

EMTSA Network

Wednesday 23rd May 2018

10am – 12.30pm

Forest Way Teaching School

Minutes

Attendees: Martin Fitzwilliam (Leicester Catholic Teaching School Alliance), Vanessa Scott (The Becket School), Dave Boothroyd (Minster TSA), Pat Thompson (Sir Jonathan North Alliance), Alex Smythe (Symphony TSA), Dave Roper (LeTs), Mary Shishefar (Transform), Anju Virdee *Chair* (Synergy), Kath Carter (SDSA), Ellie Lee (BSP), Becky Smith (BSP)

Apologies: Katie Cresswell (Alfreton), Jess McClelland (STEP), Kirstie Randle (STEP)

Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Action: BSP to add Mary Shishefar to the attendee list on the previous EMTSA Network minutes.

Anju provided an update on the infrastructure of East Midlands, South Yorkshire and Humber Teaching Schools. An [accountability diagram](#) was circulated with the group and informed part of a discussion. It was discussed that the EMSYH reinforced the development of a school-led system. Ellie stated that the accountability diagram will be updated to include South Yorkshire and Humber as the new region has developed and following the new regional delivery proposal for the next academic year. This resource will also include key contacts linked to the various TSC Commissions and areas of work.

Ellie explained that the South Yorkshire and Humber infrastructure is different to the East Midlands and that this is an effective model for them. The Humber Strategic Group meeting includes Local Authority representatives whereas South Yorkshire is Teaching School colleagues only. The Chairs of South Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Group are now Directors of the EMSYH Company.

The group expressed concern that often the agenda that is set at the Strategic meetings tends to be passed down to the EMTSA Network meeting however, this may not be what is required for discussion within the network.

Update from East Midlands Teaching School Council

The Teaching School Council [‘think piece’](#) was circulated with the group which was written by the TSC Chair Andrew Warren supported by FASNA and Browne Jacobson and includes discussion around accountability.

Action: Group to read through the ‘think piece’ document and provide any feedback to Ellie.

A total of 36 SSIF bids have been submitted across our region, 31 of which are partnership bids and Teaching School led. The group were advised to continue considering the regions priorities for SSIF Round 4 and any further models of school improvement that may be developed in the future.

The group discussed their experiences in the SSIF Round 3 process. The main topic for concern was the online application process with the majority of the group stating they had problems submitting their bids. Ellie reassured the group that this was a common occurrence across the region and the DfE have been informed.

It was stated that there is uncertainty when SSIF R3 results will be announced but it is likely to be the end of June beginning of July. The group agreed to share the lessons learnt and good practice relating to SSIF Round 3.

Teaching Leadership and Innovation Fund

Ellie explained to the group that EMSYH has made it through R1 Expression of Interest phase of the Teaching and Leadership Innovation Fund (TLIF) and have recently submitted the next stage of the application process. This was the first application to go directly from the EMSYH Company and will be based on RQTs in the first 2-4 years of their career. This will be a more intense programme that focuses on personal development time and engagement in training. There is 1.7 million to bid for.

Since the previous EMTSA Network meeting, Local Hub Leads have been nominated for each of the mini regions to support with the delivery of the TSC Commissions and provide a collaborative and streamlined approach to school improvement.

Alex explained that Symphony are struggling to link with the Local Authority and other Teaching Schools within their area. Pat shared her experience as a new Teaching School, Sir Jonathan North, stating that they have felt connected and informed in the past year. It was suggested that as Leicester City Local Authority have an understanding on Teaching Schools role in school improvement, this could have an effect on collaboration. The group agreed that networking is important.

It was announced that an Induction pack which has been delayed will shortly become available and will help to avoid newly designated Teaching Schools 'slipping through the net'. This includes a welcome email to the newly designated Teaching School lead with information on the company, key contacts and where further information can be found e.g. the EMSYH portal. It is the role of the mini regions Local Hub Lead to follow up this welcome and encourage collaboration.

Ellie explained the EMSYH Company and how the funding is distributed. The EMSYH Company creates transparency across the funding and showcases who is accountable for what. The funding goes directly to Candleby Lane Teaching School and is then passed onto the company. This is then distributed to the TSC Commissions and Local Hub Leads.

The group discussed their experiences with communication, collaboration and funding within their region.

