

PGCE

Partnership Newsletter



Teachers – the next generation

As schools become increasingly involved in the active recruitment of future cohorts of teaching professionals, we need to begin to consider how this can most effectively be achieved. The graduate market has changed quite dramatically over the past couple of years and teaching can no longer rely on a steady influx of graduate applicants.

Schools interested in long-term succession planning for their teaching staff are beginning to take a much more pro-active approach to exploring potential sources of candidates. Increasingly, forward thinking schools are approaching their local University careers and volunteering offices in order to access the talent of undergraduates and prepare them for application for routes in to teaching (the University of Leicester PGCE being the ultimate goal of course!) Several different strategies are currently being used, a few examples being:

1. Undergraduate volunteers in the classroom – schools approach the University of Leicester undergraduate volunteering coordinator, Chani Sandhu cp117@le.ac.uk (or their local university) and offer the opportunity for students to experience the chance to perform specific activities in the school – (eg) storytelling, art workshops, English language support in primary classrooms or (again eg) MFL assistant, core maths/English support, local history workshop in secondary classrooms.
2. Offering placements for undergraduates taking an education module as part of their course (usually spring terms) or as part of a 'Tomorrow's Teachers' widening participation initiative (summer term) Jean Baxter jb74@leicester.ac.uk
3. Advertising part-time TA posts through the University careers office unitemps@le.ac.uk with the offer of including support and advice on applying for PGCE on the basis of the experience. A part-time TA can become full-time on graduation and then progress to QTS through School Direct (with the major part of the placement experience being in your school).

To get the teaching personnel your school needs requires strategic planning including the nurturing of potential candidates well before they are actually needed. Subject departments are often willing to develop long term relationship with schools – they see it as a long term investment in potential undergraduate applications! Most universities have similar links to those above – go to the one nearest to you – they are always keen on ensuring that their graduates find appropriate employment opportunities.

Partnership Discounts

Discounts on certain Masters course fees are available to teachers in Partnership schools – those schools hosting PGCE students this year or last, either direct from the University or via School Direct. In addition to a potential alumni discount of 10%, there is a further discount of £300 for a 60 credit module (£150 for 30 credits), and an additional discount for groups of 10 or more (£200 per student for 60 credits, £100 per student for 30 credits). This discount applies across all our taught Masters programmes, with the exception of the SEBDA modules within MAELT. For further details of provision, please go to:

Learning and Teaching www2.le.ac.uk/departments/education/postgraduate-study/masters/learning

Educational Leadership www2.le.ac.uk/departments/education/distance-learning/msc-educational-leadership

Action Research www2.le.ac.uk/departments/education/distance-learning/postgraduate-certificate-in-action-research

Learning Technologies www2.le.ac.uk/departments/education/distance-learning/postgraduate-certificate-in-learning-technologies



New Director for the School of Education

Professor Glenn Fulcher has recently taken over the helm of the School of Education from Professor Janet Ainley.

He is widely known for his work on language testing within the field of TESOL. Many of the innovative resources he has developed can be found on languagetesting.info. He also brings with him his newly bestowed award of 'National Teaching Fellow' for his work on the University's MA in Applied Linguistics and TESOL. www.heacademy.ac.uk/person/7504

New Tutors for Secondary

Lesley Paris – Science

I have been involved with the School of Education for over 20 years, initially as a co-tutor, then as an ITT coordinator and more recently as an Associate tutor working with the secondary PGCE Science students. I am delighted that the opportunity has arisen for me to take over from Maarten Tas-not an easy act to follow- and work with Jon Heywood as the Science Education team. I have worked in a variety of schools in and around the city and county for 30 years and have many good friends in our partnership schools. I always look forward to my school observation visits to meet colleagues again and delight in the great work that goes on to produce such inspiring teachers for the future.

