

# TEACHING SCHOOL HUB NEWSLETTER

March 2023



Star Teaching  
School Hub  
NW Lancashire

Dear colleagues,

I hope you are well and having a good term. There is a lot to share with you in our March newsletter and plenty of CPD opportunities to engage with. If I may, I will draw your attention to some specific items worthy of your consideration.

Firstly, there is a very useful update on the National Institute of Teaching including a timeline for the launch of all the NIoT's Golden Thread provision.

Secondly, from September and going forward, Appropriate Body services for newly registered ECTs will only be provided by teaching school hubs. This is a change to the way some schools have previously accessed the service; in the AB section of the newsletter, you will find an FAQ document with valuable information for headteachers and induction tutors.

Finally, as we move towards the final term of the of the new ECF programme, the DfE would like to invite teachers to reflect on the process. In the national updates section, you will find registration details for the Teacher Reference Group where colleagues can address ministers directly and support policy development around teacher recruitment and retention.

For further information on any of the items in the newsletter please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Wishing you a peaceful Easter Break.

Tim

[Tim Freeman](#)

[Partnership Director - NW Lancashire Teaching School Hub](#)



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## NEWS

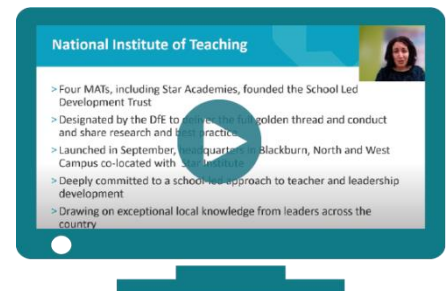
- > **DfE Announcement: Teaching School Hubs become main provider of Appropriate Body Services**
- > **First in-person National Institute of Teaching NPQ sessions taking place this month**

The National Institute of Teaching North and West Campus has reached a new stage in its development following the launch of the full suite of NPQ programmes last month. Throughout March the campus will be the home of the first in-person NPQ sessions for more than 330 participants commencing their qualifications with the NIoT.

## How will Star Teaching School Hubs and the National Institute of Teaching work together?

The NIoT will become Star TSHs' Lead Provider for the full Golden Thread, from ITT to ECF and the full suite of NPQs. This provides a unique coherence enabling schools working with Star to maximise the impact of this DfE-funded professional development pathway for their staff. The potential of this is even greater when combined with the Star TSH Appropriate Body Service.

Before Christmas, we shared a short [voicenote](#) from Sophie Backen, who has been Head of Programmes at Star Institute for 5 years and now takes on the role of Regional Principal for the N&W Campus of the NIoT. You can find this video here if you missed it.



## How with the provision from one Lead Provider to another work?

There will be a gradual transition period for each of the golden thread programmes, each on slightly different timescales to ensure the best experience for participants:

- **Initial Teacher Training**  
22/23 trainees will complete their programme with Star Teachers. Throughout the year, our team are recruiting trainees to commence their training with the NIoT from September 2023.
- **Early Career Framework**  
For 22/23, all ECTs are undertaking their induction with Teach First. For those currently in their first year, Star will continue to work as a delivery partner of Teach First's to deliver the second induction year in 23/24.  
For new 'year 1' ECTs from September 2023, the provision will move to the NIoT and from September 2024, all ECTs with Star will be on an NIoT induction.
- **National Professional Qualifications**  
By September 2023, all participants studying for their NPQs with the School Led Network will have submitted their final assessment.  
From February 2023, all new applications for NPQs will be with the NIoT as the lead provider.



The Star team are here to support schools to get the most from this training and professional development offer. If you have any questions or would like to discuss how Star and the NIoT can best support your school, please get in touch with Tim Freeman.



## EARLY CAREER FRAMEWORK

Last week Ofsted visited the Star Institute office in Blackburn, to meet with ECTs, Mentors and Headteachers as part of their inspection of the Teach First ECF Programme. Thank you to everyone who was involved, we value your support at this busy time.

For new ECTs starting their two-year induction from April, Star Teaching School Hubs will be working with the National Institute of Teaching as the new Lead Provider. This is a fantastic opportunity as Star is a founding partner of this organisation and so the ability to influence direction of travel based on our experience supporting schools across the Hubs is far greater.

There are several tangible reasons why we would encourage schools in our Hubs to make this move with us:

- > The programme is still based on the Teach First core induction programme with an emphasis on instructional coaching, so will not create implementation challenges for mentors moving to the new programme.
- > The programme is leaner, designed to fit into busy school life, with an emphasis on maximising in-person sessions to secure powerful learning for ECTs.
- > There will be more flexibility in the programme to enable mentors to support ECTs at different rates of development.
- > We have learnt from the 'onboarding' challenges in previous years and self-study materials will be immediately available for ECTs when they register, without the barrier of accessing an online platform during the busy start of the year.

