

New Secondary Curriculum Local Authority Newsletter

Edition 4 – September 2008

Introduction to the September Newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of the newsletter this academic year at a time when the New Secondary Curriculum has commenced in Local Authority schools and the partners have started the second phase of their support.

The key messages are around the need to build coherence across the secondary curriculum, the engagement and motivation of learners to commit to their learning and putting the learner at the heart of assessment. We know from our involvement with you that many schools have engaged with the principles of the new secondary curriculum and have innovated for the benefit of the experiences of young people. We also recognise that some Local Authorities and some schools find themselves in situations where change continues to be a major challenge. Phase 2 might arguably be better focused on the latter.

Two key elements of the QCA/ASPECT Seminar on 25th September were to explore the concept of disciplined innovation and the evaluation of the impact of developments to date. We know that many authorities are already looking at this from both a Local Authority strategic perspective and also from a more operational view from within schools. You will find in this and subsequent newsletters the support that will be available from the partners. Much of it now can be tailor made to the needs of both your Local Authority colleagues and teams and through them to the schools and young people.

This support is only available definitely for the next seven months and we encourage you to make the best use of it. Please do take up the offer to commission support from the partners.

We know our Local Authority key contacts are passing this newsletter on the colleagues, and as a further support mechanism we are also arranging for it to be published on the ASPECT website for open access www.aspect.org.uk/newsecondarycurriculum

Judith Hibbert
Aspect National Advisor

To aid your navigation through this newsletter, please see a list of the contents below by page number

What are the partners doing?	Page 3
Aspect/CfBT	Page 3
DCSF	Page 4
QCA	Page 5
NCSL	Page 6
SSAT	Page 8
CfBT	Page 9
National Strategies	Page 10
Subject Associations	
Art & Design	Page 11
Citizenship	Page 12
Design & Technology	Page 14
Geography	Page 15
History	Page 16
Languages	Page 17
Music	Page 19
PSHE	Page 20
Physical Education	Page 21
Religious Education	Page 22
Case Study - Newham	Page 23
Event details (venues/dates)	Page 24
Useful Publications & Websites	Page 26

What are the partners doing?

Aspect

ASPECT will continue to link with Local Authorities, and will ensure continued access to the team of regional advisers (list below)

What can Aspect offer local authorities?

- Brokerage and facilitation of support from the partners for networks and groups of schools
- Presentations and inputs to local authority teams about key messages or other areas relating to the New Secondary Curriculum
- The organisation of events in regions for 2 or more local authorities
- One to one support for individuals in local authorities responsible for the New Secondary Curriculum
- A half day package for governor services including a session for governors on the New Secondary Curriculum
- Other areas of support identified by local authorities which would help with the development of the New Secondary Curriculum

For further information about what Aspect can offer please contact Judith.hibbert@ntlworld.com or the relevant Aspect Regional Adviser.

To access any of the support outlined above please contact the appropriate regional adviser listed below.

Regional Adviser

REGION	NAME	SURNAME	Email
South East & South West	Martin	Baxter	martin.baxter@sageinterim.co.uk
North West	Maxine	Froggatt	maxinefroggatt@yahoo.co.uk
Yorks & Humberside	Judith	Hibbert	judith.hibbert@ntlworld.com
West Midlands	Pat	Lockett	pat@lockett74.freeserve.co.uk
Eastern	Bill	Miller	bill@csnconsultancy.co.uk
East Midlands	John	Pearce	johnpearce@ntlworld.com
London	Vicki	Pite	victoria@pites.globalnet.co.uk
North East	John	Smith	jts@smoaklands.com

DCSF

Why Local Authorities should take Learning Outside the Classroom seriously

In the run up to the first national Learning Outside the Classroom conference on 2nd October, Local Authorities are being urged to recognise the benefits that hands-on experiences can have, not only for children and young people, but for schools, parents and the wider community. The conference for Directors of Children's Services and senior local authority school improvement staff will see the launch of the 'Out & About package'. This provides practical guidance, tools and training modules to help schools and others – early years and youth groups for example – to take their learners out into grounds, the local environment and further afield.

There is significant research evidence about the effectiveness of learning outside the classroom in raising achievement and developing attitudes, attributes and skills among young people of all ages. What is less well publicised is that learning outside the classroom can also help Local Authorities to meet a range of annual performance assessment (APA) targets, from increasing long-term use of libraries and museums to reducing unauthorised school absences and cutting permanent exclusion rates.

In many local authorities there is a tradition of using resources such as residential centres, but they are sometimes seen as peripheral and their full potential is frequently not realised. While Extended Schools provision may be harnessing a range of local providers – museums, art centres and heritage sites for example – these are often not used to their full potential in offering tailored activities as part of everyday curriculum teaching. These experiences are emphasised in the new secondary curriculum being taught from the start of the new academic year.

The 'Out & About' package will break down many of the barriers to learning outside the classroom and should help schools to build these vital experiences into the school day and beyond. But it's crucial that Local Authorities also acknowledge the potential rewards of increasing learning outside the classroom provision.

