

School of Education

PGCE Partnership Newsletter

The School of Education's Ofsted report

Clearly, such an achievement would not have been possible with an incredible amount of effort behind the scenes. We are indebted to staff in all the Partnership schools, particularly those who were directly involved in either the visits or attending meetings with the Inspectors on campus. The course teams worked incredibly hard over a number of months to ensure that everything was in place with the support of our professional service staff who collated and organised all of the documentation and data to demonstrate just how effective and successful the PGCE provision through the University of Leicester is.

Thank you – your effort has been rewarded

NQT Conference

Just a quick reminder to let you know that your NQTs can still apply for the University of Leicester NQT Conference at Stamford Court Conference Centre on January 13, 2016 at a cost of £100. The day will contain key note talks, workshops and discussion groups to meet all needs.

Full details are attached. To make a booking please go to:

<https://leicester.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/nqt-conference-2016>

ALL NQTs welcome to attend regardless of PGCE provider or subject/age specialism

Highest ever ratings for PGCE course in latest Ofsted inspection

A teacher education programme at our University has received the highest possible rating from Ofsted for its education of tomorrow's teachers.

In the most recent inspection of the PGCE programmes provided by our School of Education, the Primary PGCE achieved an exceptional Grade 1, or 'Outstanding', in all four key judgment areas - the highest possible rating. In addition, the School of Education's Secondary PGCE received a Grade 2, or 'Good', result in all four key areas.

In their report on the Primary PGCE, Ofsted inspectors state that: "University tutors and the professional tutors are highly qualified, passionate about their subjects, and passionate about supporting the trainees to become outstanding teachers. They are committed to keeping in touch with former

trainees to offer help and advice as part of the university's commitment to a growing community of learning."

Dr Chris Wilkins, Director of Teacher Education in the School of Education, said: "We are delighted with the outcome of this inspection, particularly the finding that our graduates possess particular strengths in those areas that schools look for first in their teachers; they have excellent subject knowledge, excellent behaviour management skills and high levels of professionalism. These qualities explain just why our graduates are so prized by schools; we take great pride in the contribution we make to the teaching profession, and strongly believe this is a result of the academic rigour embedded into our PGCE courses which enables them to develop into highly reflective practitioners."

A special thanks from the PGCE Teams for your support with the recent Ofsted inspection, particularly the Headteachers, Trainee Teachers, NQTs, ITE Coordinators, Mentors and Co-tutors at:

Primary Schools

Forest Lodge Community Primary School, Medway Community Primary School, Sparkenhoe Community Primary School, Kibworth Church of England Primary School, Sileby Redlands Community Primary School, The Latimer Primary School, Holy Cross Catholic Primary School, Leicester, Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Leicester, Cosby Primary School, Desford Community Primary School, Meadowdale Primary School, Sandfield Close Primary School, Rothley Church of England Primary School, Sileby Redlands Community Primary School, St Bartholomew's Church of England Primary School, Greenfield Primary School, Countesthorpe, Highcliffe Primary Academy, Nether Hall School, Burbage Junior School,

Northfield House Primary School, Beacon Academy, Charnwood Primary School.

Secondary Schools

Guthlaxton Community College, Kibworth High School & Community College, Corby Business Academy, Manor High School, Ashby School, Moat Community College, Judgemeadow School & Community College, Lutterworth College, St Paul's Catholic School, English Martyrs Catholic School, Groby CC, Thomas Estley Community College, Leicester Grammar School, Leysland High School, Arthur Mellows Village College, Babington Community College, Brockington College, Eton College, Hastings High School, Kingsthorpe College, New College, Toot Hill Academy, Cedars Academy.

Primary Ofsted - Outstanding!

The Primary PGCE Team are delighted to know that the course has been judged outstanding by Ofsted. The primary partnership has gone from strength to strength over many years, growing into a professional community that is committed to producing outstanding teachers of the future. It was therefore incredibly rewarding to have this partnership, for the first time, acknowledged by Ofsted.