Introducing Mentally Healthy Schools – Presentation from Kath Carter

Kath provided background information on 'Leading a Mentally Healthy School'. This is a practical course based on leadership of a mentally healthy school. The model consists of 'hub' Teaching Schools that run a 'Train the Trainer' event. The Teaching School can choose if there is a cost and market/promote the event, inviting Teaching Schools within their area. The training can be led by a System Leader or a mental health expert and a folder of resources is available for delegates and will

be the same for all training sessions. Some 'hub' Teaching Schools offer 2 places per Teaching School to attend.

TSC communications are involved in promoting this programme and contact Teaching Schools to encourage them to sign up for an event.

Table discussion: What are we doing as schools to promote emotional wellbeing in school?

The group discussed what they do within their schools to promote emotional wellbeing in school. Sir Jonathan North Teaching School explained that they have breakfast clubs that includes sessions available for mindfulness.

LeTs stated that there is an active well-being day that promotes the message to teachers to 'stop' what they are doing for example, marking.

It was asked if another 'hub' was required to encourage the delivery of 'Leading a Mentally Healthy School'. There are currently 25 'hubs' nationally.

If this programme continues additional models could be added for example staff resilience.

Knowledge Hub

Becky discussed the Knowledge Hub and EMSYH portal. The Knowledge Hub was developed by EMSYH for teaching schools in the region to use during the SSIF rounds. These Pocket Guides include information on, Designated Teaching Schools, TSA Mini Region Area Hub Leads, Key Contacts, Local Networks, SRIB Partnership Priorities, SSIF Applications and ITT Providers with allocations based in the mini regions.

Action: Group to feedback to Becky if any amendments are required on their mini regions Pocket Guide or Teaching School page on the [EMSYH portal](#).

Action: Becky to update Leicestershire's page on the Knowledge Hub Pocket Guide.

Good Practice Showcasing

The impact of Teaching Schools will be showcased in a booklet format at the upcoming EMSYH Regional Conference in June.

The final question on the Data Hub that asked for the Teaching Schools to provide an impactful case study was originally going to be evolved for the conference to develop the impact paper/booklet. However, the DfE are unable to share this and to prevent Teaching Schools from duplicating their work this will now become a booklet on specialism. For the conference, when booking their places, Teaching Schools are now requested to provide information on their phase/specialism and provide an elevator pitch and strap line. This will be developed into a visual document and provide the basis of a search engine on the EMSYH portal for Teaching Schools to find relevant support and work collaboratively across the region.

Teacher recruitment and retention:

Update and discussion on admission policy changes

The group discussed their experiences with teacher recruitment and retention.

Mary stated that in Nottingham when individuals apply and are not successful due to experience they encourage them to apply next year but volunteer within the school one day a week.

Dave Roper stated that at LeTs they focus on marketing SCITT.

Ongoing items;

Women in Leadership

Ellie explained the Women Leading Education commission. This has been linked with the National Coaching Pledge. Local Hub Leads have been requested to find individuals to represent the commission and be the point of contact within their mini region.

The group were asked if there are any events happening for the Coaching Pledge or WLE.

Alison Merrill's for Sir Jonathan North Teaching School is the regional representative for WLE in East Midlands South and they will be holding an event.

The focus of this commission is encouraging and engaging system leaders to receive coaching training.

East Midlands Conference

The aim of this year's regional conference is to provide a range of inspirational approaches to leadership and evidence based practice that can support success across the region. Various workshops will be taking place throughout the day based on each of the 'Big Three' and a 'market place' which will include information on each of the TSC Commissions e.g. Women Leading in Education and Peer Review.

As discussed previously on the agenda, delegates are required to provide information on their Teaching School to form the impact paper/booklet and are requested to read the guidance provided prior to booking their place.

Action: Group to book their places on the conference by visiting www.emsyh.org.uk

Future dates of meetings

The group stated that they would like to continue the EMTSA Network meetings with three across the academic year. Suggested dates for future meetings will be agreed and circulated via the weekly update and the portal. Forest Way are to continue to be the venue for these meetings.

Anju Virdee announced that she will be leaving her role at Synergy therefore, will not be continuing as Chair for the EMTSA Network. It was suggested going forwards the possibility of having a rotating chair.

It was agreed to keep 'Leading Mentally Healthy School' as an ongoing item on the agenda.

Action: BSP to add 'Leading a Mentally Healthy School' to the next meeting's agenda

Action: BSP to confirm future meeting dates and circulate via the weekly update and portal

AOB

No other business.