By ensuring learning outside the classroom is integrated into local Children and Young People Plans as part of a holistic approach to learning and development, and by helping to increase and improve local provision, Local Authorities will be able to harness the benefits of learning outside the classroom for many years to come.

For more information about the benefits of learning outside the classroom and suggestions of how to improve this in your area, please visit www.lotc.org.uk.

QCA

Secondary Curriculum Implementation

Following the end of the consultation on the new secondary curriculum in the summer of 2007, an implementation programme was launched to support schools and colleges with the process of developing their curriculum. Feedback from the programme indicates that many schools and colleges have already begun to take advantage of the flexibility to innovate offered by the new curriculum. Curriculum and subject leaders are leading the way in purposeful change, trialling new approaches, redesigning their curriculum and rethinking assessment to make a difference to learners. In particular, at key stage 3 many schools have built on their existing subject-focused strengths to develop other aspects of the curriculum by focusing on the aims of the curriculum, the cross-curriculum dimensions and on personal, learning and thinking skills (PLTS). A year on, we need to shift the focus from key stage 3 to designing and implementing a coherent curriculum from 11–19, which will

- makes sense to learners – clear, carefully considered, and different aspects of learning and assessment connect in a logical and sensible way
- be relevant, engaging and motivating, reflecting learners' diverse interests, specialisms, needs and aspirations

The division is holding a series of conferences aimed at key partners -upcoming events include

11 November & 4 December - Learners Commitment to Learning Events

12 March 2009 - National Dimensions Conference

The purpose of this conference is to raise the profile of dimensions for curriculum planning and demonstrate how dimensions are interdependent and mutually supportive. 300 delegates will be invited, ranging from strategic partners for secondary curriculum implementation – SSAT, NCSL, SNS, CfBT, Aspect, DCSF, as well as headteachers, key partners for each dimension and learners. A range of keynotes and workshops will be provided during the day involving QCA, British Council, BBC, Making your mark to demonstrate dimensions in action. Groups of learners from around the world will be involved in the conference, some reporting the events as part of BBC School Report. The conference will demonstrate important aspects of the DCSF Children's Plan in action, for example Sustainable Schools, Community Cohesion, use of technology and media.

NCSL

This Autumn NCSL will be providing two sets of workshops: one for school leaders on leading change in the 11-19 new secondary curriculum and the other is a bespoke set of workshops for Middle Schools. This significant support is in partnership with the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust and in collaboration with the other partners CfBT, SNS, QCA and Aspect.

Leading the Change Workshops

The workshops will be led by 'Heads' for 'Heads', with a wider target audience of: Head teachers, Deputy Heads and Curriculum Leaders from secondary, special and middle schools.

There will be forty five workshops, five per government region, from 1st October to 24th October. Eighteen of the workshops will incorporate an optional 14-19 additional session for schools who want to deliver diplomas in 2010 and beyond. For further details, please refer to www.ncsl.org.uk/11-19

The workshops will focus on:-

- Leading change in the context of one of the most significant educational reforms in our system
- Increasing understanding of the 'cross strands' of the new curriculum and how this can support achievement in your school
- Developing a stronger sense of the vision for a 11-19 coherent curriculum and the confidence of how to move it forward
- Understanding that this work is both imperative and achievable
- Providing an opportunity for you to share practical implementation challenges and seek solutions.
- Presenting the latest tools and resources available
- Planning advice for 2009.

These workshops are 'free' and invitations will arrive in schools early September for details of how to register – 2 representatives per school will be invited to attend. Details of the host school venues and dates and registration link for schools/colleges may be found at – www.ncsl.org.uk/11-19

Local Authorities are invited to send, up to two representatives, to the workshops, by emailing the following details to 11-19leadingchange@rslive.co.uk

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Local Authority name: | • Local Authority Number: |
| • Title & Full Name: | • Position: |
| • Telephone Number: | • Fax Number: |
| • Preferred Region: | • Preferred Venue & date: |

Please indicate any special requirements – access, dietary, other.

Middle School 'bespoke' Workshops.

Registration for these events will be available in October. Details of dates and venues may be found on page 24. Please contact Alison Matthews, 0115 872 2567 with queries,

**NCSL's Leadership Network National Initiative
Leadership for Narrowing the Gap**

Are you passionate about narrowing the gap in outcomes for children and young people?

During 2008-09 the National College for School Leaders Leadership Network, led by school leaders, is undertaking a national initiative; *Leadership for Narrowing the Gap*.

This is an opportunity for groups of leaders to improve their leadership for narrowing the gap by increasing their capacity and confidence to act and deepen their understanding and knowledge of successful practice.

To learn more about this initiative and who can get involved, visit www.ncsl.org.uk/LNinitiatives.

