

ITE Primary Mentor Newsletter

W/C 29th January 2024

St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London
School of
Education



Dear Professional Coordinating Mentors (PCMs), Training Coordinators and Class Based Mentors (CBMs),
As we enter the final week of January, we would like to extend our thanks for the support you have provided our trainees with so far this year. Please find in this week's newsletter details of the weekly curriculum and research foci alongside other resources for your schools to access. Attached to the email that contained the newsletter is the weekly research summary to support mentors in engaging with research-informed dialogue with their trainees.

Best wishes,
The St Mary's Partnership Team

BA Year 1 Foundation Week 4: 29th January to 2nd February

Weekly Theme: This week's theme concerns maintaining trusting relationships with pupils to promote a positive learning environment alongside a consideration of how to stimulate pupil thinking and checking for understanding. Trainees should be prompted to consider the relationship between the two and how our interactions with learners promotes engagement and an environment conducive to learning. They will do this through their own practice and reflections, observation of expert colleagues and engagement with research.

Research Focus: Ellis and Tod's (2018) theory of behaviour for learning focuses on three key areas: relationship with self, relationship with other and relationship with curriculum. Trainees have been introduced to this theory and so should be confident in applying this to their practice. We would ask mentors to discuss this theory and what it looks like in context with their trainees during professional dialogue. Please refer to the attached research summary to support you in doing so.

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](#)
[Overview of Year 1 BA QTS School Experience](#)
[Year 1 BA QTS Training Plan](#)
[Year 1 BA QTS Training Plan \(EYES\)](#)

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 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.