

You will see from the pages of this TADSS newsletter that our teaching school alliance continues to strengthen and grow. We are pleased that TADSS training opportunities and support are now increasingly being taken up by colleagues in mainstream as well as special schools across the region. If you would like to attend one of our forthcoming events or need some SEND advice, then please get in touch at tadss@westfield.dorset.sch.uk and www.tadss.co.uk.



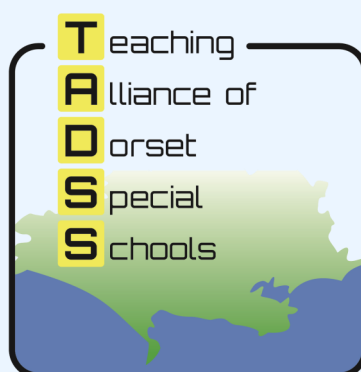
Andrew Penman, Chair of TADSS



Innovation



Collaboration



Sharing good practice



Enrichment



TADSS TEACHING STAFF CONFERENCE 13TH APRIL 2015

WESTFIELD ARTS COLLEGE

'MENTAL HEALTH & WELL BEING'

With guest speaker, Dr Margot Sunderland of the Child Mental Health Centre plus a range of afternoon workshops to support pupil and staff wellbeing.

COMING SOON...

"The Dream Team"

Dorford Centre, Dorchester

21 January 2015 4 February 2015

25 February 2015 11 March 2015

A 4 day leadership development programme for support staff team Leaders.

'Fabulous course. Lovely atmosphere between trainers and group. Thank you'

'Enabled me to fulfil my new role with confidence.'

'It has made me reflect on what and how I do things and ways I can improve my skills in developing team work and dealing with problems within my team.'

Book on Dorset CPD online or TADSS@westfield.dorset.sch.uk



Keeping Pupils Safe? Or Restricting Their Liberty?

'Fob-locked doors are a restriction of a child's liberty.'

'Pupils should have free access in and out of classrooms.'

Hear from Bernard Allen (www.bernardallen.info), an acknowledged leader in the field, about what you actually can do – and what you can't, legal framework and Ofsted advice.

All DAY EVENT Bovington Park, 13th March 2015
contact: TADSS@westfield.dorset.sch.uk for info and bookings.

TADSS COMMITTEE NEWS

Leadership Development

Congratulations to Clive Padgett, outgoing Chair, who has achieved the Headship of the Forum School in Wimborne. His commitment to this group has been inspiring. We will miss him!

Forthcoming events for this group include the innovative 'Follow the Leader' course - *'A unique opportunity to do an internship placement at a high profile and successful non-educational establishment..'*

The 'Follow The Leader' programme is available to senior leaders in special schools across the South West region. The cost of the programme is supported by the National College for Teaching and Learning (NCTL) and is offered to schools **FREE OF CHARGE**.

Contact tadss@westfield.dorset.sch.uk

Continuing Professional Development

Welcome to our new Chair and Teaching School Lead, Nichola Chitson, who has a wealth of experience in facilitating courses in the private and public sector. Under her leadership the committee has been flourishing with lots of exciting events planned for the school year.



Nichola is currently planning our TADSS Schools Directory which will detail a range of twilight and in-house SEND training opportunities for our mainstream colleagues.



Please find, 'like' and follow 'Teaching Alliance of Dorset Special Schools' on Facebook and SEN@TADSS on Twitter Website: www.tadss.co.uk



Research & Development

This committee has been working on a number of projects, including the following:

TADSS Conference December 1st 2014



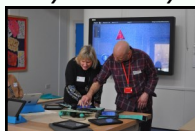
'Creative Interventions' with Dr Margot Sunderland

"Excellent links between neuroscience and strategies for meeting children's needs"

Research project—Spring Term 2015 - 'How to use iPads effectively in classroom learning.' Led by N Cranny of Wyvern Academy

Research project - Spring and Summer terms 2015

- 'Finding positive ways to assess pupils with special educational needs.' Led by Matt Mason of Beaucroft School



School to School support

Subject leader groups now have a new timetable of Spring term meetings to strengthen links, moderate work and share good practice.

New Learning walks are planned - watch this space!

TADSS Teaching School Leads

We are your main point of contact for TADSS and look forward to hearing from you. Even if we don't know the answer we can point you in the right direction!

Nichola Chitson and Clare Mackavoy,

TADSS Teaching School Leads

tadss@westfield.dorset.sch.uk

Tel: 01305 833518

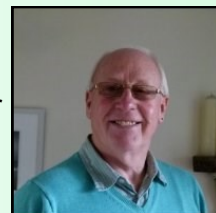
Initial Teacher Training

TADSS schools are preparing for SCITT trainees who undertake 5 week placements to develop their understanding of best practice for pupils with special needs.

The ITT committee is exploring different routes to training teachers for special schools and ways to support Newly Qualified teachers during those challenging first years in the classroom.

New Link Governor

David Higham is our new TADSS link governor. David was Head of Budmouth Technology College for many years and now works as a highly regarded Coach and Education Consultant.



David has carried out some informal research about the impact on school staff of belonging to TADSS and an overwhelmingly positive picture emerged. He is looking forward to working with TADSS and supporting its work both as 'critical friend' and coaching mentor.

Goodbye and Thank you

To Lesley Cook, who chaired the CPD committee and organised two very successful TADSS staff conferences. And to Bruce Bonwell, previous Link governor for TADSS, for his enthusiasm and support.

'Working together for the benefit of ALL Dorset pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities...'