Ian Selmes – Geography

I am the lecturer in Geography education working with the secondary PGCE geographers both in university and in their school placements. Previously I have been a longstanding PGCE coordinator and Geography co-tutor at Oakham School, linked to a variety of ITE institutions. I remain a Chartered Geographer, working with the Royal Geographical Society and Geographical Association to promote school geography, an educational and geographical author and an independent schools' inspector.

Chris Hannaford – History

After stepping in to fill the 'gap' before Jo Griffiths took up her post last January it's good to be back as part of an enlarged 'humanities team'. My involvement last year, in supporting the students at the University, has really got me looking forward to working with a new cohort this year.

Paddy O'Brien – English

Having recently retired from my post as Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for curriculum, at the Ashby School in Leicestershire, I had been contemplating a long and happy retirement until the exciting opportunity arose to come and work at the School of Education as an associate tutor on the English PGCE course. With 36 years' experience of working in secondary education and an up to date grasp of the issues facing teachers in this 'Brave New World' of education I can't wait to get started.

#smile 2014

The University of Leicester, supported by the ESRC and Wyggeston and Queen Elizabeth I College, are holding Social Media In Lifelong Education (SMILE): The debate as part of the national Festival of Social Science. This will be an intergenerational debate between children and teachers about the potential and challenges of using social media for educational purposes. The event aims to create a charter for schools about the way forward for educational uses of social media.

This event will be at the National Space Centre, Leicester on the 4th November. It is FREE, includes refreshments and tickets to visit Space Centre exhibits on the day. Schools and Colleges can get involved in the event in a number of ways. They can a) produce a video of their views on social media; b) enter the art competition; c) send children and/or teachers on the day or d) participate in a post-event discussion. The event will be interactive, including voting, videos, an art competition and debate. Sixth-formers and undergraduate students will act as chaperones to ensure that students' voices are heard on an equal basis to adults.

For further information, contact Alison Fox by email on af173@le.ac.uk. To make a booking or to submit video or artwork, please contact Atul Kotecha on educationcpd@le.ac.uk or **0116 252 3771**. Places are still available – book soon!



Literary Leicester for Schools, 12 to 15 November 2014

All events are free of charge. School groups welcome. To find out more, please visit: www.le.ac.uk/literaryleicester or contact us: litleic@le.ac.uk. Or download the brochure at www2.le.ac.uk/institution/literary-leicester/images/brochure

This year's children and young adult sessions include:



Thursday 13 November, 1.45pm-3.15pm: 'What's the Point of Young Adult Fiction?' (suitable for ages 13+), Peter Williams Lecture Theatre, University of Leicester.

Bali Rai plus two local school students will discuss the value (or otherwise!) of young adult fiction. If you have pupils who are bold, articulate and up for a debate please let us know. We are looking for panellists and audience members.



Saturday 15 November, 11.30am-12.30pm: 'Creepy Crawlies' Drawing and Poetry Workshop (suitable for ages 4-8), New Walk Museum, Leicester. Come and join in with

poems about spiders, slugs, snails and a few other beasties, led by Jenny Swann, founder of Candlestick Press.



Saturday 15 November, 1-2pm: Anne Fine (suitable for ages 8-12), Peter Williams Lecture Theatre, University of Leicester. Join us for a session with Anne Fine, distinguished

writer for both adults and children. Adaptations of her books have been screened by the BBC and Twentieth Century Fox, including Mrs Doubtfire, starring the late Robin Williams.



Saturday 15 November, 2.30-3.30pm: Cerrie Burnell (suitable for ages 4-8), Peter Williams Lecture Theatre, University of Leicester. Come along to an interactive reading

and activity session with CBeebies presenter Cerrie Burnell and her book Snowflakes. Due to her struggle with dyslexia, Cerrie only learned to read when she was 10.

We hope to see you there.