If you have ECTs joining your school in Term 3 this year or from September 2023, there are three places schools need to register them for their induction:

- > **With an ECF programme provider**
  - Register with Star TSH and the NIoT [here](#)
- > **With an Appropriate Body service**
  - Register with Star Institute AB [here](#)
- > **The [DfE online service](#)** (not yet open for September starters)



## APPROPRIATE BODY

### Changes to Appropriate Body provision from September 23

The latest information released by the DfE on changes to AB from September 23 can be found via the link below, including a useful FAQ section on transition of the service from local authorities to teaching school hubs. We are working collaboratively with all local authorities to ensure ECTs are not unduly affected by the transition process. [Appropriate Body Reforms DfE briefing pack for Schools](#)

### Important reminder about registering your ECT

An ECT cannot start their Induction until registered with an Appropriate Body. Registering for an ECF Programme does not mean they are registered with an Appropriate Body, schools must ensure ECTs are registered for both an ECF Programme and an Appropriate Body. At the end of the ECT's induction assessment, it is the Appropriate Body that makes the final decision as to whether the ECT has successfully met the Teachers' Standards on the recommendation of their Headteacher/Principal.

### DEADLINE

Appropriate Bodies must inform the DfE which ECTs started their Induction each term and so it is very important that your ECTs are registered as soon as possible. For any ECTs due to start their induction in the summer term, they must be registered with an Appropriate Body by Wednesday 26 April 2023. Any ECT not registered with an AB by this date may be unable to count their first term towards their Induction.

Register for Star Appropriate Body [here](#) or if you are already registered with an Appropriate Body Service please contact them to register your new ECT(s). Those using Star AB can add a new ECT on [ECT Manager](#).

### Star AB Breakfast Briefings

We would like to invite Induction Tutors of schools using Star's AB service to attend our AB Breakfast Briefings. Here we will provide advice and guidance on the completion of **Progress Reviews**. Details are below:

Date	Microsoft Teams Link
Tuesday 21 March 2023, 8:00-9:00am	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> Meeting ID: 335 500 997 966 Passcode: 4Hjedz
Monday 27 March 2023, 8:00-9:00am	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> Meeting ID: 315 327 121 672 Passcode: i2sVR8

### Star AB Formal Assessment Briefings

We would like to invite Induction Tutors who have ECTs in term 6 of their induction assessment to **Formal Assessment** Briefings. Details of these briefings are below:

Date	Microsoft Teams Link
Friday 5 May 2023, 8:00-9:00am	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> Meeting ID: 362 548 948 881 Passcode: nmf9Mw
Friday 9 June 2023, 8:00-9:00am	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> Meeting ID: 399 717 221 97 Passcode: p3ncTC

### Star TSH Appropriate Body Service – Briefing for 2023/2024 Registrations

The Teaching School Hub would also like to invite Induction Tutors who are **new to AB** or will be **accessing our service for the first time** in 2023/2024 to the following briefings:

Date	Microsoft Teams Link
Monday 19 June 2023, 8:00-9:00am	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> Meeting ID: 344 892 951 372 Passcode: qSjDjD
Monday 10 July 2023, 8:00-9:00am	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> Meeting ID: 347 846 734 771 Passcode: TQ5SzJ

For advice and guidance on any aspect of induction assessment please contact [abqueries@starinstitute.org.uk](mailto:abqueries@starinstitute.org.uk)



## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TEACHING NPQs

We were delighted to host the first in-person Local Seminars of the programme at our North and West Campus in Blackburn last week. It was brilliant to hear the buzz as teachers and leaders shared their experience, learned together and started to develop their local networks.

Participants began their programmes with their Self-study induction in February and the first Local Seminars will be taking place throughout this month. Local Seminars provide an opportunity for peer learning and collaboration, focusing on consolidating knowledge from the Self-study materials, engaging in practice and applying learning. The first session focused on orientation to the programme, and unpacking evidence and research on school culture and implementation.

You can find more information on our NPQ programmes via the [National Institute of Teaching website](#). Please liaise directly with staff undertaking NPQs to understand how best to support them.



## NATIONAL AND LOCAL UPDATES

### Opportunity to engage in national policy through the DfE Teacher Reference Group

The DfE is looking for teachers to join its national Teacher Reference Group. This is a unique opportunity to work closely with like-minded teachers and the DfE to support policy development and implementation, by contributing views, offering valuable challenge and advice, and providing feedback directly to Ministers and officials.

To find out more and apply, visit the [information](#) page. Early applications welcomed. Questions to be sent to [Recruitment.TRG@education.gov.uk](mailto:Recruitment.TRG@education.gov.uk). Applications close at 17:00 on Friday 14th April.

