



Join us



Alliance
for Learning

BRIGHT FUTURES EDUCATIONAL TRUST



Welcome from the Director of Teaching School & Partnerships

The 'Alliance for Learning' work to celebrate, support and connect teachers and leaders in our profession and bring you the best possible training and support. We are dedicated to bridging the gap between practice and research to equip our teachers and leaders with the knowledge and confidence to do the best possible job for their children and young people.

Our teaching school is a partnership of over 90 primary and secondary schools, colleges, universities and organisations from across the North-West, who share their knowledge, skills, expertise and experience. Collaboration and school improvement are at the heart of all we do.

We are based at Altrincham Grammar School for Girls and this is our lead school; and we are part of Bright Futures Educational Trust www.bfet.co.uk.

We are proud to be leading the way in innovative approaches to school to school support, meaningful professional development for teachers, ground-breaking research and development, as well as cutting-edge initial teacher training through our SCITT.

Judged as 'Good' by Ofsted, the Alliance for Learning SCITT has a proven track record of providing outstanding teacher training for over 10 years, offering School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) in primary and secondary and Graduate employment-based Early Years Teacher Status. Our courses lead to the award of Post Graduate Early Teachers Teacher Status (EYTS), Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and a Postgraduate Certificate of Education (PGCE), accredited by the University of Manchester.

Our Maths Hub is dedicated to improving the quality of mathematical teaching and learning for our children; offering a wide range of high quality professional development opportunities and is involved in a plethora of maths projects which draw upon the latest teaching strategies from around the world.

In order to carry out work of the highest calibre, we have a fantastic range of nationally recognised organisations with whom we work. These include Ambition Institute, Challenge Partners, OLEVI, Mental Health First Aid England, The Prince's Teaching Institute and the National Centre for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching (NCETM).

The Alliance for Learning is also a member of the GM LLE Collaborative which is a partnership of 8 Teaching Schools based across Greater Manchester. The purpose of the Collaborative is work together to train, develop and support aspirant and existing Local Leaders of Education building a community of best practice, ensuring the best possible system led support for schools is available

"We are genuinely passionate about collaboration between schools and the power of partnerships"

Lisa Fathers

Director of Teaching School & Partnerships

Our Vision, Aims & Core Values

Our Vision

The Alliance for Learning offers an unparalleled training and school support service, with an outstanding reputation locally, regionally and nationally. By choosing the Alliance for Learning you will receive outstanding training, research will be of the highest calibre and support will result in dramatic and sustained improvement outcomes for young people.

Our Aims

The following principles underpin our vision:

- enhancing provision in their own schools
- ensuring the supply of able, well qualified teachers through effective initial teacher training
- creating excellent professional development opportunities for their own staff and staff in other schools
- ensuring the supply of skilled middle leaders, senior leaders and Headteachers
- providing support for schools in challenging circumstances
- designating and deploying Specialist Leaders of Education
- overseeing the deployment of National Leaders of Education and Local Leaders of Education
- engaging in research and development, seeking innovative solutions

Our Core Values

As a teaching school we are values driven; these underpin every decision that we make and reflect how we work.



Integrity

We value and promote integrity in all our actions, partnerships and relationships. It ensures we remain honest, fair and do the right things for the right reasons.



Passion

We value the enthusiasm, drive and energy we have in the pursuit of excellent outcomes for all our partner schools.



Community

We work hard to strengthen, respect, connect with and provide care for the diverse community of schools we serve.



Partnerships

We value and understand that partnership is central to who we are and what we do. All our actions are centred around building deep sustainable relationships.



Ambition

We have the ambition to achieve consistently better outcomes for ourselves and our partners and the drive to be the best in everything that we do.



Innovation

We value innovation in all our work with stakeholders and partners. This allows our alliance to be agile and thrive through creativity and ingenuity.

Teacher Training

The Alliance for Learning SCITT is a dynamic, high-quality teacher training provider offering a range of school-based routes into teaching in the Early Years, Primary and Secondary sectors.

