

Whole School SEND South West



Region Newsletter Spring 2

Welcome to our second 2021 SW region update.

As we approach the end of the Spring Term, we reflect on a term that has been constantly changing as the pandemic has moved through different phases. We have heard so many stories of the amazing work that is happening in our regions schools to support all learners, and particularly those with Special Educational Needs. We are highlighting some of the work we have been doing in the region as well as resources which we hope will support you in your roles as you continue your fantastic work for the rest of this academic year. Erica, Alison and Emma.

Recent WSS work in the South West

This term we are pleased to be working with a number of local authorities supporting their provision for children and young people with SEND including information webinars for head teachers on the leadership of SEND: "Every Leader a Leader of SEND" with @malcolmreeve. Leading on the governance of SEND also with @malcolmreeve. As well, as supporting the compilation of a workforce development plan with local authority officers and working with young people, parents and SENCOs to prepare a transition framework for children at KS2/3. The commitment and engagement from parents and practitioners is really making a difference for children and young people with SEND across the South West. Thank you for your support and do get in touch if you are a group of schools that we can help in any way.

Ask, Listen, Do: Understanding SEN Support

This leaflet, funded by the Department for Education, is intended to help build partnership between families and the school. The aim is to provide families with questions to ask of schools, and empower them in having successful discussions about whether additional input at the SEN Support level is required and what that might mean.

<https://www.sendgateway.org.uk/resources/ask-listen-do-understanding-sen-support>

Did you miss our recent South West webinar? A thought provoking session presented by Bill Jerman based on evidence and experience which challenges the understanding of SEND and Disadvantage in schools. You can find the link to the recording here:

<https://www.sendgateway.org.uk/resources/webinar-understanding-difference-between-send-and-disadvantage-schools>

Teaching School Hubs-We would like to offer our congratulations to the 87 teaching school hubs which were announced by the government in February and particularly the 11 allocated in the South West. These replace the previous network of 750 teaching schools which will end in August this year. Teaching school hubs will provide high-quality professional development to teachers building on the fantastic work of teaching schools. At WSS we look forward to working with the teaching school hubs in the near future. The names of the South West Teaching school hubs as published by the government are: The Quay School, Pate's Grammar School, Kingsbridge Academy (test and learn hub), Colyton Grammar School, Montpelier High School, Mangotsfield Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, Glenmoor Academy, Trenance Learning Academy, Montpelier High School, Balcarras School and The Roseland Academy.

NASS (National Association of Independent and Non-maintained Special Schools) have set up NASS SEND Incubator in partnership with the Young Foundation. It's a way to develop evidence and share new ways of improving education for children with SEND: https://nasen-prod-asset.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/NASS%20innovation%20briefing_Feb21.pdf



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