

Details of Training and Development Opportunities for Support Staff

Primary TA Induction (5 day programme) £10 per day per delegate			
Date	Time	Course Code	Venue
Cohort 2 10/11 starting Thursday 4th Nov 2010	9.30am - 3.30pm	10T/01805	The Runnymede Centre, Addlestone, KT15 2EP and NASUWT offices, Send, GU23 7JZ for Day 2 only
Cohort 3 10/11 starting Tuesday 1st Feb 2011	9.30am - 3.30pm	10T/01804	Royal Alexandra & Albert School, Reigate, RH2 0TW

Secondary TA Induction (2 Core Days and 2 Optional Days Literacy & Maths) £10 per day per delegate			
Date	Time	Course Codes	Venue
Autumn 2010 Core Days 12th Nov & 19th Nov 2010 OR Spring 2011 Core Days 16th Feb & 3rd Mar 2011	9.30am - 3.30pm	10T/01816	Royal Alexandra & Albert School, Reigate, RH2 0TW
Autumn 2010 or Spring 2011 Optional Maths Days 24th Nov 2010 or 9th March 2011	9.30am - 3.30pm	10T/01819	NASUWT Offices, Send, Woking, GU23 7JZ
Autumn 2010 or Spring 2011 Optional Literacy Days 2nd Dec 2010 or 17th March 2011	9.30am - 3.30pm	10T/01817 (Autumn) 10T/01820 (Spring)	Royal Alexandra & Albert School, Reigate, RH2 0TW (Autumn) NASUWT Offices, Send, Woking, GU23 7JZ (Spring)
Autumn 2010 or Spring 2011 Optional Literacy Days 2nd Dec 2010 or 17th March 2011	9.30am - 3.30pm	10T/01818 (Autumn) 10T/01821 (Spring)	Royal Alexandra & Albert School, Reigate, RH2 0TW (Autumn) Guildford Children's Centre, GU1 1NR (Spring)

Support Staff Induction			
Date	Time	Course Codes	Venue
21st October 2010	9.30am - 3.30pm	10T/01918	Guildford Schools' Training Centre, Guildford, GU1 1JY
10th March 2011	9.30am - 3.30pm	10T/01919	Royal Alexandra & Albert School, Reigate, RH2 0TW

Customer Service Training			
Date	Time	Course Codes	Venue
14th October 2010	9.30am - 12.30pm	10T/01906	Guildford Schools' Training Centre, Guildford, GU1 1JY
1st December 2010	9.30am - 12.30pm	10T/01907	Guildford Schools' Training Centre, Guildford, GU1 1JY

The above training events are available to staff in Surrey maintained Schools. To book your place on any of the above training and development sessions visit www.vtfours.co.uk/cpdonline and search by title, date or course code.

Editorial and contact details - TA News is produced and distributed by the Workforce Development Team, VT Group 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.

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Teaching Assistant News

Higher Level Teaching Assistant Status

Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTAs) are now well established within the school workforce in the majority of Surrey schools. All staff who support teaching and learning already make a vital contribution to pupils' learning and achievement, but those with HLTA status are able to bring a range of higher level skills to their work. This includes the recognised skills to plan, prepare, deliver and assess learning in the absence of the teacher; the ability to lead and direct the work of others; and the ability to lead areas of the wider curriculum. Over 850 Teaching Assistants have achieved HLTA status in Surrey, with a significant number undertaking specialist subject training in Maths, Science and more recently in Food Technology.

Changes in funding for HLTA Preparation, Assessment and Training

From July 2004 until 1st April 2010 funding for HLTA has been available via the TDA Support Staff Training and Development Grant. This grant has been managed by Local Authority Workforce Development Teams. Unfortunately this funding stream has ceased and schools will need to provide funding for staff to gain HLTA status. (Schools Bulletin 10/FS/144 of 14th July 2010 refers).

How to apply for HLTA Status

The Workforce Development team will continue in its work to support and advise schools about professional development, training and workforce reform. The HLTA programme (from application to assessment) will now be managed directly by the Regional Provider of Assessment.

VT Four S Ltd is the Regional Provider of HLTA Assessment and continues to be engaged with this project across London and the South East Region. The HLTA Assessment Contracts Team, under the leadership of Mandy Bowler and Ian Hollingsworth, will continue to provide opportunities for school support staff to:

- Attend HLTA Information and Training Needs Analysis events as well as provide opportunities for staff.
- Undertake HLTA training, preparation and assessment at a realistic and competitive rate.
- Manage the application process for the programme.

To book a place on an HLTA Briefing/Training Needs Analysis event visit www.vtfours.co.uk/cpdonline and search for HLTA. Details about HLTA can also be found at www.vtfours.co.uk and scroll down to the HLTA link at the end of the main page.

