ITE Primary Mentor Newsletter

St Mary's University Twickenham London

School of Education

Dear Professional Coordinating Mentors (PCMs), Training Coordinators and Class Based Mentors (CBMs),
This week sees our WBR, Year 2 and PGCE cohorts all fulfilling the requirements of their block placement training plans. The details of the weekly curriculum and research foci can be found within the cohort specific information pages overleaf, alongside links to their training plans, school based professional development programmes and research summaries to support mentors in facilitating reflective dialogue with their mentee. As ever, please do not hesitate to be in touch with your link tutor if you have any questions or reach out to the Partnership Team if you need any further guidance.
Best wishes,
The St Mary's Partnership Team

School Based Professional Development Programmes (PCMs only)
While our trainees are in school with you, they will follow their training plans and receive school-based professional development from expert colleagues within your setting. To support our schools in the delivery of this, we have provided cohort specific overviews of how these might be structured; these can be found alongside cohort-specific information overleaf. We understand that you may already have a programme running in your school, so would ask that all PCMs confirm whether they will be adopting the St Mary's template or delivering their own professional development programme using this form.

St Mary's Resources for Schools
Alongside training for our mentors, we are proud to support our partnership schools in developing their staff teams. Please find below details of some of the resources available to you:
The Professionals Podcast: Our repository of discussions with expert colleagues on a wide variety of topics, which includes prompts for running training in your schools or for personal reflection alongside resources for further thinking and engagement with the topic. This is an ever-growing library of content, and we hope you enjoy listening! Find more here.
CPD Library: Our selection of CPD offers expert colleagues the opportunity to tune into Themed Talk Times we host at the University, as well as accessing interesting research-informed articles that we share with trainees. Topics include safeguarding, artificial intelligence and the science of learning, with many more important topics being covered soon. Please browse our collection here and let us know if you would like to see coverage of particular content in the future!

Useful Links
St Mary's Partnership Portal
School Experience Handbook
ITT Safeguarding Policy
Key Documents for Partnership Schools

Safeguarding Details
Lead Safeguarding Officer:
Jane Chambers, Head of School

Designated Safeguarding Officer:
Mary Nkune, Head of Partnerships

Key Documents
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.

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 share the following podcast episode around 'Wellbeing and Workload'
- We have enabled an Abyasa function on the LFR to allow for **either** uploaded or typed 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.

Primary Cohort Specific Information (UG & WBR)

St Mary's
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BA Year 2 Development Week 2: 26th February to 1st March
Weekly Theme: This week, our Year 2 cohort will be focusing on the needs of individual learners and how they can promote progress for all by avoiding overloading working memory. This will be explored through support from their mentor in both their own planning and involvement in professional discussions. Trainees will be asked to observe expert colleagues with a focus on this aspect of their practice; this will include a consideration of how to remove complexity, identify misconceptions and work with the SENCo to consider how to best support their learners. Mentors can support trainees by deconstructing their practice and explaining each step in their adaptive practice to ensure that the needs of all learners are met. This may also include a focus on their profile children and the adaptations made to promote progress for them.
Research Focus: This week's focus is underpinned by chapter 6 of the SEND Code of Practice (2015). Trainees will be asked to consider this when reflecting on how this literature informs their practice. Mentors can support trainees in doing so by prompting them to engage in professional dialogue, which can be supported by our research summary of this research literature.
Key documents:
- Year 2 (Development) Training Plan
- School Experience Overview for Year 2 (Development)
- School-based Professional Development Template for Year 2 (Development)
- Weekly Research and Literature Summary

BA WBR Consolidation Week 1: 26th February to 1st March
Weekly Theme: This week's theme focuses on planning effective lessons and delivering a carefully sequenced curriculum. We would ask that mentors support their trainees by supporting them in producing high quality planning and providing formative feedback to help them understand the different factors that contribute to effective lessons. They will also be required to observe expert colleagues with a focus on how they break down concepts to promote understanding. Mentors can support trainees by explaining how they incorporate these themes into their own practice and modelling this for trainees.
Research Focus: This week's research focus is underpinned by the Ofsted Science Research Review (2021). Trainees will be asked to consider this when reflecting on how this literature informs their practice. Mentors can support trainees in doing so by prompting them to engage in professional dialogue, which can be supported by our research summary of this research literature.
Key documents:
- WBR (Consolidation) Training Plan
- WBR SEND (Consolidation) Training Plan
- School Experience Overview for WBR2 (Consolidation)
- School-based Professional Development Template for WBR Year 2 (Consolidation)
- Weekly Research and Literature Summary

Primary Cohort Specific Information (PG)

PGCE Development Week 2: 26th February to 1st March

Weekly Theme: This week's theme focuses on planning effective lessons and delivering a carefully sequenced curriculum. We would ask that mentors support their trainees by supporting them in producing high quality planning and providing formative feedback to help them understand the different factors that contribute to effective lessons. They will also be required to observe expert colleagues with a focus on how they break down concepts to promote understanding. Mentors can support trainees by explaining how they incorporate these themes into their own practice and modelling this for trainees.

Research Focus: This week's research literature comes from Delano-Moore & Rimbey (2021). Trainees will be asked to consider this when reflecting on how this literature informs their practice. Mentors can support trainees in doing so by prompting them to engage in professional dialogue, which can be supported by our research summary of this research literature.

Key documents:
- PGCE (Development) Training Plan
- School Experience Overview for PGCE (Development and Consolidation)
- School-based Professional Development Template for PGCE (Development)
- Weekly Research and Literature Summary