

ITE Primary Mentor Newsletter

W/C 15th January 2024

St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

School of
Education



Dear Professional Coordinating Mentors (PCMs), Training Coordinators and Class Based Mentors (CBMs),
We hope the new term has continued to progress well for your school and look forward to working with you as the term moves forward. Thank you once again for hosting a St Mary's trainee in your school and supporting them in a fundamental part of their teacher training journey. The foundation phase focuses on providing trainees with the opportunity to build the foundational knowledge and skills on their first school experience and your role is essential to that. Please find below details of the foci for the week ahead, as well as resources to support you in your role.

Best wishes,
The St Mary's Partnership Team

BA Year 1 Foundation Week 2: 15th to 19th January

Weekly theme: The curriculum focus this week relates adaptive teaching and developing an understanding of different pupil needs. Trainees are asked to reflect on research from The Education Endowment Foundation's (EEF), which identifies scaffolding as a strategy to support pupils with SEND to make good academic progress. Trainees are encouraged to arrange to meet and work closely with your SENCO this week and to take opportunities to articulate to their mentor how their learning has developed since the start of their course. More detail can be found in the training plan, which will support trainees in applying the theory covered to their developing practice.

School Based Professional Development Programme: If you haven't already done so, please click [here](#) to confirm the delivery in your school. (PCMs only)

[St Mary's School Based PS Template](#) & [St Mary's School Based PS Exemplar](#)

Mentor Training Recording and Abyasa record.

All mentor training materials can be accessed on the portal by clicking [here](#). A reminder that mentors for our PGCE and BA Y1 Foundation placement trainees are required to engage with Session 1 and 2 and then can choose from either Session 3 or 4. Mentor training should be recorded on your 'Mentor training and development' record' on abyasa. You can find instructions on how to add this record [here](#). Your Link tutor will be checking this and would be happy to support you if you have any questions.

Useful Links

[St Mary's Partnership Portal](#)
[School Experience Handbook](#)
[ITT Safeguarding Policy](#)
[Key Documents for Partnership Schools](#)
[Overview of PGCE Foundation School Experience](#)
[PGCE Foundation Training Plan](#)
[Overview of Year 1 BA QTS School Experience](#)
[Year 1 BA QTS Training Plan](#)
[Year 1 BA QTS Training Plan \(EYES\)](#)

Key Resources

Our [Policy, Procedures and Frameworks](#) document outlines key processes in ITE programmes. The [School Experience Overview](#) provides mentors and PCMs with clear information about QA, timelines and intended learning outcomes for each period of school experience. Our [Professionals podcast](#) has episodes alongside training prompts and resources for your school.

Make it even better! Enhancing the partnership

Thank you for providing feedback on mentor workload and wellbeing. Based on responses:

- We would like to remind our PCMs to support mentors by protecting time for them to complete training and fulfil mentor responsibilities
- We would like to share the following [podcast episode](#) around 'Wellbeing and Workload'
- We have enabled an Abyasa function on the LFR to allow observers to [either](#) upload and/or type observation notes

Useful Contacts

[Eleanor Stewart](#) (Head of Education Partnership & Apprenticeships)
[Mary Nkune](#) (Head of Education Partnerships)
[Jemima Davey](#) (Subject Lead Education Partnerships)
[Primary Partnerships Team](#)
[Abyasa Help](#) (Support with Abyasa)
Your trainee's Link Tutor is the first port of call for placement queries, but please do not hesitate to contact the Partnership team if additional support is needed.