

Celebration Event, Spring term 2009

The WD team is planning our next Celebration Event which will take place in early 2009. The event is for all support staff who achieved a vocational or academic qualification or HLTA status during 2008.

Please let us know if you should be invited to this event – we don't want to miss anybody out!

Training for TA mentors

If you are arranging for your newly appointed TAs to have the support of a more experienced TA as a mentor, you might be interested in providing some **mentor training**.

- ◆ **Topics covered will include:**
- ◆ **The role of a mentor**
- ◆ **Listening skills**
- ◆ **Questioning skills**
- ◆ **Sharing knowledge**

(Contact the Workforce Development team on WD@vtplc.com for further details)

Surrey Primary GTP Information Event (Graduate Teacher Programme)

16th October 2008

Reigate Baptist Church,
Sycamore Walk, Reigate, RH2 7LR



We invite graduates to attend a seminar on how you might train to become a primary teacher whilst earning an unqualified teacher's salary within Surrey schools!

Seminars are at 2pm and repeated at 6pm, lasting approximately 1 hour with time for questions!

Editorial and contact details - TA News is produced and distributed by the Workforce Development Team, VT Four S Ltd. For information, enquiries and to send in your contributions, please contact the Workforce Development Team on 0800 0734444 ext 835011 or wd@vtplc.com.

COMING SOON....

Supporting and Leading Physical Education



A practical course designed for teachers and HLTAs who are aiming to, or currently support the delivery of high quality physical education.

The course will clarify health and safety requirements in leading and supporting practical activity within the curriculum, provide ideas and resources that colleagues can use to support and lead learning in PE, and a clear overview of how to manage risk in a practical context.

As a consequence of this course, colleagues will be provided with the tools and procedures needed to be 'competent to assess risk' in practical activity. This course meets the following Core Standards for Teachers: C1 (a), C2, C3 and C29 (a,b,c,d).

Venue: To be confirmed
Date: 7th November 2008 Time: 9.30 – 3.30
Course Code: 08T/6940 Cost: £126.00 (exc. VAT)

NB: Before assisting or leading any physical education lesson or sports activity, please discuss with school colleagues your competence and confidence to deliver. In short, any colleague who leads any physical activity must be 'competent to lead'. A helpful resource from [The Association for Physical Education \(AfPE\)](http://www.afpe.org.uk) clarifies this position.

Meeting for Leaders of the TA Networks

During the past eighteen months, VT Four S has been working closely with the TA networks throughout Surrey. We are now having a fresh look at how the networks might run in future. With this in mind, we would like to invite TAs who have led, or are likely to lead, network meetings to attend a meeting at our office in Leatherhead on Wed 15 October 2008, 3 – 4.30 pm. Refreshments will be available from 2.30 pm. The purpose of this meeting is to plan our strategy for the TA networks and we welcome your ideas and involvement.

Please note that parking is not available at our premises but you can use the pay & display car park at Leatherhead station.

Please e-mail wd@vtplc.com or call 0800 073 4444 ext 835011 by 3 October to let us know that you will attend.

Teaching Assistant News

Success in Sport

Encouraged by our success in the Olympics in Beijing 2008, and with our sights on London 2012, now is the time to focus on physical education, activity and school sport!

Physical education is a compulsory subject in the National Curriculum (see panel for further details). Sports clubs, either during or after the school day, offer pupils the opportunity to participate in particular sports e.g. football, rugby, netball.

Physical Education is a National Curriculum foundation subject compulsory at all Key Stages for all pupils. Pupils should be offered a breadth of activity, including dance, games and gymnastics at Key Stage 1. At Key Stage 2 pupils should be taught the activities studied in KS1 plus any two from the following: athletics, swimming and outdoor and adventurous activity. The KS3 and KS4 curriculum has been updated (for delivery from September 2008) and further information on these new requirements can be found on: <http://curriculum.qca.org.uk/key-stages-3-and-4/subjects/physical-education>

Physical activities are also encouraged at break and play times, with some schools offering structured play. Playgrounds can be "zoned" with a variety of things to do such as ball games, skipping, a quiet zone or board games. Pupils may also be spending 10 minutes a day doing activities that improve concentration and learning – try rubbing your tummy and your head at the same time, or doing a bit of Brain Gym, and you'll see what we mean!

Surrey maintained schools all belong to a School Sports Partnerships (SSP). These partnerships are very important in supporting your on-going professional development in physical education and school sport. Do take the time to speak to your Physical Education Subject Leader for more help and information on how these partnerships can help you. The government has funded heavily in physical and school sport in the run-up to London 2012. Find out where the money has gone at [teachernet](http://www.teachernet.gov.uk) <http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/teachingandlearning/subjects/pe/>

Active Surrey is the County Sports Partnership body charged with making Surrey 'a more active and successful sporting county'. Active Surrey offers invaluable information for coaches and local sports developments opportunities. Check their web-site for information that could help you! <http://www.activesurrey.com>

The national governing bodies of sport can provide training for individuals who want to become coaches – there are generally four levels, simply 1,2,3 & 4. Colleagues at Active Surrey will be able to point you in the right direction for local award courses. Who knows, you could be the next coach supporting the next Surrey Olympic gold medalist in waiting! You can find the links to all the governing bodies by visiting the Sport England website on www.sportengland.org.