Expanding Routes into Teaching

The University of Leicester has always been at the forefront of development in teacher education and this year really begins to show the diversity of options around the traditional PGCE. School Direct, where schools are responsible for recruiting applicants and organising experience within schools/classrooms has seen a significant expansion of numbers this year. For Secondary, a total of 8 School Direct groups recruited 46 students to the PGCE across a range of subject areas, to which 65 that the University was able to directly recruit, can be added. Similarly Primary demonstrated a drive to recruit to the PGCE via School Direct, where, 6 Lead Schools have welcomed a total of 47 new students. The University was allowed to recruit 88 students, following a late

25% increase on the original allocation awarded late in June.

The University also works with two SCITTs (school-centred initial teacher training) providers – the Leicestershire Secondary Scitt and the Grand Union Teaching Partnership (GUTP). Both have had success in their recruitment for this year with 29 and 34 Secondary PGCE students respectively. GUTP have also moved into primary and recruited 10 in their first year.

The future also looks bright. One of the Secondary and one of the Primary School Direct lead schools are branching out to go cross-phase next year and two new groups have been established, one in Rugby, the other in Wellingborough who are also looking to recruit both Primary and Secondary applicants. In addition to our existing primary School Direct groups, we are looking forward to the establishment of a new provider in south

Leicestershire. We are also preparing for the Affinity Alliance to leave the nest, as it were, by progressing from School Direct to standing alone as a SCITT in their own right. We will also be supporting the development of the Tommy Flowers SCITT in Milton Keynes who will soon begin recruiting their first cohort of Secondary PGCE students to start their course in 2015/16 with a Primary cohort to follow.

With all of this activity, Leicester is certainly moving forward to support the recruitment and development of the next generation of teachers. If your school is interested in becoming more actively involved in the initial stage of teacher development through School Direct – either as a lead school, or joining an existing partnership, then do contact me so that I can come out to visit and explain your options. Neil Burton

neil.burton@le.ac.uk · 0116 229 7504

New Additions to the PGCE Team

The Primary PGCE team has seen quite a change of personnel over the summer – Jenny is now with us full time and Karen and Sarah will be jointly running the English strand of the course (among many other duties!).



Karen Morris

Having had two children by 1985 I resumed my education and studied for a degree in combined arts at the University of Leicester followed by a PGCE in 1994.

I developed my school-based experience in various schools, enjoying a number of roles as opportunities arose. In particular I enjoyed a secondment to a local secondary school where I became the Primary 'voice' on behalf of a number of feeder schools. I became involved with the NCSL where I explored the effectiveness of the Ruth Miskin Literacy approach to reading.

I became a trainer for Ruth Miskin in 2005 and have worked extensively in the UK and abroad developing my knowledge and skills in all areas of literacy but especially phonics.



Jenny Bosworth

I studied Psychology in Hull & came back to Leicester to do my PGCE in 1999. My first teaching job was at Kirby Muxloe Primary School where I only ever intended to stay for a year; I left 10 years later, having acquired a husband and two children.

I began work at St. Peter's RC School in Earl Shilton and due to the fact that I was part time I was able to take on the role of Progress and Associate Tutor with the University of Leicester to run alongside my teaching. In 14 years of teaching I have taught across Key stage 1 and 2 and am looking forward to carrying on my work with PGCE students as part of the English team and as the Broader Curriculum coordinator.



Sarah Adams

After graduating from the University of Leicester with a degree in Psychology and completing a University of Leicester PGCE I taught in the Northamptonshire area. I have been a Foundation Stage Manager, SENCO and Assistant Headteacher. I have worked with children with a variety of needs in mainstream and in a special needs school. I have also taught and mentored trainee teachers and teachers. I have recently achieved the MAE:LT – a course I can fully recommend to others! (Further details at www2.le.ac.uk/departments/education/postgraduate-study/masters/learning).

Anna Brownlow is the new Programme Administrator for Primary PGCE alongside Belinda D'Sa
0116 252 3687 · primary.pgce@le.ac.uk

Didn't they do well! MFL Tutor, Stephanie Oswald, has been getting in contact with ex-MFL PGCE students.