According to Ofsted the key strengths of the primary partnership are:

- The high quality university-based training that links academic rigour with practical approaches to teaching in the classroom.
- Trainees' and former trainees' confidence in the classroom. Their ability to reflect critically on their teaching and set high expectations for the progress of their pupils.
- Trainees' and former trainees' behaviour management, meaning pupils are well supported to learn.
- Trainees' preparation to teach the National Curriculum. Trainees have excellent subject knowledge and teach phonics, early reading skills and mathematics effectively.
- High completion, retention, and employment rates. Trainees are in high demand in Leicester and within the East Midlands.
- Course leaders' rigorous tracking of trainees' progress. Leaders know their trainees very well; they tailor training and school placements carefully so that trainees achieve the best possible outcomes from their course.
- Strong communication within the partnership, meaning everyone knows

and understands what is expected of them. Systems to quality assure the work of the partnership are effective in holding partners to account for their work.

The Inspectors also met with a number of school representatives including mentors, Head Teachers and students in the University during both stages, including members of the Partnership Management Committee. We would like to thank everyone involved for giving up their time at short notice to contribute to the process.

If any schools would like to join our partnership and become involved in the training of Provider-led or School Direct students, please contact me via email.

Sue Davis, Head of Primary PGCE
sue.davis@le.ac.uk

Secondary Ofsted - Good!

The Secondary PGCE Team are delighted to know that the course has been judged Good by Ofsted, with many outstanding features and some areas for development. The secondary partnership has some very strong collaborative relationships and Ofsted recognise the hard work and dedication of all who make this happen so as to secure at least good outcomes for our students.

According to Ofsted the key strengths of the secondary partnership are:

- The cohesive training for trainees and former trainees in the secondary phase that prepares them well for employment as at least good teachers.
- The strong channels of communication that support the rigour of the training.
- The careful planning of learning and use of information from assessment by trainees and former trainees to promote good progress for most of their students.
- Trainees' and former trainees' very strong knowledge of their subjects and of the various curricula for the key stages relevant to their teaching.
- Trainees' and former trainees' confident and calm management of students' behaviour and the positive relationships that ensue in their classrooms.
- Trainees' and former trainees' highly professional and personal qualities, much valued by local and regional schools in which they are trained and work.
- The ambition of leaders and managers across the partnership to contribute to the development of the highest-quality education for young people across the city and the region.
- The partnership's quick response to external reviews of trainees' and former trainees' satisfaction with their training, so that it continues to improve.

The secondary partnership need to do develop in the following areas to improve:

- Further develop training across the partnership to ensure that all trainees and former trainees are well equipped with a wider range of strategies to quicken the progress of the most-able students and the disadvantaged students in their classes.
- Implement securely the new systems

recently put in place to strengthen the effectiveness of co-tutors and university tutors in the partnership's moderation of the assessment of trainees' progress throughout the training year.

- Use these new systems effectively to increase the proportions of trainees who leave the course as outstanding teachers.
- Ensure that all trainees and former trainees receive more sustained opportunities to plan, teach and assess students' work in the 16–19 age range.

During the inspection process the following secondary partnership schools, some of their student teachers and NQTs were visited. We would like to say a big thank you to all those involved, and to thank everyone involved for giving up their time at short notice to contribute to the process:

If any schools would like to join our partnership and become involved in the training of Provider-led or School Direct students, please contact me via email.

Jo Reed Johnson
Head of Secondary PGCE
Jarj1@le.ac.uk

PGCE Secondary

up-coming events:

6th January 2016	Student teacher deadline for UA 1 Assignments
15th January 2016	Phase A report due
18th January 2016	Student teachers return to the University for Phase B1 training
4th February 2016	4-6p.m. – Co-tutor Training for Phase B Placements
23rd February 2016	Partnership Management Group Meeting and PGCE Secondary Development Day (further information to follow)
29th February 2016	Phase B placements begin

A huge thank you to ALL ITE Coordinators and Co-tutors who have supported our trainees during the initial stages of their training.

The PGCE Secondary University Tutors have been busy completing their school visits and were pleased to see great progress being made, which is down to exceptional mentoring practices.

The Head PGCE Secondary, Jo Reed Johnson, is currently exploring ways to share good practice and will be approaching exceptional ITE Coordinators and Co-tutors in the development of Case Studies.

International Visitors

Education CPD+ has welcomed groups of education professionals from all over the world (Africa, Central America, Eastern Europe, and Asia) who have travelled to the UK to learn about our education system and take back newfound skills to use in their own country.

During September we hosted a large group of Ghanaian teaching professionals who attended an intensive 1 week course covering educational management and assessment within the UK schooling system. Sessions were delivered by local teaching experts alongside School of Education academics and included a memorable and enjoyable visit to local schools.