### Lancashire Computing Hub

Please follow the link to find out how you may benefit from subsidies, the physical computing kit loan and courses: [Lancashire Computing Hub - Secondary Booklet](#).

The role of the hub is to support the teaching of computing in your school. This includes providing CPD for teachers to help them deliver excellent outcomes for students across Lancashire, as well as offering bespoke support where requested. With CPD in mind, we offer a suite of courses to upskill teachers delivering Computing and Computer Science GCSE, the details and booking links can be found on the

**[CPD pages on our website](#)**. If you have a specific need and can't see anything suitable, please do get in touch via [dbatty@bishopr.co.uk](mailto:dbatty@bishopr.co.uk).

We have recently been tasked with supporting schools in Lancashire on the **[Computing Quality Framework](#)** which is designed to help schools review their progress developing the computing curriculum and gain accreditation for success across several categories. If your subject leader would like to know more, please get in touch.

### **STEM Learning**

Please join STEM learning on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 3.45-5.15pm to consider the recently released science subject report: 'finding the optimum'. Click [here](#) to register.

### **Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs – final opportunity to apply to become a Hub**

Following the successful appointment of the first Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs in November 2022, we are pleased to share that the second selection round is currently live. Hubs will be led by a group-based (school-based, private, voluntary, or independent) early years provider. Settings can come together, including childminders, to form partnership applications to become a Hub.

The National Children's Bureau is the delivery partner for the programme and you can find further details and the application pack on their website [Stronger Practice Hubs \(ncb.org.uk\)](https://www.ncb.org.uk).

Additional information and the list of existing hubs is available here: [Early years stronger practice hubs - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/early-years-stronger-practice-hubs)

### **Financial education webinars for school leaders and teachers: March 2023**

The DfE is hosting four online financial education webinars jointly with the Money and Pensions Service, in partnership with Young Enterprise. This free programme will enable school leaders to explore how financial education can support their wider school priorities. It will help teachers to deliver effective, engaging and age-appropriate content about money through the curriculum. Themed webinars will explore the links between financial education and primary and secondary mathematics and secondary citizenship.

Participants will hear from financial education experts, subject specialists and teachers. Following the webinars, they will receive details of further support to help them embed financial education into their curriculum, including links to accredited resources and professional development opportunities. The webinars are open to all school settings. The webinar dates/times and further information, including how to register, can be found here: <https://orca.com/financial-education-webinars/>.

### **Teaching Vacancies direct marketing campaign to trainee teachers has gone live!**

The campaign aims to build trainee teachers' confidence in searching, applying and interviewing for teaching jobs so that teachers find the right school for them. We have emailed ITT trainee teachers looking to qualify at the end of this academic year, encouraging them to sign up for job alerts, search for relevant teaching roles and apply to schools posting vacancies on Teaching Vacancies.

So, if you haven't got your ECT suitable roles on Teaching Vacancies, do so now! For further information about this campaign or to find out more about how Teaching Vacancies is making it easier for schools to hire quality candidates, please email [william.bourke@education.gov.uk](mailto:william.bourke@education.gov.uk).

### **Abacus NW Maths Hub – Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and parts of Lancashire**

The Mastering Number Programme aims to secure firm foundations in the development of good number sense for all children from Reception through to Year 1 and Year 2. The application window for schools



to join the next cohort starting September 2023 is now open and will close on Friday 31 March at 5pm. Participating schools will receive central training (online and face to face) and a wealth of pupil-facing resources, including a free set of rekenreks. Click here to [Apply now](#)

If your primary school is ready to start developing a teaching for mastery approach, you can register to join us on Friday 24 March, 9.30am-12, at Stanley House for an introduction to the Primary Teaching for Mastery Programme. [Register now](#) Teachers in all phases are invited to apply for programmes to lead CPD and school-wide development in 2023/24. The programmes are:

- Primary Mastery Specialist
- Secondary Mastery Specialist
- Further Education Mastery Specialist
- Professional Development Lead
- School Development Lead.

All the programmes are funded and are designed to develop teachers as local leaders of mathematics education (LLME), who lead various strands of activity of their Maths Hub at a local level. Visit the website to find out more. The closing date for applications is Friday 31 March at 5pm. [Apply now](#)

**NNW Maths Hub** – Cumbria, and the local authority districts of Lancaster, Wyre and Ribble Valley The **Mastering Number Programme** aims to secure firm foundations in the development of good number sense for all children from Reception through to Year 1 and Year 2. Apply now to join our Mastering Number programme, starting in September 2023. Applications close on **Friday 31 March at 5pm**. Participating schools will receive central training (online and face to face) and a wealth of pupil-facing resources, including a free set of rekenreks. [Apply here >](#) Teachers in all phases are invited to apply for programmes to lead CPD and school-wide development in 2023/24. The programmes are:

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Exciting roles available and new ones launching regularly at the NIoT! Click [here](#) for more information.

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