

Reflections

The dictionary definition of “reflection” is “serious thought or consideration”. The end of our first year as a Teaching School is the right time to reflect on our journey so far.

For our annual conference we had this graphic made for the closing address given by our HT, Steve Campbell. Creating this made us focus on our achievements and everything we had done well.



By looking at our journey in this way it made us stop dwelling on all the “EBI”s and really think about everything we had had success in. As a Teaching School we have KPIs to meet and despite only being fully operational since January have managed to hit the KPIs for both CPD and School to School Support. We have partly met the ITT KPI but as yet not all our NQTs have secured a teaching post but given their calibre we are confident they will.

The journey has been both exciting and a challenge and we have learnt a lot, we are very fortunate to have an alliance of schools united in the same moral purpose – to improve outcomes for young people in East Lancashire. Before we embark on any initiative we have kept revisiting that, some of our achievements include:

Becoming a regional hub for “Leading a Mentally Healthy School”, so far we have trained 25 teaching Schools so they can roll this out to their alliances. We have delivered this cpd to our own SLT and now have a model where we can visit schools and deliver to their SLT in-house rather than a two day model where one person attends and cascades. We also have governor briefing about the programme to help embed this into schools.

Our subject networks are expanding and our ELTSA cpd offer for 2018/19 is being finalised and part of its success is that it is “by teachers, for teachers”.

Our regional network for “Women Leading Education” is now up and running with the sole aim of retaining and nurturing talent, by matching women with a coach it will support their leadership journey.

Since we created this infographic our School to School Support Team has grown and we now have 21 SLEs and 3 SPEs who have a range and skills and talent to provide bespoke support to schools across our region. They completed their core training on Monday so are ready to hit the ground running in September.

The Oracy network with the Chartered College of Teaching offers a tremendous opportunity to our members, through this they can have a real impact on closing the vocabulary gap and take part in education research with the University of Cambridge.

From September primary schools are joining ELTSA which will further develop our work ensuring a continuum of world class 3-19 education is developed for our children. We are really excited about the potential this change in structure will give the alliance.

One thing that has been clear this year is the importance of collaboration

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” – Helen Keller

Our collaborations have extended far beyond East Lancashire and the BBL (Blackpool, Blackburn, Lancashire region). We have been lucky to collaborate with Red Rose TSA to appoint SLEs, Ripley TSA completed our peer review and gave us invaluable advice about our future growth and support with becoming an NQT Appropriate Body, Endeavour Learning TSA are working with us to look at future collaborative cpd, Tor View are delivering the NPQs with us through Star Institute. The SDSA and WLE have selected us as their regional hubs. The Alliance for Learning have given us the benefit of their experience in focusing our vision and supporting our back office structures in addition to developing CPD with us through their Maths Hub and Youth Mental Health First Aid courses.

As the summer holidays are drawing close we want to thank you for your support, we will continue to work hard, stay true to our moral purpose and continue to develop for the good of our students and staff. Have a wonderful summer break, we can't wait for next year!

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success." – Henry Ford