Specialist Schools and Academies Trust

The Specialist Schools and Academies Trust's curriculum design project has been successful in its first year. Now we are looking to build on this in 2008/09 with a continuing programme of free support. Over the course of the Autumn 2008 experienced and aspiring curriculum designers and local authority officers will have the opportunity to:

- Attend the next stage of the programme which looks at the organisation of the learning process and its impact on curriculum design (details on page 24)
- Receive personal support from SSAT lead practitioners
- Gain access to an ever-expanding bank of adaptable resources to support curriculum design
- Participate in an online community of curriculum designers through the SSAT website

Further information about the programme and booking for the events is available at www.ssatrust.org.uk/curriculumdesign

Curriculum Design Events

The events in November and December will focus on how the organisation of learning can impact on curriculum design. Delegates will have the choice of attending four workshops on the day and network with schools from across and beyond the region. The workshops will be based around four main themes:

- **Personal Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS) and wider skills curriculum** - Looking at the models and systems to enable a curriculum to operate with strong elements of personal learning and thinking skills.
- **Whole School Curriculum** - How does the whole school curriculum work to enable the aims for the learner to be met? Looking at a holistic view of the curriculum using real school models.
- **New to?** For those either new to curriculum design, new to our programme, or both.
- **Whole School Implementation** The process of implementing a new curriculum and lessons learned by schools who have already been through the process.

Details of dates and venues may be found on page 24

Local Authorities:

- You are invited to send a representative to these events.

If you:

- Have organised a separate event in your LA, and/or are planning to do so and would like one of our lead practitioners to present at it
- Have middle schools and would you like some specific support for them in responding to the new curriculum developments?

Please contact Kate Attard on 0207 802 0788 or kate.attard@ssatrust.org.uk/curriculumdesign

CfBT

What is Economic Wellbeing and Financial Capability?

Economic Wellbeing and Financial Capability is a brand new programme of study for both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. It both extends and brings coherence to aspects of the curriculum which contribute to young people's ability to make sense of their economic environment now and in the future.

It draws together careers, enterprise, work related learning, aspects of economic and business understanding and financial capability. Many of these areas are included in the school curriculum already but the links and connections are often not apparent. When the concepts, processes and knowledge are developed in an integrated way, learning is reinforced because students have a clearer view of how it all fits together.

There are many teachers who have expertise in the field but they tend to specialise in one aspect of the programme of study. Economic Well Being and Financial Capability provide the opportunity to bring the activities together by building a programme that is clearly identified in the curriculum so students can see the links and connections. There is a variety of models which might be used in schools to achieve this objective. Some schools, particularly Business and Enterprise Colleges, already include such programmes for all students.

The great strength of such work is that students find it engaging because they are involved in active, investigative learning. They often have great fun when involved in enterprise days and develop a range of skills which help them to take a more enterprising approach to life. Many teachers are under the misapprehension that enterprise is just about making money rather than also developing a range of skills which make a significant contribution to Personal Learning and Thinking Skills. Despite the strength of such activity, there is still teacher development work to be done to ensure that learning is properly embedded. There is a tendency to enjoy the fun but not to reflect on the activity and therefore miss some great opportunities to develop transferability.

From September the role of National Subject Lead has been created to support the roll out of this new programme of study. Sue Barr, who has a background in careers and Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) and Jenny Wales, who works in business and enterprise, have been appointed to share the job. Regional Subject Advisors will be in post shortly and contact details made available.

National Strategies

New Materials

Important new materials have been added to the renewed Secondary Frameworks website, to help teachers deliver the new programmes of study introduced in secondary schools this term.

The latest materials include examples of planning processes and effective teaching plans, case studies of effective practice plus additional guidance and support materials on using the Frameworks' learning objectives in planning lively, constructive, and engaging lessons.

School subject leaders were introduced to the new materials at meetings run by Local Authority consultants in the summer term. In the current autumn term National Strategies support for subject leaders will focus on strengthening teaching and learning in the core subjects, especially in aspects which pupils find more difficult to master. This will be followed in the spring 2008 term with a focus on making use of Assessing Pupils' Progress (APP) materials to strengthen periodic assessment and to identify next steps in learning.

APP materials will be available on the website for all four core subjects from January. Further support materials and case studies of successful practice will continue to be added to the website making it a really useful source of information and exemplification. To access the NS renewed Frameworks website, go to:

www.standards.dcsf.gov.uk/secondary/frameworks

Support from Subject Associations



National Society for Education in Art & Design

Website : www.nsead.org

e-mail : nscsupport@nsead.org

NSEAD is funded by the government as part of the CfBT consortium to provide subject specific support to schools for the implementation of the New Secondary Curriculum. There are two National Subject Leaders (NSLs) and 30 Regional Subject Advisers (RSAs) available to undertake this work.

John Bowden (NSL) and the team of Lead RSAs, would like to work with local authorities where there is a need to support groups of Art and Design teachers within their local authority.

