

Linkage: School to School Support Programme

FAQs

What is “Linkage”?

- A county-wide network of secondary schools who have nominated staff to offer school-to-school support
- It builds on the SLE model and existing networks
- A professional development opportunity for staff involved
- A chance to connect schools together that may not usually link
- Opportunity to access support where LA/Trust expertise may not be available

How does it work?

- Headteachers nominate subject teachers/curriculum or senior leaders with a real strength/expertise in a certain area
- These staff are then registered on a Directory held by LA admin support
- Schools can request support by emailing linkage@lancashire.gov.uk
- If a school approaches an LA team for support they can be signposted to Linkage

Why is it structured like this?

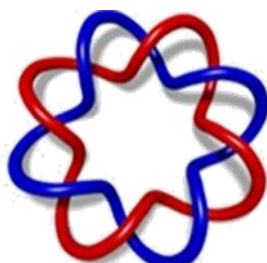
- The LA does not co-ordinate the support- this is up to schools to arrange/liaise (including any costs to be charged)
- The LA do not quality assure the programme or the staff nominated; however we know that interested schools would research a possible link and Headteachers would nominate staff who exhibit great practice
- It is about linking and connecting and then schools following that up/developing it further

Is there any training for the staff involved?

- Yes, we offer a half-day of free professional development for nominated staff.
- This covers a wide range of areas including: coaching skills, building an accurate picture of a school/department, responding to challenging situations, planning/implementing and evaluating support etc.
- This also builds an informal network of staff involved in facilitating the school-to-school support

Why might a school want to nominate staff to offer support?

- Contribution to system and civic leadership
- Professional development for those involved
- Could support retention of existing staff
- Income generation for the school



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What sort of areas might we nominate staff to support in?

- Whole-school themes and areas of responsibility
- Subject and curriculum-level support
- Examples like: student voice, behaviour, site management, procurement, appraisal, EAL, data, internal AP, recruitment, ECT support, SEND, timetabling, IT services, appraisal, professional development or personal development

What do I do if I am interested in knowing more?

- Please email linkage@lancashire.gov.uk with your enquiries and we will respond as soon as we can

What do I do if I am a Headteacher and am ready to nominate colleagues to offer support?

- Please complete the form linked here and we will be in touch with you soon!
- <https://forms.office.com/e/b7UPzWnyg0>
- Or scan this QR code:



Thank you for your interest; we look forward to hearing from you soon

linkage@lancashire.gov.uk

