ITE Secondary Mentor Newsletter

St Mary's University Twickenham London

School of Education

Dear PCMs and Mentors,

We hope you are staying warm during the cold weather recently! This week's newsletter contains details of our trainees' focus for the week ahead and how mentors might support them. We have also included an update on the resources we offer our Partnership schools, which we hope will be of use to training coordinators, mentors and other staff in your school. Please do share the details below with those you feel would benefit from them.

Thank you for your ongoing support of St Mary's trainees. As ever, please do let us know if there is any other support we can provide for our school partners.

Best wishes,

The St Mary's Partnership Team

Week 3: 22nd to 26th January

Weekly theme: The focus for this week is adaptive practice and the ways in which teachers meet the needs of individual learners through their grouping of pupils to promote progress. As part of this focus, trainees should observe how learning is scaffolded, engaging with learning support systems in their setting and take on the role of TA for a day and fulfil a pupil pursuit to see how an individual pupil experiences school and how their needs are met throughout the day.

Research: The EEF 'Selecting Interventions' evidence suggests that although high quality teaching may reduce the need for extra support for all pupils, some pupils will require additional support. Please support your trainees in discussing their practice in line with the guidance provided in this report and consider their deployment of other staff in light of its suggestions. This should form part of the weekly training meeting and trainees should be able to speak to this with confidence.

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 CPD-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

ITT School Experience Handbook

ITT Safeguarding Policy

Key Documents for Partnership Schools

Development Phase Training Plan

Professional Studies Curriculum Guide

PGCE Secondary Academic Year Overview

D&C School Experience Overview

Please do not hesitate to contact the Partnership Team if there is any additional information we can provide or any questions we can answer.

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.

School Based Professional Development Programme: please click here to confirm the delivery in your school.

St Mary's School Based PS Template & Guidance in our ITT School Experience Handbook

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 observers to **either** upload and/or type observation notes

Useful Contacts

Jim Moreland - PGCE Secondary Subject Lead

Fiona Wilson – English Course Lead

Sophie Wilson – Geography Course Lead

Sarah Batty – History Course Lead

Pietro Tozzi – Mathematics Course Lead

Lisa Panford – Languages Course Lead

Kirsty Harding – PE Course Lead

Rachel Croft – RE Course Lead

Robert Campbell – Science Course Lead

Eleanor Stewart (Head of Apprenticeships)

Mary Nkune (Head of Partnerships)

Jemima Davey (ITT Partnership Lead)

Secondary Partnerships Team