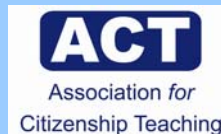
1. We can support local Authority colleagues in planning and delivering relevant programmes for Art and Design teachers.
2. We can provide sessions on:
 - Developing an overview of the new Art and Design Programmes of Study
 - Engaging in an audit procedure to identify development issues
 - Reasons for the changes in the Programmes of Study
 - Approaches to course content derived from a wide range of Art and Design case studies
 - Examining the potential for working across disciplines
3. We can also provide contributions to local networks of schools and cluster groups through the RSAs who would be very willing to discuss issues and help develop ideas and initiatives.

Sessions for groups of teachers can be organised as either twilight or half day sessions. RSAs will be available to follow up these sessions with development visits to schools To discuss this support please contact: **John Bowden** on nscsupport@nsead.org or ring **07947582012**

We would appreciate it if you **could inform all secondary schools of the availability of this support**. If schools wish to contact us directly it would be useful if they could they provide the following information:

- Is the request on the behalf of a department or a network?
- Is a post-briefing follow-up required or some other form of support?
- What is the preferred date and time for a meeting?

Please also provide the contact details for the person requesting the support



Association for Citizenship Teaching

Website : www.teachingcitizenship.org.uk

e-mail : pete@petepattison.com

The Association for Citizenship Teaching (ACT) is providing high quality training and support to help teachers across the country to introduce the new Citizenship curriculum. To help us achieve this we have appointed 30 Regional Citizenship Advisers as points of contact and as local experts on the new curriculum. Many are full-time teachers with daily experience of the opportunities and challenges the new curriculum offers Citizenship. To maximize the impact of the new curriculum we would like to work closely with Local Authority Advisers and Advanced Skills teachers responsible for Citizenship in their local authority

Our regional advisers are able to:

- work with networks of schools
- lead training events
- provide advice on teaching the new citizenship curriculum

If you would like to access the support we can provide please contact your Regional Citizenship Adviser. Their contact details can be found below for each of the regions or by going to the ACT website: www.teachingcitizenship.org.uk, and clicking on the 'Regional Pages' tab on the left.

Region	Name	Contact :
North East	Caroline Baxter, Middlesborough Peter Rodgers, Durham Ann Nelson, Durham Sheila Clark, Northumberland Brenda East, Northumberland	c.baxter@ormesby.mgrid.org.uk Peter.rodgers@durham.gov.uk Ann.nelson100@hotmail.com Sheilaclark.sedu@googlemail.com brendaeast@hotmail.com
Yorkshire and The Humber	Di Bryan, E Yorks Anne Townsend, N Yorks Debbie Newton, NE Lincs	Dibryan1007@yahoo.co.uk Townys40@btinternet.com Debbie.newton@nelincs.gov.uk
North West	Guy Short, Cumbria Aimee Quinn, Blackpool Vanessa Tucker, Trafford Vanessa Thompson, Manchester	Guy.short@gmail.com aimee-quinn@st-aidans.lancs.sch.uk vannessat@homeatsale.plus.com vthompson@cedarmount.manchester.sch.uk

Cont'd

West Midlands	Niall Crawford Balbir Sohal	Niall.crawford@birmingham.gov.uk balbir.sohal@coventry.gov.uk
East Midlands	Alice Carlisle, Nottingham Brian Cavanagh, Derbyshire Hazel McSweeney, Leics	acarlisle@emmanuel.nottingham.sch.uk Brian.cavanagh@derbyshire.gov.uk Hazel55@googlemail.com
East of England	Sue Carter Jan Bird Alex Atherton	scarter@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk jan.bird@notleyhigh.com johnjahn4@aol.com
South East and South	Graham Cole Pamela Draycott Keira Price	gicbd@tiscali.co.uk Pamela.draycott@kent.gov.uk k.price@invicta.kent.sch.uk
London	Ben Hammond Cathy Bryan Will Ross	dgcitizenship@gmail.com cathy_bryan@hotmail.com willowross@hotmail.com
South West	Jennie Kramer, Cornwall Tony Thompson-Gardiner, Somerset Catrina Garrett, Plymouth	jenniekramer@hotmail.com tondice@nildram.co.uk cgarrett@sdcc.plymouth.sch.uk



Regional Subject Adviser for Design and Technology

Website : www.data.org.uk

e-mail : lee@data.org.uk

The Design and Technology Association provides a wide range of support for teachers of D&T. During autumn 08 and spring 09 we will be providing support for schools as they introduce the New Secondary Curriculum Design and Technology programmes of study.

Andy Mitchell, the National Subject Lead, is responsible for coordinating the network of 25 Regional Subject Advisers (RSAs) working across the 9 government regions. These Regional Subject Advisers are available to provide support to groups of schools within local authorities.

They can provide support in:

- Developing an overview of the new D&T Programmes of Study
- Referencing the new programmes of study against current practice
- Developing teachers' understanding of the new requirements
- Planning a concept led Key Stage 3 Programme of Study
- Detailed Key Stage planning for teaching exciting, topical and up to date D&T activity, reflecting the modern design and technological world.
- Promoting student activity that addresses the STEM agenda using new materials and approaches to developing student's creativity

To discuss the support available please contact Lee Edwards at the D&T Association lee@data.org.uk. He will help you access the support you require.

