



UNIVERSITY OF  
LEICESTER

# School of Education News

Summer 2018



## Welcome to the Summer edition of the School of Education News

This newsletter will keep you informed of upcoming events, partnership opportunities, postgraduate programmes and continuing professional development courses offered by the School of Education. This newsletter replaces the previous 'PGCE Partnership News'.



## School placements for 2018/19

As the academic year draws to a close we would like to thank all of our partner schools for the placements you have offered over the last year. We have seen some fantastic feedback from students about their experience and we hope you have enjoyed seeing their confidence and enthusiasm grow.

Practical placements are integral to the PGCE, allowing students the chance to apply theory to the classroom environment. Of course, this experience is nothing without the dedication of School Mentors and ITE Coordinators.

We are now looking ahead to the next academic year and will be in touch to identify your placement offering. You may have already received an email from us with a link to our survey. If not, please follow the links below to notify us of your placement offers for 2018/19.

### **Primary:**

**<https://leicester.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/primary-pgce-placements-2018-2019>**

### **Secondary:**

**<https://leicester.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/secondary-pgce-placements-2018-2019>**

# New Master of Education programme starts October 2018

We are very pleased to announce that our newly validated Master of Education programme will begin in the School of Education, University of Leicester on October 31<sup>st</sup> 2018, led by Dr Sue Dymoke.

Specially designed to appeal to qualified teachers working across all age phases and in different contexts, the programme provides opportunities for part-time study through face-to-face sessions held in twilight hours (4 per module on Wednesdays 4 – 6.30pm) and on two Saturday mornings per module (9.30 – 1.30pm) and blended learning.

The 30 credit modules on offer will enable practitioners to engage in pedagogically-focused study and research. These topics comprise: reflective practice; effective and inclusive pedagogies (both from Oct 2018); mentoring, coaching and development of effective leadership skills; mental health and wellbeing; Practitioner Research Methods (from Feb 2019). The programme has been developed following consultation with our Partnership schools and PGCE alumni.

## Course Fees:

- £4,800 for 120 credits (for applicants who already possess 60 credits from completion of a PGCE in the last 5 years) (£2,400 for each year) with 20% discount for University of Leicester Alumni
- £7,200 for 180 Credits (£2,400 for each year) with 20% discount for University of Leicester Alumni
- £3,600 for 90 Credits (University of Leicester PGCE Alumni from 2019 onwards only)

If you are a Leicester graduate there may be discounts available as shown above. Your school may also be able to subsidise course fees.

To find out more please contact us at **M.Ed@le.ac.uk** or visit **www.le.ac.uk/master-of-education**.

## Hear from some of our past Masters students:

“Leicester’s Masters has given me the skills and confidence to conduct independent research and implement change.”

“My organisation now has a ‘specialist’ with high level knowledge and understanding.”

## Masters Success!

“Completing my master’s degree part-time at the University of Leicester has been both a challenge and a revelation. After many years out of academia, I have re-discovered my own love of learning and have enriched my own classroom practice through the research I conducted into the use of peer-tutoring in reading. The support I received in developing my writing at master’s level has given me huge confidence and allowed me to develop my career and move in a new direction.”

Fiona Curtis

Congratulations to Fiona Curtis for completing her Masters with the School of Education. Fiona is one of our very own lecturers in the School of Education, teaching on the Primary Education course. When she is not in the School of Education, Fiona continues to work part time at St. Clare's Primary School in Coalville where she has taught for 16 years.

Image: Fiona Curtis (left) Dr Sue Dymoke (Right)



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## Partner with the University of Leicester

Hosting students with the University of Leicester is simple and hugely rewarding. Not only is it a fantastic way of identifying talent, it is also a great way to enhance your existing colleagues' development through our Mentor Training Programme. We can also offer you opportunities to collaborate on our community engagement projects and receive free education resources as well as access to our CPD courses and events.

**If you are not currently a partner** of the University of Leicester's School of Education, but would like to find out more, please get in touch, we would love to hear from you.

