer term, with its closing session taking place on 27th June, where delegates will share what they have learnt and evaluate the impact this training and development has had on them and on their role in a presentation. We are delighted to be a part of the journey these teachers have started, and are looking forward to see the outcomes of their hard work.





# INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING

Our latest Initial Teacher Training course is well under way, with seven apprentice teachers joining us from HTSA member schools. Their first 'Welcome Session' took place at Hackney School of Food, where everyone became acquainted and an introduction to their training took place - this included some delicious food served up by Head Chef Educator at Hackney School of Food, Tom Walker.

They have since had fortnightly sessions at Kingsmead Primary School, all focusing on something new - from behaviour management and wellbeing, to inclusion and SEND, Maths and English.

We are already impressed with the commitment and energy from our apprentices, the insightful questions asked and the thought-provoking discussions taking place in each session. Our TAPPs will be embarking on their alternative key stage placement in January, where they will have the opportunity to teach in a different HTSA school for 6 weeks as part of their training. Thanks to all head teachers involved in hosting trainees. We are looking forward to seeing their continued growth and are keen to support them through this stage of their teaching career!

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RECRUITING A TAPP NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR (2023-24)





This year marks a first for the HTSA, as we have begun training for Early Career Teachers in their second ECT year, as well as those in their first. Our first year training is based at Mandeville Primary School, where specialist leaders and experts come in to deliver bespoke content and workshops based on their subject or specialism, alongside the content from the statutory Early Career Framework. Our ECTs find this extremely useful and are able to take concrete methods back to their schools and use them immediately in their teaching.

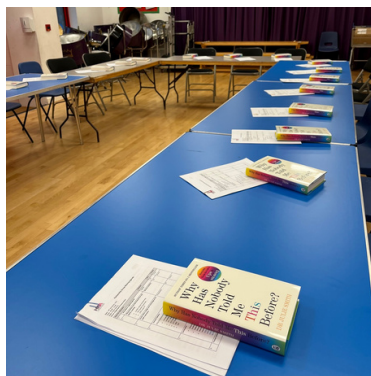
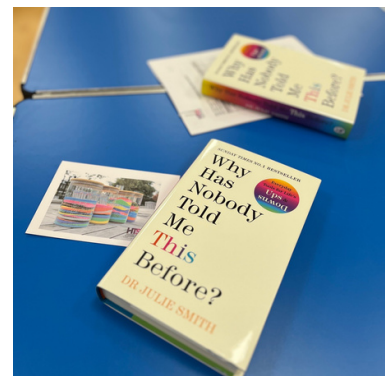
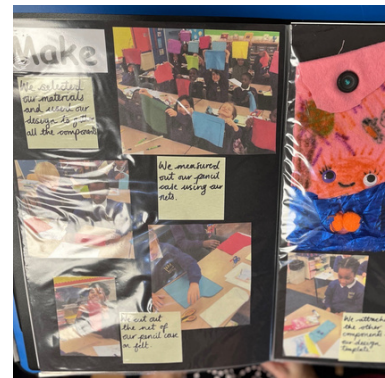
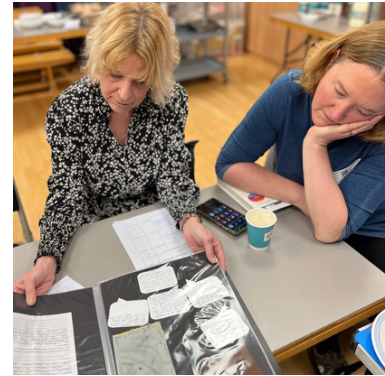
Our second year ECTs attend training at Nightingale Primary School, where specialists Kate Roberts and Meret Stokes guide them through the training modules which are focused on embedding a cycle of evaluation of practice. This cohort particularly value the opportunity to meet up with peers and colleagues and discuss, learn and share teaching strategies that they find effective in their classrooms.



“  
Great discussions,  
stimulating resources  
and a supportive  
environment. Thank  
you so much!  
”

30th November 2022

The HTSA termly Partnership Group meeting took place at Kingsmead Primary School in November, where our head teachers got together to discuss the professional pathway, Early Years training, the appointment of Early Years specialists, future conference ideas and staff wellbeing. There was a presentation given by the LEAP Federation's Design & Technology lead, Ally Weston, who demonstrated how teachers at LEAP successfully plan and record D&T using floor books, making it fun and engaging for their pupils. We also had a guest presentation delivered by Joseph Edmonds from Sporting Minds, who spoke about his football app that allows children to access coaching to develop their football skills with interactive quizzes and video demonstrations. In light of ongoing discussions around wellbeing, the HTSA decided to gift our heads the book 'Why has Nobody Told Me This Before?' which provides helpful tips and tools designed to promote better mental health and help you deal with daily struggles!



# GALLERY

Here are some of our favourite images from this term!



School Councillors from Kinsmead Primary School at the Houses of Parliament



Culture and Identity Day at Clapton Girls' Academy

Phonics Yoga at Mandeville Primary School



World Afro Day Celebrations at Millfields' Primary School



Into University Activities at Randal Cremer Primary School



Fundraising for Children in Need at Gayhurst Primary School

We hope you have enjoyed this issue of the HTSA newsletter. Please get in touch with Katie with any feedback, potential features or general thoughts. It's very much welcomed!