Geographical Association

Website : www.geography.org.uk e-mail: info@geography.org.uk



The Geographical Association (GA) is able to offer a wide range of support to help geography teachers plan for and introduce the New Secondary Curriculum. Some of this support is in the form of workshop resources and is freely available on the GA website – www.geography.org.uk. These resources can be downloaded by members and non-members alike.

Our team of 25 part-time Regional Support Advisers [RSAs] are available to work with both schools and networks of schools in local authorities in each of the nine government regions. They are a mix of practising teachers, teacher-trainers and local authority advisers.

They can provide a mixed menu of sessions including:

- Whole day conferences and workshops
- Half day and twilight sessions
- Email discussions

The focus for these sessions is completely negotiable, and therefore dependent on your needs.

This can include:

- An overview of the whole New Secondary Curriculum and the place of geography within that
- The initial planning of a Scheme of Work
- Exploring particular concepts, such as interdependence and sustainable development.

We can offer specific workshops on:

- Developing GIS (Many schools have expressed concern about this area)
- Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) in geography.

We are particularly keen to work with existing networks within your local authority and especially geography departments who were unable to attend the regional conferences held earlier this year. If there are no existing networks we are happy to help create these. We are also happy to work with groups of local authorities on the development of geography in the curriculum.

If you are planning an event with geography teachers in the next six months or you know of schools that need information, advice and guidance, please contact the two NSL at the e-mail addresses below:

David Rayner david.rayner@blueyonder.co.uk (East of England, SE, SW, London)

Ruth Totterdell ruth@totterdell.co.uk (NW, NE, Y & H, E. Midlands, W. Midlands)

Our RSAs can be contacted initially through the two Geography National Subject Leads above.



The Historical Association

Website : www.history.org.uk e-mail : alf.wilkinson@history.org.uk

The Historical Association (HA) is able to offer a wide range of support to help history teachers plan for and introduce the New Secondary Curriculum [NSC.] Some of this support is in the form of workshops and discussion papers and is freely available on the HA website – www.history.org.uk These resources can be downloaded by members and non-members alike.

Our Regional Subject Advisers [RSAs] are available to work with both schools and networks of schools in local authorities in each of the nine government regions. They are mostly practicing teachers or teacher-trainers, and can offer a mixed menu of sessions including:

- Whole day conferences and workshops
- Half day and twilight sessions
- Email discussions.

The focus for all these sessions is completely negotiable, and therefore dependent on your needs.

These sessions can include:

- An overview of the whole curriculum
- The place of history within the curriculum
- Initial planning of a Programme of Study
- The exploration of particular concepts, such as diversity, significance, interpretation and chronology.

Each region also has a dedicated discussion forum on the HA website www.history.org.uk

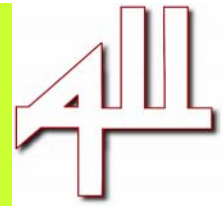
We are particularly keen to work with existing networks within your local authority, and especially history departments who were unable to attend the regional conferences we held earlier this year. If there are no existing networks we are happy to help create these. We are also happy to work with groups of local authorities as we did with London boroughs recently. If you want to access the support we can provide please contact:

The National Subject Lead – alf.wilkinson@history.org.uk .

or the RSA for your region by using their region as below:

eg RSA for the South East Region is southeast@history.org.uk

RSA for the North West Region is northwest@history.org.uk



Languages - the Association for Language Learning

Website : www.all-nsc.org.uk

e-mail : kathywicksted@tiscali.co.uk

The second phase of our support for schools is until the end of March 2009. Our aims for this period are to:

- Maximise coverage and respond flexibly to the needs of schools
- Build capacity and sustainability, so that language teams have the confidence to continue to develop their curriculum and contribute to whole school innovation after March 2009
- Work in a joined-up and supportive way with a range of key partners including local authorities, CILT Comenius managers, ALL branches and networks, and the CILT/SNS Development and Dissemination programme.

Key themes for languages

Our support will focus on aspects that we believe are the most central to the needs of language departments and learners, including:

- Building on learning in Key Stage 2
- Making learning more engaging, including activities beyond the classroom, active learning and using imagination
- Skills development and linguistic creativity
- Meaningful contexts, including cultural knowledge and understanding and cross-curricular approaches
- Establishing a leadership role for languages within the wider curriculum

Workshops

During the autumn and spring terms we will be providing interactive workshops arranged by the RSA regional teams in collaboration with LAs, Comenius centres and ALL branches and networks.

The main focus of the support in phase 2 will be on: 'moving from theory to practice'; sharing ideas for implementation; and looking in more depth at specific concepts. Introductory sessions can be arranged if needed either as an option at a larger event or as a separate event. We will be exploring ways of ensuring concrete outcomes from events, such as delegates contributing to an online bank of ideas.