Judged by Ofsted as 'Good', our SCITT has a proven track record of providing outstanding teacher training for over 10 years.

We are always looking to hear from new schools who are looking to support our SCITT, to work with us hand-in-hand to make sure our trainees have a great experience and want to keep teaching in our schools. Growing our own staff, training them in the way our school work and embedding them into school as a member of staff straight away.

As a partner school you can do all of that, as well as accessing the many other benefits that come with hosting a SCITT trainee:

Staff development - Mentoring trainees can help to enhance teachers' mentoring and coaching skills.

Recruitment opportunities - We like to involve our partner schools in the interviewing and selection of trainees, where you then have access to a pool of high quality trainees for future recruitment opportunities.

Ideas and enthusiasm - Our trainees have a quality teaching programme that is delivered by staff who have academic research expertise as well as years of classroom experience. They are enthusiastic, willing to learn and ready to apply and develop their theoretical knowledge in the classroom. They also bring with them fresh and innovative ideas, as well as an awareness of current government priorities.

There is no cost to the school to host a trainee and you will receive expert management and administrative support from our SCITT team to help with the coordination of training and administration in hosting a trainee.

In addition to the above routes we also offer Future Teaching Scholars, Researchers in Schools, School Experience programmes and a Paid Undergraduate Internship Scheme.

We value the time and dedication that mentors and other professionals give our trainees, building their confidence and their competence and would not be where we are today without them.

Continuing Professional Development

In a profession that focuses on learning and knowledge, it is so important for teachers to set aside time for continuing professional development – CPD. As the DfE's Standard for Teachers' Professional Development straightforwardly puts it, 'effective professional development for teachers is a core part of securing effective teaching.'

The Alliance for Learning believe that education staff should have access to CPD at every stage of their career - from new teachers through to leaders and beyond. We also think CPD should be available for support staff.

Investing time in updating your knowledge and skills helps teachers to grow professionally, remain competent, effective and innovative within the classroom.

Our plethora of Early Years, Primary and Secondary programmes extend teaching repertoires, maximise performance in the classroom and develop and support school and system leaders. Our programmes have all received outstanding evaluations; are challenging, engaging and have undergone rigorous quality assurance processes.

As a partner school we would welcome staff from your school to facilitate on our CPD programmes, which in turn helps to improve staff retention as staff are able to access exciting self-development opportunities.

Bespoke CPD

To meet the needs of schools and to be really flexible we understand that time is precious and it is not always feasible to release staff to attend our programmes, which is why our in-house training service allows you as much flexibility as you need, whether you're looking to have an existing course delivered in your school or if you want something completely customised. Our in-house service gives you that flexibility to train groups of staff on important topics cost effectively.

We are happy to explore any of the courses in this brochure delivered in a different way, for example; at your school as part of an INSET day or a twilight.

School to School Support/Specialist Leaders Of Education

We have a strong established reputation for improving standards across a large number of schools. Our School Improvement model is a reflection of our vision and values. We have high aspirations for all which are articulated through strong leadership and a clear vision. We believe in collaboration and ensure a sustainable approach to secure the empowerment of all. We offer high quality training and coaching. All of our system leaders reflect the seven principles of public life across all areas of work. Our team have integrity and challenge with compassion. Our systems and processes make life easy for our system leaders and our schools. We believe in the power of partnerships. We also have a range of key external partners who are integral to our approaches.

As well as being able to access our team of NLEs, LLEs and SLEs to support your school, we are always looking to welcome aspirant staff from our partner schools to become SLEs.