At the moment we have groups of academics visiting from Kazakhstan and China, all of whom are learning how the UK Higher Education system works, including the role of technology and research in teaching and learning. Our visitors not only have the opportunity to attend lectures in their specialist field and conduct a project of their choosing, but are also offered the chance to visit other cities in the UK.

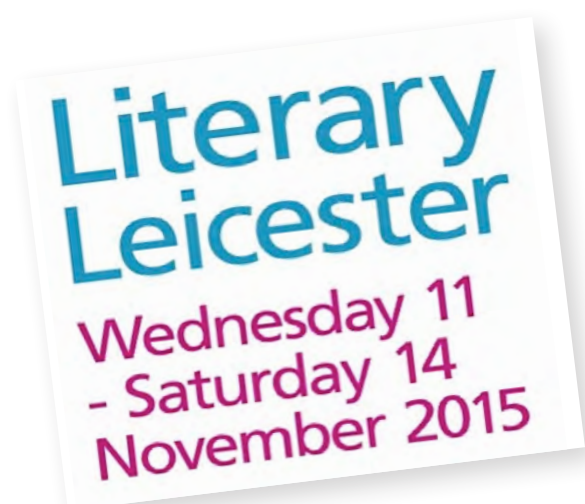
Our next international cohort is a group of 20 teachers from Panama. This group of predominantly primary school English teachers arrive in January to attend classes in our department, improve their English, and visit local primary schools. No doubt they will have a rewarding experience and enjoy the opportunity to learn new teaching methods to take back to Panama.

It is a testament to the high quality of teachers in the UK, particularly within the Partnership, that so many people are willing travel long distances from other countries to learn from our education system. If you would be interested in hosting visits for our overseas colleagues please contact Nicky ns218@leicester.ac.uk





Inspiring stories, students' writing and great cake!



We were delighted to welcome many students from Partnership schools to a number of Literary Leicester events this year. The festival began on 11th November at English Martyrs' School. Three hundred Year 9 students from all over the city listened and talked to author David Almond in the school's wonderful new theatre space. David Almond, the very recent recipient of the Guardian Children's Fiction prize for his novel *A Song for Ella Grey*, gave an inspiring presentation about the imagination and how he develops his stories from initial ideas. He read from his new novel, shared his notebooks and encouraged us all to think that stories can come from anywhere around us. The event was followed by an extensive book signing, a writing workshop and devouring of fantastic literary cakes (see photo above), which were made especially for the day. I would like to thank Natalie Sheehan, Assistant Head of English, who helped me to organise the day and her team of Year 9 helpers - Daniel Yekini (who did a great job as presenter), Elosie McAtear, Patient Egbenoma Edionwe, Noah Harris, Fidele Bijike and Sebastian Ludyga who announced the winner of the prize-winning question.



David Almond and Year 9 helpers at English Martyrs



FIRST STORY

Changing lives through writing

In our Literary Leicester First Story event on 12th November, Yr 9 students and staff from three schools, Babington, Judgemeadow and Sir Jonathan North took part in a very lively writing workshop held in the David Wilson library and led by performance poet Andy Craven-Griffiths. This included plenty of opportunities for free writing, collaboration and useful insights into the poet's own drafting and performance processes. The students were treated to a tour of the library and the campus before they moved on to Attenborough Arts. Here they were joined by students from Rushcliffe Academy and Farnborough Academy and the poet Carol Leeming. Many students gave terrific public performances of newly written work. Carol Leeming commented later, in an Arts Council forum at Curve, on the quality of their writing. She hailed Literary Leicester as an example of partnership working between an educational and a cultural organisation which serves as a platform for diverse young voices. The writing examples on this page give a flavour of the splendid work produced. We would like to thank the students, school staff poets and Rebecca Goldsmith from First Story for making this such an engaging event.

'I know that money doesn't grow on trees, your parents are the real piggy banks.'

Tiah Gore,
Judgemeadow Community College

'I know that growing up is a rollercoaster log flume and Ferris Wheel all in one. I now know that people hide emotions, but cry uncontrollably at the same time...'

Emily Greaves,
Judgemeadow Community College

I know the world isn't as it seems

That worlds are made by two angry stars having a fight.

That old people are wrinkly babies

That babies have their own language

That every language put together makes English

That old Japanese people always sound angry,

That everything that was discovered was discovered by accident

That something blocks us from thinking what we don't already know

by Owen Clark, Babington School



Owen Clark performing his poem

What I Know About Sexism

I know that there are sexist people everywhere.

I also know that some sexist people believe

Tampons are luxuries, but

Helicopters are essential.

I know that girls can be gamers too.

I know that not all girls are weak.

I know that despite the fact that it's illegal, women

Still don't get equal pay.

I know that boys don't have to be strong.

A girl's main purpose in life is not

To make sandwiches for misogynists.

I definitely know that chauvinists think girls are inferior.

The thing is, I think that we're

Equal.

by Chloe Wardle, Sir Jonathan North School

We have already begun planning for the 2016 festival and intend to run two school-based events next year (one primary and one secondary) along with a First Story workshop/performance event. More details on these will be available in late Spring 2016.

Sue Dymoke
Reader in Education
sd100@le.ac.uk

International ITE Knowledge Exchange

Following a visit by Professor David Pedder, Dr Saeeda Shah, Dr Alison Fox and Mrs Sue Davis (pictured with Dr Behlol outside the School of Education) to Islamabad and Rawalpindi last May, we have just completed the second phase of the Knowledge Exchange project funded by British Council Pakistan with a visit from Dr Malik Behlol from Fatima Jinnah Women University in October. The project is being funded to review, revise and develop teacher training materials used to train elementary school teachers in the Rawalpindi and Islamabad region of Pakistan. This visit was an opportunity for a member of the Pakistan team to come and see all aspects of the PostGraduate Certificate in Education programmes running in the School of Education.

During the visit Dr Behlol observed training sessions for students on both Primary and Secondary PGCE programmes, training sessions for school-based mentors as well as interviewing training students, lecturers and mentors. Thank you to all those who met Dr Behlol for being generous with your time and thoughts. He also spent mornings in two local schools and we wish to thank staff at Sparkenhoe Primary School and Moat Community College for their warm welcome, opening up their classrooms and finding time to talk to Dr Behlol.



2016 CPD Opportunities

As Christmas and New Year draw closer, don't forget that Education CPD+ has a great selection of CPD courses available. Each is designed to promote innovation and understanding in the classroom covering primary teachers, secondary teachers and lab technicians.

We are also offering some new courses on building teams and leadership, delivered by a good friend of ours: David Shakespeare. These sessions, aimed at all levels of school leadership, are a fantastic opportunity to learn skills needed to promote strong and effective teams. There is also a session designed to help you lead your school in providing and evaluating teacher development.

In addition, we have courses designed to help technicians support learning in the classroom and are aimed at those supporting GCSE chemistry and A-level physics. These sessions are very much "hands-on" and last all-day, covering common experiments and practicals required at this level. Secondary Physics teachers can also attend Active A-Level Approaches focused on developing exciting and engaging methods of teaching.

Primary science subject leaders can also attend our Annual Science Subject Leader Day on 26th January, where there will be an opportunity to network with peers, take part in CPD sessions and improve your subject knowledge. Those new to the post can also attend our How to Lead Science as a New Subject Specialist course, which will help develop skills needed to excel in this role, including everything from monitoring subject progress to managing resources.

Exporting the 'Partnership'

The lessons learned from our PGCE Partnerships over many years of successful collaboration are having an impact on a wider stage through a growing number of international research and development projects. Over the past three years, PGCE tutors and school-based colleagues have contributed to CDFEIATE, an EU-funded project led by Chris Wilkins (Director of Teacher Education) which is building capacity for school-university partnerships in Egypt, Lebanon and Palestine, and Frankie McKeon from the Primary PGCE team has been a lead contributor to SUSTAIN, also EU-funded, which is developing CPD for inquiry-based Science education with partners from 10 European countries; Jo Johnson (Head of Secondary PGCE) has recently joined the SUSTAIN team. Meanwhile, Sue Davis (Head of Primary PGCE) is a key contributor to a new British Council-funded teacher development project in Pakistan.

We are delighted that the successes of the Leicester Partnership approach is being shared in this way - and as these projects develop we will share some of the key outcomes in future newsletters.



EAL @ President Kennedy School

On Friday 16 October, 26 PGCE student-teachers visited President Kennedy School to experience their approach to teaching students with English as an Additional Language. The visit was organised for the University of Leicester by Jo Johnson and Wasyl Cajkler for the PGCE subsidiary in English as an Additional Language. The PGCE student-teachers were hosted by Aidan Jenkins, Lead Practitioner for Initial Teacher Education, Chris Jupp, Deputy Headteacher and Penny Hinchliffe, Coordinator of Language Support. President Kennedy School is an outstanding school that has been commended for its EAL provision and we were very grateful for the opportunity to see EAL pedagogy in practice in a number of lessons across the curriculum.

The programme offered by the school included induction into its general approach for the inclusion of students with EAL, but also saw President Kennedy students teaching their languages to University of Leicester student-teachers (e.g. Romanian). This was followed by lesson observations, and finally an opportunity to 'teach' a text to small groups of learners. The preparation for the visit had clearly been thorough and painstaking on the part of both staff and students, leading to a very creative and informative range of experiences. The variety of activities was challenging and eye-opening for the student-teachers, whose evaluation of the morning was extremely positive. The Partnership is very grateful for the opportunity that colleagues at President Kennedy offered.

Inspiration at the ATL TeachMeet

Welland Park Academy was the venue for an ATL organised TeachMeet which drew on expertise and exciting initiatives from within the Partnership sandwiched between a rousing introduction from the 'Real' David Cameron @realdcameron and an inspirational (and humorous) key note from Hywel Roberts @hywel_roberts. Many thanks to the ATL organiser Danielle Campos @ATLDanielleC.

ES- TU ASSISTANT(E) DE FRANÇAIS ???

Comblé(e) par ton expérience d'assistant(e) de langue française en Angleterre, tu souhaiterais poursuivre une carrière épanouissante à l'étranger ? L'Université de Leicester recrute actuellement ses futurs étudiants-enseignants et sait mettre en valeur les parcours et profils de chacun. Une opportunité unique de prolonger ses études au niveau de Master mais aussi d'orienter sa carrière vers l'enseignement, et ce, avec une possibilité de financement attractif.

Les francophones ignorent peut être leur cote de popularité auprès des institutions britanniques ; il ne fait aucun doute que leur culture et expertise de la langue font d'eux les candidats idéaux pour intégrer les bancs du corps professoral. Participer au programme du PGCE, c'est rencontrer des professeurs inspirants et former son réseau professionnel, être accompagné par un suivi individuel et développer son savoir au cours de placements dans deux écoles contrastantes. La démarche est simple : une fois ton profil UcasTT créé, tu as 4000 caractères pour exposer tes motivations et les tuteurs de l'université seront prêts à t'accueillir pour discuter de tes aspirations.

Un dispositif adapté qui a su faire le lien entre mes études, mon année d'assistantat et mon désir d'enseigner ma langue maternelle dans une des villes les plus cosmopolites du pays. A recommander sans attendre !

Agathe Bonhommet

Si tu as des questions, n'hésite pas à contacter Stephanie Oswald (tutrice) sio1@le.ac.uk

Arts Award



Tuesdays, 10am - 12pm

27 October - 1 December 2015

5 January - 9 February 2016

23 February - 29 March 2016

£42 per block (a 5% discount is available if two blocks are booked together)

Arts Award is a range of unique qualifications that support anyone aged 5 to 25 to grow as artists and arts leaders. We inspire them to connect with the wider arts world, to learn more about fashion, film making, poetry and much more. Arts Award has five levels, four of which (Explore, Bronze, Silver, Gold) are accredited qualifications on the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF). Arts Award Discover is an introductory level.

Visit www.attenborougharts.com to find out more.

Find us: Attenborough Arts Centre,
Lancaster Road, Leicester LE1 7HA

Contact us: 0116 252 2455 arts-centre@le.ac.uk
Text Relay service: 18001 0116 252 2455
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FREE weekday evening (after 6pm) and weekend parking next to Attenborough Arts Centre in the Medical Science car park



Contact us

Dr Neil Burton,

Partnership Manager

0116 229 7504 · neil.burton@le.ac.uk

Mrs Sarah Burridge,

Partnership Administrator

0116 252 3652 · sb614@le.ac.uk

For more information

School of Education,
21 University Road,
University of Leicester,
University Road,
Leicester, LE1 7RF, UK

t: +44 (0)116 252 3652
e: pgcepartnership@le.ac.uk
w: www.le.ac.uk/education



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