For these events we would like to bring schools together from more than one authority to ensure a minimum of 15-20 delegates. Your RSA will be able to discuss options with you, including any focus that would be particularly appropriate for the schools in your local authority.

We are not able to provide individual support to schools unless there is an outcome which has wider benefits for other schools. However, we would be glad to discuss approaches for helping schools that need more intensive support.

We are in close contact with CILT and SNS colleagues, and hope that Strategic Learning Networks that are focusing on the New Secondary Curriculum will be able to draw on and share information and ideas from the RSA events to support their work.

Regional needs audits

The Regional Subject Adviser (RSA) coordinators will be holding meetings for Local Authority representatives to discuss the needs of schools in the region and how the RSA regional team can best support the development of languages within the New Secondary Curriculum. We want to establish a named contact in every local authority,

Regional Subject Advisers

This support is provided by a team of Regional Subject Adviser (RSAs), usually Heads of Department, ASTs, drawn from schools. They bring credibility and practical ideas to their support for schools. We work hard to ensure that the RSAs have a clear understanding of how language departments can respond to the opportunities and challenges of the New Secondary Curriculum.

Regional coordinators for languages

North West: David McDermott
David.McDermott@liverpool.gov.uk

North East: Claire Dodd
claire_doddburnell@yahoo.com

Yorkshire-Humberside: Wendy Adeniji
wendy_adeniji@yahoo.com

West Midlands: John Connor
johnfconnor@msn.com

East Midlands: Sarah Brooks
sarahdoyle58@yahoo.co.uk

Eastern: Rachel Hawkes
rachelhawkes@tiscali.co.uk

London: Liz Fotheringham
fotheringham3@yahoo.co.uk

South East: Sara Vaughan
sara_vaughan@yahoo.co.uk

South West: Vacancy - please contact Kathy Wicksteed (kathywicksteed@tiscali.co.uk)

Online support

The Association for Language Learning has created a dedicated website (www.all-nsc.org.uk) for the New Secondary Curriculum containing planning tools, RSA case studies and presentations, and a wide range of documentation and resources. In the future we will be adding examples of good practice from schools across the country and two more video case studies. www.newsecondarycurriculum.org.

We look forward to working with you. Kathy Wicksteed, National Subject Lead, Languages



National Association for Music Educators

Website : www.name.org.uk

e-mail : j.savage@mmu.ac.uk

The National Association of Music Educators is working with CfBT Education Trust to provide support for teachers as they begin implementing the New National Curriculum for Music from September 2008.

Dr Jonathan Savage from the Institute of Education, Manchester Metropolitan University (the National Subject Lead for Music), is working closely with Lead Regional Support Advisors (Lead RSAs) in each of the nine Government regions. Working within existing education networks, these Lead RSAs, together with their small team of Regional Subject Advisors, are identifying specific regional needs and then implementing a regionally focussed package of support for teachers. This support is being delivered in collaboration with Local Authority provision in each region.

The NAME/CfBT support programme is also working collaboratively with other recent initiatives in music education including the National Strategy for Music and the Musical Futures in Key Stage 3. We are also building on significant pieces of curriculum reform at Key Stage 2 including the Wider Opportunities programme and Sing Up.

The programme of support includes: workshops for groups of teachers and a range of written and video materials. These will include 'How to ...' guides about new aspects of the curriculum, written case studies and video case studies for inclusion on the QCA New Secondary Curriculum support website (<http://www.newsecondarycurriculum.org/>). These new materials will supplement a range of existing materials produced during Phase One of this project which are already available online at this site.

For general information about the programme of support please contact Dr Jonathan Savage at j.savage@mmu.ac.uk (tel: 0161 247 2363).

Further information about the National Association of Music Educators can be found at their website, www.name.org.uk.



The PSHE Association

Website : www.pshe-association.org.uk

e-mail : kathryn@pshe-association.org.uk

The PSHE Association is one of ten national subject associations working with CfBT to deliver subject-specific support to schools and advisers for PSHE education as part of the programme of support for the New Secondary Curriculum. PSHE education includes personal well-being; economic well-being and financial capability

Support is provided through a network of National Subject Leaders (NSLs) and a field force of Regional Subject Advisers (RSAs). PSHE education has a team of RSAs in each region with expertise in personal wellbeing (PWB) and economic wellbeing and financial capability (EWBFC)

The RSAs include teachers and advisers. Many of the advisers are Healthy Schools Coordinators or PSHE CPD Leads. Others come from a careers or business and enterprise background. RSAs will be engaging with local authority colleagues to enhance regional and local capacity to support schools with PSHE education. RSAs will also be networking with business / enterprise / careers / economic education colleagues, replicating what is currently starting to happen nationally.

Following a series of Regional Briefing Events (January – April 2008), the RSAs are available to provide information and support, in collaboration with local authorities. to groups of subject leaders in schools. As well as seeking further advice and guidance, schools may wish to submit exemplars of their own subject curriculum plans and developments.

