

CITA Newsletter

December 2018

Issue 2

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Dear Strategic and Associate Partner Schools

Welcome to the end of the Autumn term! We hope that you have been able to welcome and settle new pupils, families and staff into your schools, and that the past three months have been successful ones.

We have had a very busy term and feel it timely to share some of the work you have contributed to, through CITA.

We started the academic year launching and facilitating the Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC) SENCo Network Event in Chester. The networks are now being led by Sarah Curtis and Jane Bradley. Contact cita@archersbrook.cheshire.sch.uk if you would like details of the network cluster meetings. You will be very welcome to attend!

Our work with Chester University has continue to grow. CITA have been working with the University to develop a new degree, specialising in SEND. This should be an exciting qualification, which will strengthen the quality of the future workforce and foster talent within our locality.

We have been working with the local authority on a range of training offers for our schools and alliance partners. We have been commissioned to write and deliver the SEND review process, and have a trained team of reviewers ready to deploy. If you are interested in a SEND review, contact us at cita@archersbrook.cheshire.sch.uk

We are working with our local authority and other colleagues to shape the workforce development strategy, in response to the CWaC High Needs review. We will be hosting our planning meeting in January 2019, followed by an Inclusion Conference 2019 later in the term. If you would like to support the planning or facilitation of this conference, please contact us by email at cita@archersbrook.cheshire.sch.uk

Our local and regional CPD offer of direct or bespoke training has been well received. This term we have hosted SLE workshops, provided literacy support and hosted the inaugural SENCo Annual meeting; we've also been able to consult with colleagues to support S2S CPD design for 2019. If any teachers in your schools are interested in our newly formed Journal Club, working to develop evidence based practice in our classrooms, please contact us by email. We continue to provide specialist support to a range schools and have been able to prove impact through recent engagement with RSC and Ofsted processes.

Our wider work has seen us represent with Ofsted North. CITA is now representing the local area in an Ofsted working party, looking specifically at responses to changes to the Inspection Framework. We are representing mainstream and specialist sectors and sharing the views of stakeholders accordingly.

We attended the NLE briefing hosted by the DfE in November. Changes to the brokering of school to school support were shared. Our commissioned work will now come via the West Midlands TSC.

CITA continues to co-chair the National Teaching School Special School Network. Our meeting this term was attended by over 60 schools and a packed agenda included presentations from London University, Diane Rochford, Gill Robinson and NASEN.

Just to remind you to at our website for the Workshops which we are running in the new year. These include: Sensory Processing Difficulties in Autism and its Impact on Behaviour; How to make Inclusion Inclusive in the Early Years; Using the Updated Pre-Key Stage Standards: SEND Assessment after the Rochford Review; Preparing Subject Leadership and the Role of the SENDCO.

May we take this opportunity, on behalf of CITA, to thank you all for your commitment, engagement and determination to improve the educational experiences, opportunities and life chances for our children and young people. It remains a privilege to work with you all.

Have a safe, restful and healthy Christmas break.

Ali

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Sam

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CITA Directors and Strategic Leads