

In this update

- Strategic School Improvement Fund
- Congratulations to John Bowers, NLG
- East Midlands South Yorkshire and Humber 2018 School-led Conference
- Appointment of the Chairs of the South Yorkshire and Humber Network meetings
- Leadership, equality and diversity fund – DfE
- Opportunity for Primary schools to take part in EEF Maths trial
- Removing Unnecessary Teacher Workload

Strategic School Improvement Fund – Round 3

Message from the Department of Education

'Round 3 of the Strategic School Improvement Fund is now open and will close at midday on Friday 20th April 2018. Guidance for the fund is available online at GOV.UK.

The guidance has been updated to provide greater clarity on the types of improvement programmes and evidence-based approaches DfE want to fund, and an increased focus on early years. The guidance also includes updated requirements for multi-academy trusts, and teaching schools within multi-academy trusts, which wish to submit applications in support of schools within their trusts. The guidance sets out the requirements of the fund in terms of eligibility of applications and the characteristics of schools which are eligible to receive support, as well as criteria against which applications will be assessed. All potential applicants should familiarise themselves with this guidance in readiness for the online application form being made available in January.

DfE welcome applications from teaching schools, multi-academy trusts and local authorities for improvement activity starting in September 2018 and running up to the end of March 2020. Outcomes of the application round will be communicated in July 2018.

As outlined in the guidance, to avoid duplication and to help with sub-regional coordination of applications, we encourage all applicants to make their Teaching Schools Council Regional Leads aware of their intention to submit an application(s). Multi-academy trust applicants should also continue to keep their contacts in their regional schools commissioner's office apprised of their intention to submit an application.

If you have any questions regarding the application process please contact SSIF.enquiries@education.gov.uk

Please note discussions are currently taking place on potential dates for the R3 'Road Show' events that will look at sharing the lessons learnt from Round 2 and collaborative planning for Round 3. Please look out for future updates and dates for your diaries in upcoming newsletters.

Congratulations

Congratulations to John Bowers, NLG and Area NLG Co-ordinator for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, who has recently been awarded an MBE.

East Midlands South Yorkshire and Humber 2018 School-led Conference

Galvanising the Self Improving System to Effect Improved Outcomes in Our Schools'

1. Tuesday 6th February 2018
2. 10am – 3pm (networking time available)
3. The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire, DE55 1AU
4. [Click here](#) to book your places.

The conference will be a blend of practical workshops along with a keynote focused on ‘How do we tell the story and evidence the difference that teaching schools make on learner outcomes using the ‘Big 3’ as a frame.’

The afternoon will also include a session that will at we can effectively use the Peer Review process to generate and validate evidence base practice.

We will provide further details as the structure of the day develops. If you have any questions please contact Rebecca.Smith@emsyh.org.uk

Chairs of the South Yorkshire and Humber sub regional Local Hub Network

We are pleased to announce that the Chairs of both the South Yorkshire and Humber network meetings have now been appointed. **Congratulations** to Tom Banham, Tykes Teaching School (South Yorkshire) and Ged Fitzpatrick, St Mary’s College Hull (Humber).

Further information on Local Area Lead appointments will be shared in the coming weeks.

Date of the next Humber Network meeting is **Monday 5th March, 10am – 12pm.**

Date for the next South Yorkshire meeting is **Thursday 15th March, 2pm – 4:30pm**

Leadership equality and diversity fund

Message from Department for Education

Funding available for lead schools to co-ordinate school-led projects in their region.

‘Please could you communicate the Leadership equality and diversity fund opportunity to schools you work with and encourage them to apply to the Fund if they are eligible to do so. The closing date for the Fund is 9 February.

The leadership equality and diversity fund supports schools to develop local solutions that help teachers from under-represented groups to progress into leadership.

In order to build on the success of the fund, the DfE is looking to appoint eight lead schools to coordinate delivery of multiple school-led projects across each region. We anticipate that this will lead to greater national coverage and opportunities to scale-up best practice delivery models.

Applications for grant funding are invited from schools wishing to coordinate the delivery of leadership equality and diversity programmes in each region. As the regional leads for the E&D fund, lead schools will have a supporting role in shaping delivery of the E&D fund in their localities and contribute to the career progression of teachers with protected characteristics.

To find out more and apply click [here](#).

Any queries can be sent to College.DIVERSITY@education.gov.uk

Opportunity for Primary Schools to Participate in EEF Maths Trial

Yorkshire and the Humber Maths Hub is recruiting 120 primary schools to take part in an efficacy trial sponsored by the Education Endowment Foundation. This will be trialled in Year 5 classes and will run for one school year starting in September 2018. This is an exciting opportunity for schools in our region to receive training and implement the Same Day Intervention approach.

Same Day Intervention is an approach to teaching in which teachers restructure their maths lessons with the aim to ensure all children reach a certain level of understanding by the end of the day, preventing an achievement gap from forming.

Please find attached [a flyer](#) for promotion purposes and links to the EEF and OIE webpages for more information. We would be most grateful if you could promote this opportunity to your regional and local contacts.

<http://oie.outwood.com/eef-sdi>

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/projects-and-evaluation/projects/same-day-intervention/>

Removing Unnecessary Teacher Workload – Regional events being announced

Update from Department for Education

The Teacher Workload Unit, in collaboration with school leaders and teachers across the country, is running a series of regional events to showcase work that is currently being done in schools to effectively reduce teacher workload. We would greatly appreciate you advertising these events to your schools / networks and encouraging them to attend. Each event will start with a presentation from a key note speaker (such as Sean Harford, National Director, Education, Ofsted or the Chairs of the independent review groups on workload). This will then be followed by the opportunity to participate in workshops run by serving teachers and leaders who have successfully established approaches to reducing workload in their schools, linking to the review group reports on reducing workload. These can be found [here](#).

Leaders from all types of schools are encouraged to attend and consider attending with a member of their governing board due to the strategic link between workload and recruitment and retention. The events are specifically intended for those leaders who have not attended a reducing workload event in the past, but all are welcome as the day will be interactive with opportunities to share approaches that are working. Events will be in centrally located venues, close to public transport links.

Dates and locations are shown below:

8 February	Manchester
28 February	London
6 March	Sheffield
8 March	Exeter
14 March	Cambridge

The events will be announced next week and the registration site for all events will go live by 18 January. Details will be tweeted by the DfE social media team. Please look out for this and encourage schools in your areas to attend the event closest to their school by passing on the link to the site. If you have any queries about this please contact Jane Hough or Scott Wood at: Workload.SOLUTIONS@education.gov.uk. Thanking you in advance for your support of these events in making schools aware they are taking place'.

Regional opportunities

Please [click here](#) to visit the portal to view the latest regional opportunities.

All the best,

Ellen Lee

On behalf of Chris Wheatley, TSC Representative East Midlands, South Yorkshire and Humber and Chris Abbott, TSC Representative for South Yorkshire and Humber

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