Details of the RSAs supporting your region and your Local Authority as well as other information about the new secondary curriculum can be found on the PSHE Association website www.pshe-association.org.uk



Association for Physical Education

Website : www.afpe.org.uk

e-mail : a.frapwell@btopenworld.com

In autumn 2008 the Association for Physical Education we will be moving from focusing on 'big picture' messages, overall planning and changes to the Programme of Study to more detailed planning. This will include developing thinking, conversations and resources around:

- **the entire planned learning experience** - a relevant, purposeful and coherent curriculum (2+3) offer for physical education and 11-19 coherence including qualifications;
- **compelling learning** in a range of content centred on learner's needs so that learner's commit and engage;
- **a baseline of outcomes** for what we want to achieve by 2011 and beyond (developing our vision)
- **assessment and progress** in terms of key processes, Personal Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS) and the 3 aims of the curriculum

We will be using opportunities to link with other government agendas, for example Physical Education Sport Strategy for Young People (PESSYP) and the Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) manifesto.

Revitalising and building support networks

It is important to continue to support and revitalise existing networks of subject leaders and to encourage the development of new regional and local networks. Evaluations from the first phase of the project have told us that the key messages are generally well received, Personal Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS) and cross-curricular dimensions are being enthusiastically embraced and schools are beginning to implement the process of change.

We would like to work with local authorities on supporting these developments in schools. We can offer a range of support tailored to the needs of schools in your area.

For further information or to arrange a meeting or event please contact the AfPE National Subject Lead on a.frapwell@btopenworld.com.



National Association of Teachers of Religious Education

Website: www.natre.org.uk **e-mail:** Info@natre.org.uk

The National Association of Teachers of Religious Education (NATRE) together with RE Today Services has appointed 35 Regional Subject Advisers (RSAs) to support religious education in the New Secondary Curriculum.

This phase of support consists of a 'menu' of training opportunities for individual schools or networks. We would like local authority and diocesan officers to use our RSAs to contribute to groups and meetings already planned and/or help create or recreate networks. We are particularly keen to work with religious education departments who were unable to send a representative to the regional briefings we held earlier this year.

RSAs are writing to local authority and diocesan advisers outlining the menu of training and support opportunities which include:

- Whole day conferences and workshops
- Half days and twilights
- Email discussions.

The focus for these sessions is completely negotiable, and can be tailored to your needs. This can include

- An overview of the whole curriculum and the place of RE within it
- Exploration of particular aspects of the non-statutory programmes of study as they compare with the statutory agreed or aided schools' syllabuses.

The RSAs have produced a number of case studies that demonstrate how compelling learning and cross-curricular work involving religious education can be included in schools' arrangements for the New Secondary Curriculum. These case studies, along with additional support material can be found on the NATRE website.

Please respond directly to the RSA who contacts you. If you do not hear from them or if you cannot make contact, please contact the National Subject Lead for RE, Dave Francis: nsf@natre.org.uk.

We hope you will call on us if we can help you in any way.

Case Study

Newham is an inner city, ethnically and culturally diverse London authority with areas of substantial poverty.

In the context of the curriculum, the local authority articulates a strategic role to “Support and challenge schools to implement a curriculum fit for 21st century learners”. Important drivers were: Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and the determination to drive this once in a lifetime opportunity by a curriculum vision, not by architectural interest; a plateauing of standards; and high NEETS (Not in education, employment or training). The concern was not to address these challenges through tactical means and quick wins but to make substantial, sustainable improvements. Schools recognised the need to move towards a skills based curriculum and had already been piloting projects e.g. learning to learn & opening minds. It was clear through the development of diplomas and working with employers that although attainment had improved substantially over the years, young people did not necessarily have the skills to serve them in future employment.

In 2006, the secondary strategy manager post was extended to include the secondary curriculum and a range of approaches was introduced to develop a coherent curriculum strategy across the local authority. In April 2007 the big picture was mapped to capture all of the changes taking place in schools in a coherent vision:

<http://secondary.newham.gov.uk/Secondary%20standards%20page/Secondary%20Transformation%20page.htm>

Half-termly curriculum transformation days for senior leaders set out to demonstrate and share different curriculum models and hold them to peer review. Visitors from and visits to schools across England that had experimented with the curriculum informed such meetings as did attendance at curriculum design conferences. Regular bulletins, newsletters and the website <http://secondary.newham.gov.uk> helped information and effective practice to be pooled. The theory and practice of change management received equal emphasis to ensure that developments were effective.

During 2007/8 School Improvement Partners (SIPs) and the curriculum manager met all school leaders to explore curriculum developments in their schools, emphasising 11 – 19, arrangements for the introduction of the diploma, Personal Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS), the use of the additional day, functional skills and continuing professional development (CPD) needs. Governors were involved through regular meetings linked to the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) timetable and through a governors' newsletter.

Subject network meetings in schools kept subject leaders involved by exploring mini subject developments. The quality of these meetings is assured by training all facilitators coaching and briefing them regularly about key developments.