Email us at: [pgcepartnership@le.ac.uk](mailto:pgcepartnership@le.ac.uk)

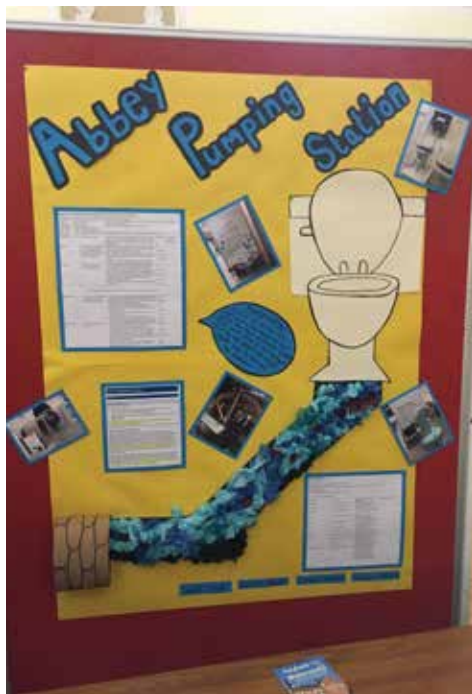
# Students getting real experience of how to plan “Learning Science outside the Classroom”

As part of their University-based Science module, Primary PGCE students recently planned and made a visit to a local site of their own choosing in Leicester, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire.

This visit became part of a Medium Term Plan of learning, devised by the students, for primary children in a relevant science topic. Groups of the students visited the Abbey pumping station, farms, country parks, the Space Centre and others to explore the opportunities these venues provided.

In order to share their learning with other students, they prepared displays which showcased their chosen site, showed how they could incorporate it into a science topic and explained how they could organise a visit there with a class of school children. We have encouraged them to plan this or another trip with their classes during their final teaching experience placement.

*Andy Atkins,  
Primary Science Tutor*



# Become a Friend of the School of Education



The Friends of the School of Education is for anyone who shares our interest in furthering the educational prospects of children and young people in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

As a Friend of the School of Education, you will hear about news and activities from the School of Education and be invited to talks and events. We also sometimes need volunteers to help with our community projects – and there are many ways you can help, by spreading information, by coming along, and by joining in.

Visit the School of Education website to become a member or simply fill in one of our fliers and return to us by post.

## New for 2018! Stars

Following the huge success of the hedgehog project in 2014/15, the School of Education is preparing to run a similar activity later this year focusing on stars. Schools will be invited to participate by creating salt-dough starfish with their children to build a collection of thousands for an exhibition at the New Walk Museum and Art Gallery. More information will be released soon!





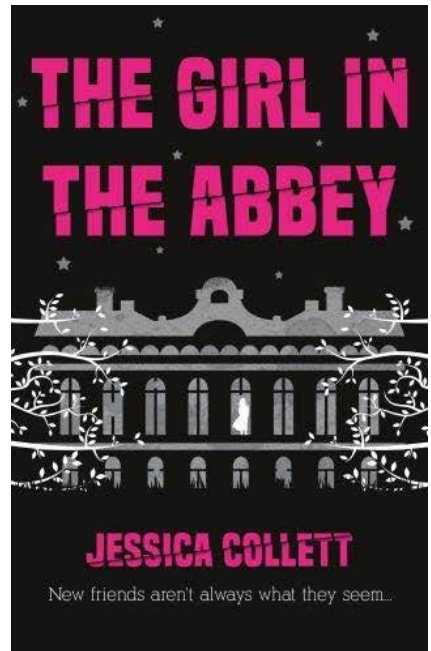
# Everybody Counts



Our 'Everybody Counts' Project has provided children aged 4 to 12 with engaging educational materials to help improve their confidence with numbers to 100. The Hundred Square poster features 100 portraits, including local children and some famous faces. Each portrait is also included in a set of 100 playing cards that include the person's name, age, the languages they speak and an interesting fact about themselves. The posters and cards have been provided free to schools across the local area, and volunteers have helped with distributing them.

## Student Literary Success

Huge congratulations to Jess Collett one of our Secondary History PGCE students who has published her first children's book on Amazon. Jess tells us that 'The Girl in the Abbey' is a story of friendship and loneliness, new family and grief. It tells the tale of Violet Cobb, an evacuee from Grimbsy, who is taken in by the eccentric Lady Audrey at her crumbling Derbyshire estate. Unbeknownst to Violet, there is a secret at Bramblingham Abbey, one which might change how she sees the world forever. Inspired by the wonderfully weird Calke Abbey, The Girl in the Abbey is a perfect read for students from eight to twelve with a love of adventure and a taste for spookiness'.



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