For more information about HLTA training, preparation and assessment contact the HLTA Assessment Contracts team at HLTA@vtplc.com or telephone 0800 073 4444 ext 835035.

Caring for the Carers

From figures drawn from the 2001 Census, it has been estimated that there are at least 3000 'young carers' in Surrey. These are young people who care for a family member or a friend with a disability or long-term illness, including mental health problems and drug and alcohol dependencies.

Many of the tasks performed by young carers are normal domestic tasks, but the amount may exceed normal expectations for a child. Some tasks, such as emotionally supporting a parent, administering medication, or dealing with financial matters, require significant responsibility from a young person. Other tasks, such as assisting a parent with toileting and bathing, may be inappropriate for a child due to the nature of the task.

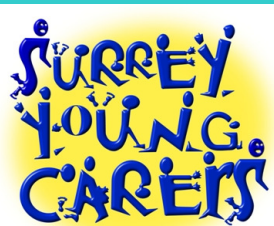
Regardless of whether a young person acts as a 'carer', difficulties with relationships, roles and finances are more likely to occur when a family member has a disability or long-term illness. For some young carers, these problems can have significant effects upon their health and opportunities. A significant proportion of these young people have difficulties with their education as a result, including problems with getting to school, achieving their academic potential and joining in with extra-curricular activities.

The support of staff is often required in alleviating these problems within school and in bringing in additional assistance from external services – however, due to the often sensitive nature of these situations, becoming aware of these students can be a challenge. Many young carers are reluctant to ask for help, and some may be unaware that help exists or that they are indeed 'carers'.

Surrey Young Carers is a charity that can assist schools in identifying and supporting these vulnerable students. This free service includes staff briefings, consultations, assembly talks and PSHE resources. The organisation offers a range of support to referred families, including assistance in gaining the services they require, and providing social activities, breaks and one-to-one support for young carers.

For further information on Surrey Young Carers, please call 01483 568269, email: syc@actionforcarers.org.uk or visit www.surrey-youngcarers.org.uk.

For direct enquiries to the SYC Education Advisors please call 01483 457008.



Support for Learning Conference for Primary Teaching Assistants - Sandown Park Racecourse

The next **Support for Learning Conference** will be held on Wednesday 17 November 2010 at Sandown Park Racecourse. The Conference has been organised by Surrey's Educational Psychology's School Improvement Group in partnership with the Workforce Development Team from VT Four S Ltd.

Previous conferences for Teaching Assistants supporting pupils' learning and behaviour in the Primary Phase, were positively evaluated and well attended. Teaching Assistants participate in two workshops and also have the opportunity to meet and share ideas with colleagues. Workshops focus on a range of themes and include practical strategies and methods for improving children's learning. Workshops offered at this term's conference include: Understanding and Supporting Pupils with Attachment Difficulties, Managing Children's Challenging Behaviour, Learning and Professional Development for Teaching Assistants, Autistic Spectrum Disorder in the Primary Classroom and Improving Stickability-The importance of Memory Processes in Children's Learning.

Further details and an application form can be found in the School's Bulletin for 16 September 2010. There is a nominal administration charge of £25 per participant. Demand for places is always high so an early application is encouraged. Please contact Lesley Wallis - Conference Organiser on 01483 518021 or Kevin McLoughlin on 01372 833588 if you have any queries.

TA Champions Network Meeting

TA network meetings continue to be successful across Surrey. Each term TA Champions meet to share ideas and discuss ways of developing networks in their area. TA Champions are invited to attend our meetings listed below. New champions will be made very welcome. To book your place at any of these meetings, please visit www.vtfours.co.uk/cpdonline

Please contact wd@vtplc.com for further information about the TA Networks

TA Champions Network Meetings — VT Four S Ltd

Date	Time	Course Code	Venue
9th November 2010	14.30 - 16.30pm	10T/02095	St George's Christian Centre, Ashted, KT21 2DA



Surrey Primary GTP Information Event

(Graduate Teacher Programme)

7th October 2010 2pm or 6pm

Reigate Priory School, Bell Street, Reigate RH2 7RL

If you are thinking of working in Surrey as a primary teacher we would like to meet you! We have excellent schools and are a top performing Local Authority. There is an opportunity for first rate training and structural career development. There's no better place than Surrey!

Come and find out more at Reigate Priory School on Thursday, 7th October 2010. We would like to meet graduates interested in training whilst earning. You'll have a chance to talk to professionals from the team.

.... come and meet with us now

Seminars on training and learning will be run at 2pm and repeated at 6pm. There will be input from the GTP Manager, the programme support tutors and trainees past and present who will talk about this route into teaching.

For further information contact:

The Workforce Development Team,
VT Four S, Bay Tree Avenue, Kingston Road, Leatherhead KT22 7UE
T: 0800 073 4444 ext 835011 E: wd@vtplc.com

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