Clayton Wilson, Four S Consultant for Physical Education, is keen to support TAs in developing their skills and confidence. *"There is no doubt of the added value that support staff can bring to the physical education curriculum and extended school provision. Physical education is about providing children with the skills and understanding to follow a healthy lifestyle and pursue lifelong learning through activity. TAs are an essential ingredient in this and can bring a diverse mix of experience and flavour to high quality activity"*. For further information - log on and register via www.vtfours.co.uk and look under Our Services/ Curriculum/ Physical Education/ Cross Phase Resources

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Support Staff Development Opportunities for Everyone!

We can offer support staff and Teaching Assistants a wide range of learning and development opportunities. Here is the menu:-

Induction Training for Teaching Assistants

The Teaching Assistant induction training programme is designed to help TAs to understand the context in which they will be working and how they will support teachers. The programme is available to TAs in primary and secondary schools. The training is funded and places are limited.

Induction Training for Support Staff

Support staff induction training provides a wide range of staff with fundamental information about working in schools. This training is suitable for site managers, receptionists, attendance officers, technicians and midday supervisors. This is a one day training course and it is funded.

NVQ 'Supporting Teaching and Learning' for Teaching Assistants

This National Vocational Qualification (NVQ), available at Levels 2 and 3, is based on national occupational standards and is offered by a range of colleges and providers across Surrey. Applicants are often eligible to access 'Train To Gain' funding and there are also other bursaries available to help with the cost of the fees.

Support Work in Schools (SWiS) Qualification

The Support Work in Schools (SWiS) qualification is an award and certificate which is available at level 2 & 3 of the national qualifications framework. This is a modular qualification and learners can choose the modules relevant to their role in the school. The SWiS qualifications are designed to meet the needs of all school support staff and are suitable for those who want to gain a formal qualification, are new to the school environment, have more than one role in a school, or would like to improve their career prospects or skills. The SWiS Qualifications are funded and are available at Levels 2 and 3.

To apply, please download the SWiS application form from the VT Four S website - www.vtfours.co.uk/workforcesupport - and complete and return to the Workforce Development Team.

HLTA Status

HLTA Status (Higher Level Teaching Assistant) is awarded to TAs who meet the national professional HLTA standards. This acknowledges the contribution that TAs working at a higher level make to the life of the school and pupils' learning. There are opportunities for TAs to undertake fully funded preparation and training. For further information contact the HLTA team via HLTA@vtpc.com or tel 0800 073 835035.

Foundation Degree for Supporting Learning and Teaching

The Foundation Degree for Supporting Learning and Teaching is a new 2 year programme which allows you to continue working whilst studying for a Higher Education Qualification. It is the equivalent to the first 2 years of an honours degree and it is possible to progress to the final year - such as the BA (Education). VT Four S work in partnership with Roehampton University and for further information contact Roehampton direct on 020 8392 3394.

Dates and Places for Development Opportunities

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| TA Induction (Primary) | | | |
| 08T/6531 | 2 Oct 08 9 Oct 08 10 Oct 08 22 Oct 08 | All events run from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm | Gatton Hall, Reigate Reigate Baptist Church Reigate Baptist Church Gatton Hall, Reigate |
| 08T/6602 | 4 Nov 08 5 Nov 08 13 Nov 08 24 Nov 08 | | Manor House Hotel, Guildford Farnham Maltings Farnham Maltings Manor House Hotel, Guildford |
| TA Induction (Secondary) | | | |
| 08T/6530 | 22 Sep 08 24 Sep 08 14 Oct 08 15 Oct 08 | All events run from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm | Manor House Hotel, Guildford Manor House Hotel, Guildford Waverley Abbey, Farnham Waverley Abbey, Farnham |
| Support Staff induction | | | |
| 08T/6541 | 10 Nov 08 | 9.30 am – 3.30 pm | Thames Ditton Junior School |
| SWiS Briefings | | | |
| 08T/6984 | 17 Nov 08 | 4 - 5.30 pm | Runnymede Centre, Addlestone |
| 08T/6985 | 19 Nov 08 | 4 - 5.30 pm | Guildford Cathedral Refectory |
| HLTA briefings | | | |
| 08T/6923 | 16 Oct 08 | 10 am - 12 pm | Guildford Children's Centre Leatherhead Golf Club Leatherhead Golf Club |
| 08T/6924 | 22 Oct 08 | 1 pm - 3 pm | |
| 08T/6922 (Maths & Science) | 24 Sep 08 | 10 am – 12 pm | |
| Learning Mentor Training | | | |
| 08T/6758 | 3 Oct 08 17 Oct 08 | 9.30 - 3.30pm | YMCA, Guildford |

TA Network Meetings - Autumn 2008:

30th September, 4 - 5.30pm, St Bedes School
☎ Jackie Kerr 01737 212108
Managing Pupils with Physical Disabilities

2nd October, 4 - 5.30pm, Loseley Fields Primary
☎ Kim Finlayson 01483 416477
Dyslexia

8th October, 4 - 5.30pm, The Dawnay School
☎ Chris White 01372 456774
Specific Learning Difficulties

18th November, 4 - 5.30pm, St Bedes School
Managing Pupils on the Autistic Spectrum
Helen Johns SEN Consultant

20th November, 4 - 5.30pm, Loseley Fields Primary
Autism - Helen Johns SEN Consultant

26th November, 4 - 5.30pm, The Dawnay School
Managing the Playground

To attend any of the above workshops, please contact the school direct.
Numbers are limited to 30 at each sessionso do book early to avoid disappointment