Benefits of having your staff become SLEs:

- offering credible peer support rooted in current practice and drawing on real experience
- the sharing and development of outstanding, innovative practice
- a collaborative, coaching approach, which helps develop other leaders to ensure long-term, sustainable improvement
- a fresh perspective on specific challenges or issues, as well as specialist knowledge and expertise
- the opportunity for leaders to learn about different school contexts and systems
- contributing to continuing professional development (CPD), enhancing leaders' knowledge, skills and abilities in a variety of ways

Subject Leader Networks

The Alliance for Learning have several established networking groups that meet on a regular basis with the aim of providing subject leaders from across the North West opportunities to:

- Collaborate and form long lasting useful relationships with colleagues
- Share news about the latest national, regional and local subject news, discuss 'hot topics', share good practice, top tips and ideas
- Develop a sharing culture by providing opportunities for debate, discussion, exchange of knowledge, sharing of best practice, as well as acquiring new skills and teaching strategies
- Provide subject specific professional development opportunities
- Reduce workload through the sharing of planning, policies, best practice
- PE & Sport Hub

Networks include: English subject leaders, PSHE subject leaders, Citizenship subject leaders, Teaching & Learning Leads, RS subject leaders and Maths Hub networks.

Research and Development/Projects

Research and development is a key strand of the Teaching School as everything we do feeds into this theme.

The Teaching School landscape is a rapidly changing one and staff across the Alliance for Learning are committed to undertaking meaningful and rigorous educational research to ensure that pupils' learning needs are better understood and met. Pupils are actively encouraged to conduct their own research projects and to expand their subject knowledge beyond the school curriculum.

Projects

Greater Manchester Mentally Healthy Schools & Colleges Programme

The GM Mentally Healthy Schools & Colleges programme is part of a major £134m action plan announced in 2017 to help to transform mental health in Greater Manchester for children and adults.

Commissioned by the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership, the overall investment programme – the biggest and most ambitious of its kind in the country –explores new ways of preventing mental health issues in young people through school-based interventions.

The programme is now 3 years into operation, reaching out to 124 schools across Greater Manchester with a comprehensive package of support provided by ourselves, Youth Sport Trust, 42nd Street and Place2Be.

Sport England PE Hub

In March 2019 we were commissioned by Sport England as part of a £13.5m teacher training programme, to help foster a more positive attitude to physical education across the northwest.

The teaching school are currently working with over 50 secondary schools across the region, providing specialist training, mentoring and events that will help educational providers tackle the lack of physical health amongst young people.

The Teach Blackpool Leadership and Coaching Programme

The Teach Blackpool Leadership Coaching Programme is a bespoke programme designed for the Heads of schools in Blackpool, together with selected members of their Senior and Middle Leadership Teams. The courses are free of charge for Blackpool schools.

We are working in partnership with the PTI to deliver the coaching element of the programme to develop the leadership potential of colleagues on the programme.

Teacher Subject Specialism Training (TSST)

In 2018/19 we were appointed by the Department of Education as Regional Lead School for the complete Secondary Mathematics, Physics, Core Maths and Modern Foreign Languages provision across the Greater Manchester, Lancashire and West Yorkshire regions.

The Alliance for learning work in partnership with 15 secondary schools to coordinate an offer of training which will ensure that all professionals are able to access high quality TSST training at a convenient geographic location.

Researchers in Schools (RIS)

The Researchers in School (RIS) is a programme that recruits PhD graduates on to a 3 year programme, to train and teach EBacc subjects (in particular maths and physics) we work in partnership with education charity The Brilliant Club.

Our SCITT has worked with RIS for over four years, and schools really do benefit from recruiting these highly trained experts who champion university access for all pupils and deliver impactful Pupil Premium intervention programmes for the most able pupils, in the most difficult to recruit for subjects.

key headlines:

- RIS programme is offered through two School Direct routes. The traditional RIS* route is via a School Direct salaried route, the trainee is paid as an unqualified trainee teacher and trains to teach alongside a series of timetable sessions. Route two is through the School Direct fee paying route. The fee paying route runs like a traditional SCITT route, the trainees follow a more progressive timetable over the duration of the year.
- Schools make a commitment to the RIS trainee for the duration of the three year programme, throughout the programme the participants have one full day off timetable each week to work towards the wider aims of the programme (dissemination of subject expertise within the school context, promotion of evidence-based research teaching practice within the school and setting). For the fee paying route the ideal is a commitment for the three year's but RIS will happily provide any further information regarding this route.

