



Schools Newsletter



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Dear Ed,

I am delighted to be able to write the first contribution to this new schools newsletter. It has been a busy fortnight since I joined the authority and I have been trying to get up to speed with all that is going on within Cambridgeshire. It's been really refreshing to hear so many people's commitment to improving the county and I am very excited to be getting involved. We face many challenges - funding, recruitment & retention, disadvantage outcomes to name a few, but I think everyone I met shares my high aspiration that we must overcome these together and give the children and young people of the county an excellent education. I have been developing a survey to gather feedback from you on the services we provide - this will be sent out to you later this week. Please reply - I need your feedback.

One of my first priorities is to improve communication with schools. We want it to make our communication with you as effective as it can possibly be so hopefully you find this newsletter useful - please give us feedback on the content.

Best wishes, Jon.

Quick Links

[Cams Learn Together](#)

[Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

[Complete Cams CPD Listing](#)

[Early Years](#)

[Maths and English Advice](#)

[Knowledge Hub](#)

[Help With Recruitment?](#)

School Improvement Projects: The Cambridgeshire School Improvement Board

The Cambridgeshire School Improvement Board was allocated £200,000 of funds by the County Council this academic year, and has made funding available to 22 projects designed by schools and groups of schools, to address the CSIB priorities:

- Define and promote a Cambridgeshire entitlement for leadership development.
- Commission programmes to accelerate the achievement of our disadvantaged groups.
- Champion raised aspirations for Cambridgeshire, to include a cultural entitlement for all children.

There are some very innovative and exciting projects - read about what is going on at <https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/school-improvement/cambridgeshire-school-improvement-board/>.

Strategic School Improvement Fund

The [Strategic School Improvement Fund](#) is now entering its third bidding round. Groups of teaching schools, MATs and the LA have all submitted bids in rounds one and two: unfortunately the bar has been set very high to date and more bids have been rejected than approved across the country. Two bids have been successful however, both from the Cambridge Teaching Schools Network: one to improve progress in science and MFL at KS2 and one involving the Maths Hub. Two further projects have been asked to resubmit, and we are hopeful that they will be approved when they do: a phonics project developed by CPET, the Kite TSA and the LA; and a teacher retention project in Peterborough submitted by Arthur Mellowes Teaching School.

Rosemarie's Reminder - Primary Data Predictions

Thank you to all Primary Schools who have returned their data predictions. There are still a few schools who have not yet returned their forms. Please contact me if you would like a replacement form at rosemarie.sadler@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



Horizon scanning

EEF ([@EducEndowFoundn](#))

NEW RESOURCE - to support our Improving Maths in Key Stages 2 & 3 guidance report, we've just published a Red Amber Green (RAG) self-assessment guide. It sets out what 'ineffective', 'improving' and 'exemplary' practice can look like for each recommendation: buff.ly/2F60EV4 pic.twitter.com/PXttlBazyI

Fenland and East Cambridgeshire Opportunity Area Plan

The opportunity area plan is now available. The priorities are as follows:

Priority 1: Accelerate the progress of disadvantaged children and young people in the acquisition and development of communication, language and reading

Priority 2: Strengthen the effectiveness of support for children and young people with mental health concerns and those with Special Educational Needs

Priority 3: Raise aspiration and increase access for young people to a wide range of career choices and post-16 routes

Priority 4: Recruit, develop and retain the best leaders and teachers in Fenland and East Cambridgeshire

[Opportunity Area Plan](#)



Qualified Teacher Status Consultation

Strengthening Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and Improving Career Progression for Teachers. Closing date 9th March.

[Have your say](#)

Framework for Teacher Assessment of Writing

What counts as a "particular weakness" in assessment of writing? Read more [here](#)

Guidance on Recruiting and Employing an Apprentice

If you are thinking of recruiting a new employee, or giving a current employee the chance to increase their skills, then consider offering the role as an apprenticeship. Guidance on the process for recruiting an apprentice, and on how to access the training fees via the apprenticeship levy, can be found here: <https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/services-to-schools/apprentices/>. Please note that although the guidance on accessing funding is aimed at maintained schools, academies and free schools will also find the information useful.

Would You Like a Teacher Intern for your School?

The Cambridgeshire Teacher Internship programme was developed to help those who might not otherwise be able to afford to train to be teachers, or who wanted longer to train, to do so. It has proven very successful, with eight second year interns about to qualify as teachers this summer, and eleven second year interns coming up behind them. We already have 25 applications, with three days until the closing date - these applicants include ten prospective secondary teachers, six of whom are hoping to train to become maths or science teachers.

Read about some of our current [interns here](#). If you would like to discuss the possibility of having an intern in your school from September, [contact us](#).

New appointments

Spaldwick Primary School announces that Louise Worrell will take up the post of Headteacher from 16 April 2018.

Training Courses, Events and Conferences

For a list of all current training courses provided by the Local Authority and Teaching schools [click here](#).

[Maths CPD for NQTs and RQTs](#)

Six twilight sessions: **February and March**, Stanton House ECaR room, 15.00 - 17.00. Developing confidence and effectiveness at teaching maths. £50 per person per session.

[Computing at School Day](#)

Thursday 8 March, 10 am to 3 pm at Microsoft Research Lab, 21 Station Road, Cambridge. Free CPD for teachers about the new [Computing curriculum](#).

[Culture Connect](#)

Tuesday 13 March 2018, 16.00 to 18.00, March Community Centre. Free networking event connecting Fenland schools and education settings with the local arts and cultural education offers available.

[Secondary Heads of Science Network Meeting](#)

Monday 19 March 2018, 13.30 - 16.30, Swavesey Village College. No charge. this is a chance for collaboration with your peers so you can share information and develop as a leader.

[Primary Science Network Meeting](#)

Tuesday 20 March 2018, 16.00 to 17.30, Pathfinder School, Northstowe. No charge.

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[The Big Read and Write](#)

Weds 21 March, 1.00 pm, Lady Mitchell Hall, Cambridge. Cambridgeshire's annual literacy initiative to encourage children's love of the written word.

[Oxbridge Inspire: Exhibition of Ideas](#)

Weds 21 March 2018, 18.30 to 20.30, The Bradfield Centre, Cambridge Science Park, Milton, CB4 0GA. Cambridge Coding Academy hosts Exhibition of Ideas on STEM education.

[Governance Conference 'Ambitious Leadership'](#)

Saturday 24 March 2018, 9.30 to 1.00, Swavesey Village College. Free to subscribing schools.

[Primary Science Network Meeting](#)

Monday 26 March 2018, 16.00 to 17.30, Highlees Primary School, Peterborough. No charge.

[Seasonal Science: bringing science to life outdoors](#)

Monday 26 March, 13.30-16.30, Burwell House. £60 per delegate.

[Making powerful connections between primary science, maths & literacy](#)

Tuesday 27 March 2018, 9.30 - 15.30, Cambourne Village College. £150 per delegate. Encouraging children to communicate science ideas, knowledge and understanding develops their literacy skills.

[TA Conference](#)

26th April, at the Huntington Marriott Hotel, 8-12. Enabling TA's to network and improve skills. £70 per head.

[Year 5 Maths Challenge](#)

The ever-popular Maths Challenge is back, with 15 heats across the county throughout April and May. Winning teams progress to the final at IWM Duxford. £40 per team.

[Outdoor Learning in the Early Years](#)

Monday 14 May, 13.30-16.30, Stibbington Centre. Practical ideas for EY teachers and leaders. £60 per delegate.

[Embedding British Values in Geography and History](#)

Wednesday 13 June, 13.30-16.30, Stibbington Centre. £60 per delegate

[SEN Conference: Opening Doors](#)

Friday 6 July 2018, The Marriott Hotel, Hinchingsbrooke Business Park, Huntingdon. £160 per delegate. Inspiring speakers - the conference will be a treat for all involved in Special Educational Needs.

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Cambridgeshire Learn Together, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge, CB3 0AP United Kingdom

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