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#### Welcome Back

We trust you enjoyed a well-deserved Christmas Break doing what was needed to get yourselves recharged and ready for the year ahead.

#### Congratulations Chris Abbott

Congratulations to Chris Abbott on receiving an Order of the British Empire (OBE). This is a fantastic testimony and well deserved!

#### Strategic School Improvement Fund

“Round 3 of the Strategic School Improvement Fund is now open and will close at midday on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Guidance for the fund is available online at [GOV.UK](http://GOV.UK)

The guidance has been updated to provide greater clarity on the types of improvement programmes and evidence-based approaches we want to fund, and an increased focus on early years. The guidance also includes updated requirements for multi-academy trusts, and teaching schools within multi-academy trusts, which wish to submit applications in support of schools within their trusts. The guidance sets out the requirements of the fund in terms of eligibility of applications and the characteristics of schools which are eligible to receive support, as well as criteria against which applications will be assessed. All potential applicants should familiarise themselves with this guidance in readiness for the online application form being made available in January.

We welcome applications from teaching schools, multi-academy trusts and local authorities for improvement activity starting in September 2018 and running up to the end of March 2020. Outcomes of the application round will be communicated in July 2018.

As outlined in the guidance, to avoid duplication and to help with sub-regional coordination of applications, we encourage all applicants to make their [Teaching Schools Council Regional Leads](#) aware of their intention to submit an application(s). Multi-academy trust applicants should also continue to keep their contacts in their regional schools commissioner’s office apprised of their intention to submit an application.

If you have any questions regarding the application process please contact [SSIF.enquiries@education.gov.uk](mailto:SSIF.enquiries@education.gov.uk)”

**Utilising SSIF to support Early Years Providers** – you will recall that, as a region, we have been promoting the importance of enabling SSIF to provide improvement support to Private, Voluntary and Independent sector early years providers who feed into schools on the eligible schools list. We are pleased that in Round 3 the following has been stated;

"We welcome applications that focus on increasing the proportion of children achieving a good level of literacy and numeracy at the end of the early years foundation stage. The Education Endowment Foundation has produced an overview of early literacy approaches, an overview of early numeracy approaches, and a guidance report for improving literacy in KS1. This could include, for example, improving early assessments of children's needs and the delivery of support during the reception year in eligible schools, or early years providers, which feed those schools in order to improve school-readiness and attainment during the reception year, and proposals which build on this through fostering good transition between reception and KS1. We expect applications to respond to the ambition and challenges to close the word gap in the early years as set out in [Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential](#)."

Teaching school colleagues may wish to consider how to make best use of this opportunity and a conversation with your local authority colleagues with responsibility for PVI provision could be highly beneficial. Please contact Kate Mckenna [kate.mckenna.associates@gmail.com](mailto:kate.mckenna.associates@gmail.com) for more information.

### East Midlands South Yorkshire and Humber 2018 School-led Conference

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

10am – 3pm

The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire, DE55 1AU

[Click here](#) to book your places.

Thank you all for your feedback on the conference proposal ([attached](#)). Feedback around the theme understanding, using and validating evidence based practice was positive and a timely.

The conference planning group met yesterday to discuss the conference agenda. We will provide more details in next week's update but want to encourage people to begin booking asap.

\*please note that the EMTSA Network on the 1st Feb will not take place and members will be able to touch base at the Conference. The date of the next network meeting will take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018.

### East Midlands Securing Headship Programme 2018

The Securing Headship Programme 2018 application deadline has now been extended to **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January** due to technical issues.

[Click here](#) to access the details of what is a programme designed for aspirant headteachers who are looking to apply for a Headship post within the next 12 months.

If you have any questions please contact [nicola.gale@sdsa.net](mailto:nicola.gale@sdsa.net) or tel 0116 299 5940

### York and Humber Teaching Schools

Reminder to York and Humber Teaching Schools (and Local Authority Representatives) that the next joint meeting is planned for 10am on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018**, 10am – 12noon, at Sirius North, Hull. The agenda for this meeting is due to be sent out later this week.

Also a reminder that voting for the Chair of the Joint York and Humber Teaching Schools Group is due to close on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018** at 5pm.

If you have any questions please contact Pat Dubas - [Patdubas@hotmail.com](mailto:Patdubas@hotmail.com)

### South Yorkshire Teaching Schools

A reminder to South Yorkshire Teaching Schools that the next joint meeting is planned for **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January**, 2pm-4pm, at Canklow Woods Primary, Rotherham, S60 2XJ.

The deadline for voting for the Chair of the South Yorkshire Teaching School Group has now closed. Further details to follow.

### NLE Tranche 25 application round

The [application round for NLE](#) Tranche 25 is expected to open on the 25<sup>th</sup> January, with a closing date of 28<sup>th</sup> February. Those who may be interested can read more about the NLE and NSS role by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-leaders-of-education-a-guide-for-potential-applicants> and registering their interest to receive a notification email when the round opens.

Please note, this is an NLE only application round and the next Teaching School application round is expected to open in late March.

### Education secretary unveils plans to boost support for new teachers

Education Secretary Justine Greening has launched plans to improve and increase training opportunities for teachers as part of a drive to attract the best and brightest into the profession.

The proposals in a [consultation](#) on strengthening Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and improving career progression for teachers, launched on December 15<sup>th</sup> 2017, include a plan to boost the mentoring and training support available to new teachers. The overall period before teachers gain Qualified Teacher Status could also be extended to give even greater standing to the teaching profession and prepare teachers for a successful career.

The consultation, which has been welcomed by education experts after it was announced as part of the Government's plan to improve social mobility, '[Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential](#)', will also seek views on how to train the next generation of teachers to become leaders in their field, without necessarily taking on management responsibilities outside of the classroom.

The consultation will be open until 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and was designed with input from an advisory group made up of experts – teachers and heads, academics and sector leaders, unions, the Chartered College of Teaching and the Teacher Development Trust. Please find time to complete the online survey to express your views.

### Teacher Recruitment Bulletin

The Teacher Recruitment Bulletin is a fortnightly bulletin for schools and initial teacher training (ITT) providers. It contains vital information, which will help support ITT recruitment. The three most recent bulletins can be viewed [here](#). If you would like to subscribe directly to the bulletin you can do so by emailing [teacher.recruitmentbulletin@education.gov.uk](mailto:teacher.recruitmentbulletin@education.gov.uk).

### Regional opportunities

Please [click here](#) to visit the portal to view the latest regional opportunities.

All the best,  
Ellen Lee

**On behalf of Chris Wheatley, TSC Representative East Midlands, South Yorkshire and Humber and Chris Abbott,  
TSC Representative for South Yorkshire and Humber**

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