In summary, is really is an excellent way for schools to gain highly qualified teachers, with expert knowledge in subjects that are notoriously hard to recruit for - and furthermore these trainees will be trained and committed to raising aspirations and improving chances of university access to all pupils.

If you would be interested in a RIS trainee please contact Eleanor Davidson our SCITT Director.

Membership Structure

Types of Membership

Level 1 - AFL Strategic Partner

Fully involved in the work of the Alliance for Learning Teaching School and a partner for the Alliance for Learning SCITT.

Strategic Partner schools are the core of the AFL. They will be those schools which have both the desire and the capacity to contribute to the work of the AFL as Strategic Partners, directing the work it undertakes, both contributing to and using our services. Their membership means that the AFL proactively supports these schools and maintains up to date understanding of their continuing improvement in attainment, teaching and learning and Ofsted categories. Schools that wish to be Strategic Partners will sign a memorandum of understanding each year, confirming their commitment. In so doing, these schools will agree to a level of responsibility for the strategic work of the AFL and, in turn, the AFL will work with them to help improve their outcomes. Strategic Partners will be partners for the Alliance for Learning SCITT. A strategic partner will be able to engage fully in the opportunities that the AFL provides (CPD, Leadership Support, SLEs, Maths Hub, School to School Support).

Level 2 - AFL Partner

A partner school in the Alliance for Learning Teaching School accessing projects, programmes and services and a partner in the Alliance for Learning SCITT.

Partner Schools are also key to the work of the AFL. AFL is committed to working with Partner Schools but is not explicitly supporting/monitoring schools in the same way for their outcomes. AFL identifies those schools which have the desire and capacity to contribute to the work of the Alliance for Learning SCITT, helping to carry out the work it undertakes. Partners will sign a partnership agreement each year, confirming their commitment.

Level 3 - Associate member

Accessing our Professional Development offers on a buy in as needed basis.

Associate Members of the AFL will be purchasers of support and programmes including SLEs, School to School Support, CPD, and Networking Groups, but have no direct involvement in the strategic leadership of the AFL. AFL's commitment to them is to make available high quality provision which is value for money. Associate Membership offers schools an opportunity to take advantage of the programmes and services available from the AFL on a pay-as-you-go basis. Associate Members accept that AFL does not take any responsibility for their outcomes other than the impact that its programmes are expected to achieve. Once registered you will be able to request attendance onto our CPD courses. Associate members have no need to sign official documentation.

Why Join Our Teaching School Alliance?

Key benefits include...

- Joining a community of learning
- Play a part in shaping the direction of travel/shape the future of education
- Share expertise/share leadership/share knowledge/share good practice
- Attendance at termly 'Networking Hub' meetings - free of charge
- Leadership opportunities - opportunity to become a facilitator/ SLE/LLE
- High quality CPD plus priority access to CPD (reduced cost on some CPD)
- Current and topical CPD (e.g. Mental Health First Aid linked to Future in Mind policy)
- Priority access to system leadership support - SLEs/LLEs/NLEs
- Be outstanding in all areas: Outstanding T & L
- National reputation and links to prestigious organisations (e.g. Ambition Institute, OLEVI, PTI, Youth Sport Trust) - consistency in all that we do
- An opportunity to engage in research and development activities of the alliance linked to national priorities including Maths Hub NW 1 events and projects
- To be kept abreast of all current initiatives and educational updates via the Teaching Schools mailing list and access to all areas via the Alliance for Learning's website
- Access to our Maths Hub offer via NW1 Maths Hub
- Get involved with our SCITT (host a trainee, be a mentor, deliver CPD to NQTs)
- ALWAYS a clear focus on children: improving pupil outcomes

For more info please contact...

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**Altrincham Grammar
School for Girls**
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 **MathsHUBS**
North West One



Bright Futures

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The best for everyone, the best from everyone

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