Nicola Kelly, Class of 2013: I completed my NQT year in a Year 2 class in an inner city Leicester school – challenging, but I loved every minute and it has definitely helped me to realise the teacher I want to become. Although my specialism at university was French, the school had me teaching Spanish in KS2. The French specialism gave me the skills I needed to teach any foreign language within a school environment. During my NQT year, I set up a lunchtime Spanish club and I was really proud of the enthusiasm that the 35 regulars showed in their learning, using their Spanish when they saw me in the corridor. I'm now teaching Year 1, and focussing on the Key Stage 1 children, meaning that every child within the school now has the opportunity to learn a foreign language. Teaching is an absolute whirlwind, no two days are the same... but I wouldn't change it for the world!!



Elizabeth Meillon, Class of 2002: I had taught for 3 years in France, but I really learnt to teach during the PGCE year! I particularly enjoyed the personalised and supportive aspects of the course. I later became a Secondary PGCE Co-tutor, which has allowed me to continue being analytical about my teaching, improve and keep up to date with current issues, whilst passing on skills needed to be a good teacher. I have become a HoD and the ITT Co-ordinator for my school as well as a co-tutor. I still thoroughly enjoy being involved and working with the university and their staff and that's why I joined the Partnership Management Group.



Helen Hill, Class of 2005: After a year of teaching 'bits and pieces' at various schools, I moved to Hertfordshire to complete my NQT year, immediately promoted to Subject Leader of Italian and later that same year I also became Senior Tutor for Year 7! During my first two years as Subject Leader I co-wrote two successful Erasmus bids enabling the school to work with partner schools in France and Italy and co-founded the Hoddesdon Strategic Learning Network which I ran for two consecutive years. At the same time I undertook a year-long action research project into Year 8 student perceptions of MFL Lessons. My research was subsequently published in the Herts-Cam journal. My career took a different turn in 2008 when I also became Head of the Middle School at John Warner with overall responsibility for Years 9 & 10; managing 3 deputies and a team of 14 tutors. During this time Italian at the school has gone from strength to strength and is presently the most successful of our three languages. Along the way, I have picked up the NPSLBA as well as an MSc in Educational Research and Management from Leicester (of course!). My next challenge is to complete my final NPQSL assessment before my November deadline...we'll see where that takes me!



Sally Moore (Cobb), Class of 1992: I remember doing my PGCE placement at Stonehill High School, where my HOD was Elaine Taylor - now an OFSTED inspector and the National Lead for MFL in the country. Subsequently she was my HoD at Crown Hills Community College for 5 years. I became Head of MFL at Mary Linwood, then moved to Kent, to an all-boys school, where I continued to develop my skills as a leader. I am now Head of MFL at an academy in Kent where I have led my current department for 5 years.



Cecile Benmansour (Desprez), Class of 2006: Bonjour à tous! After a wonderful 5 years teaching French in Slough, and learning SO much, thanks to challenging students, demanding colleagues and Ofsted inspections, I changed track to take up a position of Head of French department in a Moroccan school. My job was to train local teachers (improve their teaching skills in general, and their French pronunciation) and to develop the French language within the school. And now, after 8 years abroad, I'm back in France with a husband and a baby, where I teach English in a vocational college.

Workshop on Leadership Development for Early Career Teachers at University of Leicester School of Education

Friday 3 October, 2014

If you are in the first few years of your teaching career and have an interest in developing as a leader, we would like to invite you to take part in a half-day workshop focusing on early career teachers' experiences and perceptions of leadership and leadership development opportunities in school on October 3rd.

The workshop forms a part of an ongoing research project funded by the British Educational Leadership Management and Administration Society (BELMAS) and led by Dr Joan Smith and Professor David Pedder. Participants will be asked to reflect on their experiences of leadership and leadership development opportunities and to identify effective strategies schools can adopt to nurture new leaders.

We are able to cover the cost of half a day's supply cover for participants. To register an interest and for further details please email Joan Smith on jms32@le.ac.uk

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