The impact of these actions has been “a real buzz”. Middle and senior leaders are very positive about the rationale behind the curriculum changes and welcome them. They also welcome the opportunity to develop a curriculum to meet the individual needs of their students. School attendance levels are good, indeed the best ever. The next steps will see Local Area Partnerships in place. The curriculum manager, seconded to BSF, & supported by a BSF curriculum adviser, will help to ensure that the curriculum vision informs school design. Subject training will support colleagues with developing the Y7 curriculum. In the longer term support strategies will be employed to embed functional skills and PLTS within schemes of work and lesson plans to ensure continuity and progression.

Event details (venues/dates)

NCSL - Middle School 'Bespoke' Workshops (see Page 6)

Your contact for queries is Alison Matthews, 0115 872 2567

Date	Venue	Address
11th November	Parkside Middle School	Stourbridge Road, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B61 0AD
13th November	Meadowdale Middle School	Hazelmere Ave, Bedlington, Northumberland, NE22 6HA
18th November	St Osmund's Church of England Voluntary Aided Middle School	Barns Way, Rothesay Rd, Dorchester, Dorset 2DZ DT1
20th November	Lincroft Middle School	Station Road, Oakley, Bedfordshire, MK43 7RE

SSAT Curriculum Design Events (see Page 8)

Please do publicise these dates with the schools in your authority and attend along with them.

Friday 14 November 2008 – CCT Venues Smithfield, London

Monday 17 November 2008 – Royal York Hotel, York

Tuesday 18 November 2008 – Seafront Holiday Inn, Brighton

Thursday 20 November 2008 – Marriott Gosforth Park Hotel, Newcastle

Friday 21 November 2008 – Crowne Plaza Hotel, Nottingham

Friday 21 November 2008 – Park Plaza Hotel, Leeds (Special Schools event)

Monday 24 November 2008 – Renaissance Hotel, Manchester

Tuesday 25 November 2008 – Thistle Hotel, Exeter

Monday 1 December 2008 – De Vere Dunston Hall Hotel, Norwich

Monday 1 December 2008 – Jury's Hotel, Bristol (Special Schools event)

Wednesday 3 December 2008 – Hilton Metropole Hotel, Birmingham

Thursday 4 December 2008 – CCT Venues Smithfield, London (Special Schools event)

Friday 5 December 2008 – CCT Venues Smithfield, London

Association for Citizenship Teaching (ACT)

We would like to invite all local authority advisers with responsibility for Citizenship, and Citizenship ASTs, to join ACT's Regional Citizenship Advisers at a meeting to:

- give an overview of the new Citizenship curriculum and clarify the key messages;
- jointly develop a plan of action for the next year to ensure that we can all make the most of this great opportunity;
- to share resources and updates on the new curriculum, including on assessment.

To confirm your attendance, please email Pete Pattison (National Subject for the New Citizenship Curriculum): pete@petepattison.com

Region	Date	Venue
East Midlands	Taken place	Beaumanor Hall, Woodhouse, Leicestershire.
Eastern Region	Taken place	Bishop's Hatfield School, Woods Avenue, Hatfield.
South East	Taken place	Association for Citizenship Teaching Office, 63 Gee Street, London.
North West	Taken place	Specialist Schools & Academies Trust, 9 Lockside Office Park, Lockside Road, Riversway, Preston.
London	Monday October 6, Lunch from 1pm, meeting from 1.30 – 4.30pm	Association for Citizenship Teaching Office, 63 Gee Street, London.
Yorkshire & The Humber	Friday October 10, Lunch from 1pm, meeting from 1.30 – 4.30pm	Fairfax Room, Royal York Hotel, York (adjoining the train station).
South West	Monday Oct 13, Lunch from 1pm, meeting from 1.30 – 4.30pm	Burlington Room, Thistle Hotel, Exeter (very near the train station).
North East	Thursday Oct 23, Lunch from 12.30pm, meeting from 1 – 4pm	Committee Room 1B, County Hall, Durham.
West Midlands	Friday Oct 24, Lunch from 1pm, meeting from 1.30 – 4.30pm	Campanile Hotel, Birmingham.

Useful Publications & Websites

DCSF Local Authority support site

<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/localauthorities/index.cfm?action=content&contentID=3104&categoryID=75&subcategoryID=106>

QCA home:

<http://www.qca.org.uk>

QCA curriculum design site

NEW SECONDARY CURRICULUM WEBSITE

<http://curriculum.qca.org.uk>

QCA Curriculum general:

http://www.qca.org.uk/qca_104.aspx

National Strategies Renewed Frameworks:

<http://www.standards.dcsf.gov.uk/secondary/frameworks/>

NCSL home:

<http://www.ncsl.org.uk/>

SSAT curriculum design:

www.ssatrust.org.uk/curriculumdesign

CfBT New Secondary Curriculum:

<http://www.cfbt.com/teach/newsecondarycurriculum.aspx>

New Dipolomas

http://www.qca.org.uk/qca_13916.aspx

TEACHERNET home:

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk>