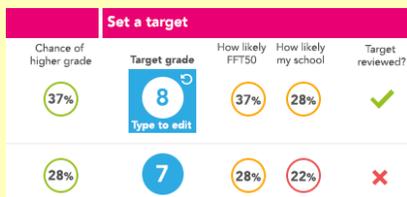


July 2017

## MSA Offer 2017/18



73% of schools and colleges opted to join the MSA in 16/17. Over the last 12 months a number of sessions and events have taken place based on what the 131 members told us were the key issues and relevant topics. We have now finalised our offer for 2017/18 (attached with this newsletter). There are a number of benefits for a school joining the MSA which are discussed in more detail on the offer sheet. Schools will continue to receive full access to the FFT Aspire Dashboard which has had excellent feedback over the last 12 months. From April 2017, FFT changed the way that it charges schools which means that no matter what size a school is, it is now cheaper to become a member of the MSA (and gain all of the other benefits of membership) than it is to buy in to just FFT on its own. We have already secured FFT to come to Manchester in the autumn term to provide FREE training (see below) as well as a number of other conferences and events of which there are more details in this newsletter. To join the MSA, simply complete the registration form attached with this newsletter and return to the contact details on the form. **Please note; FFT will be turning off all schools access to the dashboard on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 unless we have received a signed registration form for 17/18 membership by this date.**



## FREE FFT Aspire Training

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017, Irish World Heritage Centre  
Primaries 9.15-11.15am and Secondaries 12.45-2.45pm

As all MSA members receive access to the FFT Aspire Dashboard, we asked Stephen Turp (FFT Principal Education Adviser) to come to Manchester in 16/17 to provide an overview of the benefits of the dashboard for schools. He delivered to both primary and secondary and feedback from both sessions was fantastic with much surprise in regards to how much the dashboard actually provides. Based on that feedback, and because of the uncertainty around what the new RAISEonline will look like from September, we have invited Stephen back in 17/18 to provide a FREE update to MSA members. At the session, Stephen will outline the key features of new FFT Aspire as well as the replacement RAISE system, ASP, and provide a blended approach to self-evaluation to ensure schools can effectively evaluate their performance and measure progress. Primaries are invited to look at the national performance trends, see how their school compares and how their school has performed in year 2 of a scaled score world as well as look at lessons learned from the national research. Secondaries will be given an understanding of national trends one year on and look at what can be learnt from the 16/17 results. They will be shown how to identify the elements within Attainment/ Progress 8 and English/ maths performance that need further investigation and will be given a look at the latest secondary school research from Education Datalab. Places for both sessions are limited and **FREE to MSA members**. To book a place on either session, please contact Lisa Jones on 0161 248 1589 or at [admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk](mailto:admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk).





## FFT for Governors

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018  
6-8pm, Venue TBC

The FFT Governor Dashboard helps governors hold their school to account, support and challenge the leadership team and make more informed strategic decisions. It provides governors with an analysis of the main school performance indicators including attainment, achievement and a summary of strengths and weaknesses, an analysis of pupil progress in core subjects (primary) and GCSE subjects (secondary), a simple chart showing the progress made by different pupil groups over 3 years including pupil premium pupils, a breakdown of school cohort by pupil groups and an analysis of absence (by pupil groups) and attendance (by year group). Gary Limb, Education Adviser is coming to Manchester to provide an overview to governors giving them a chance to view the school governor dashboard, a look at how to analyse and interpret the data and give governors the opportunity to discover how the dashboard can support their role. Places are **FREE to MSA members**, limited to 2 per school. Maximum number for this session is 40 so please book your place ASAP by contacting Lisa Jones at [admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk](mailto:admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk) or on 0161 248 1589.



Kingsway  
Community Trust

## Outstanding EAL Practice

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017, 1-3.30pm  
Venue TBC

Kingsway Community Trust have 3 outstanding primary schools in Manchester. In each inspection report, the EAL practice has been praised. ***"Pupils who are new to English receive fantastic support and intervention and acquire English quickly and confidently"***

In March this year, Kingsway Trust offered to share its experience with other schools and the EMA Lead, Rumana Asif, delivered 'Outstanding EAL Practice' to over 30 schools. Feedback from the session was amazing.... ***'Thank you very much for the course. I am so inspired by it all and has given me the motivation to change things at my school'***

We have decided to repeat this session again in the autumn term. The session involves looking at EAL policies and practice, observing videos of real EAL interventions for INAs, early stage and advanced EAL learners, viewing planning samples and resources, looking at the Trust's INA EAL Assessment Steps and learning more about the 'Good for EAL, good for all.' Places are **FREE for MSA members** or £75 to non-members. To book, please contact Lisa Jones at [admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk](mailto:admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk).

## Resilient pupils...resilient parents...resilient schools

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018, 9am-12.30pm, Venue TBC

In partnership with Oxford School Improvement, Jean Gross CBE will be delivering 'Resilient pupils...resilient parents...resilient schools,' at our spring conference. Jean's career was as a teacher, an educational psychologist, author and adviser to the government. Until 2005, Jean was Senior Director within the Government's Primary National Strategy, responsible for its work on overcoming barriers to achievement. More recently, Jean was England's Communication Champion for Children. During the session, she will look at what makes some of us able to overcome difficulties or disadvantage and succeed in school and life, explore the place of resilience in the Ofsted framework and make links to the hot topic of children's mental health.



She will also consider what can be done in school to develop staff self efficacy and wellbeing in challenging times as well as focus on building parent's resilience and how to engage disadvantaged and other 'harder to reach' groups. **Places are FREE to MSA members** (2 places per school) There are a maximum 60 places. Although Jean's experience is within primary and so the session will be primary focussed, secondary staff are welcome to attend. To book a place on this session, please contact Lisa Jones on 0161 248 1589 or at; [admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk](mailto:admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk).



Oxford School  
Improvement

## MSA Summer Conference 'Teaching writing: A pathway to success'

After the success of his session on reading back in June 2016, we invited James Clements back to deliver 'Teaching Writing: A Pathway to Success'. 34 literacy coordinators, subject leads, heads and teachers attended. In the morning, James looked at how schools can build a culture of writing and how to create a rich and motivating curriculum for writing. The afternoon focussed on how to structure writing lessons across the primary phase so that every child achieves well and James gave effective, practical strategies for teaching writing. Feedback from the event was extremely positive.....



*"James was inspiring and related well to the curriculum and expectations in this day and age."*

*"The most useful course I have EVER been on. James is engaging and inspiring. Thank you SO much"*

## National Literacy Trust M/cr Network



As part of Read Manchester the Local Authority has been working in close partnership with the National Literacy Trust. The MSA were asked to support a series of network meetings in the city, bringing together a wide range of schools to discuss key issues and share good practice. The last of these networks for this year took place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June. 20 schools were represented on at this meeting with a good mix of primary and secondary. NLT shared some useful information and signposted the group to a number of resources. Abraham Moss shared a video on 'The Tricks of the Text' training and then smaller groups were formed to discuss transition. Questions discussed included whether secondary colleagues had seen the KS2 SATs papers and how do primary colleagues send pupil info on to secondary schools . We are hoping to continue with these meetings year so watch this space!



## Pupil Premium for Governors

This was national training delivered by the National Governance Association (NGA) with FREE places for MSA members back in April. The aim of the session was to raise the level of governors' understanding of their duties to monitor Pupil Premium and especially how it is deployed to support disadvantaged and vulnerable children in schools. The session also provided best examples of PP statements, focussed on impact, value for money and what the data tells governors. This session was very popular with 34 in attendance. We are hoping that more of these opportunities will arise in 17/18 and will let members know if they do.

## New Governors 'Gov Meet'

17 governors attended this in April, a mix of new and experienced governors as well as new Chairs that had recently been on the National Chairs' Leadership Programme. New governors were given a chance to talk to each other with some suggested questions that they may want to discuss and then the experienced governors joined them. The group discussed challenges in the role and what can support governors through them. They were then signposted to further information and the Schools Hub. Although it was a small group, feedback from those that did attend was positive with all commenting that the opportunity to link up with an experienced governor was very valuable.



[@McrSchools](https://twitter.com/McrSchools)

As well as offering full access to the FFT Aspire dashboard and providing several conferences, events and opportunities throughout the year, the MSA support a number of different groups and Boards across the city.

## Primary Strategy Group

This group of 25 primary headteachers from across the districts meet each month with the aim of providing coordinated responses to developments happening across the city, discussing key issues and challenges and finding solutions to problems that are common to many schools. The meeting aims to be more than just a briefing opportunity. As well as a commitment from the MCC Director for Education to attend each month, Paul Marshall, Director for Children's Services, agreed to attend these meetings regularly this year to work with the group on ways to improve relationships between schools and Children's Services staff. A finance sub-group has been created to look at the future under the Schools' National Fairer Funding Formula as well as producing a consultation response on behalf of Manchester primary schools. Work has been done around what a 'Managed Moves' protocol could look like and how this might work in practice. The group have also been consulted on a number of things this year including 'Read Manchester' activity, and potential changes resulting from Council budget pressures. The group are looking for new members so if your school is an MSA member, can commit to 7 meetings next year and would like to become part of this group, please contact Lisa Jones.



## Safeguarding Strategy Group

The Safeguarding Strategy Group meet half termly. The group is made up of headteachers and safeguarding leads from across the city from primary, secondary and post 16 as well as representatives from the LA Safeguarding in Education team. To date, the group have been involved in the production of an annual safeguarding audit circulated to schools, the creation of an 'information sharing guidance' policy and have been consulted on a key contact document to be shared with schools. More recently, a working group has been set up with the aim of collating a list of statutory policies that a school should have in relation to safeguarding and then creating a set of model policies that all schools can access and personalise. The group have started with the general safeguarding policy on the MCC Schools Hub website. It was agreed that key points from each meeting will be shared with all MSA schools. We have also dedicated some space on our [website](#) to share safeguarding resources with all Manchester schools. The group are always looking for new members so if this is something you or one of your staff would be interested in joining, please contact Lisa at; [admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk](mailto:admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk).

## Strategic Education Partnership Board

We continue to support, and represent schools at, the Strategic Education Partnership Board, chaired by Sir Richard Leese. The Board brings together a number of partners including schools, sixth forms, colleges, universities, public health and LA senior leaders to agree and connect key educational, skills and employment priorities for Manchester. The Board have been instrumental in a number of projects over the last few years including the current development of a 'Curriculum for Life' supporting children and young people from the age of 2 right up to 25.

## Special School Heads Group

From September 2016, the Manchester Schools' Alliance started to support the Special School Heads group that meet each half term. Headteachers from special schools across all phases attend these meetings. Over the last year, the group have been consulted on changes to the Sensory Service in response to LA budget cuts, have been involved in the planning of a strategic review of high needs funding and been approached by the AAC team to support a pilot to support children who do not meet the eligibility criteria to receive assessment and equipment.



## Maths Conference

### Mastery through Problem Solving

### 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Featuring keynote addresses by  
Yeap Ban Har and Vanessa Pittard!

Over the past 2 years schools have been faced with implementing a new national curriculum, new exam specifications, mastery, and the accompanying challenges these initiatives bring:

- How to create fluent mathematicians who are capable of solving complex problems and reason mathematically.
- How can we support all children at all key phases and across key phases to achieve highly in maths?

The conference will focus on Problem Solving in the Maths Curriculum and will feature keynotes from both Dr Yeap Ban Har and Dr Vanessa Pittard; formally Assistant Director, Curriculum and Standards Department for Education, 2013 – 2017).

There will be an opportunity to take part in a lesson study of problem solving techniques featuring pupils from Y6/Y7 and two hour long focussed workshops of your choosing. More information about the workshops can be found [here](#).

**Date:** Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017

**Time:** 9:00 - 15:30 pm (registration from 8:30am)

**Venue:** Loreto College, Manchester

**Cost:** £100 per pair of colleagues.

Schools who are a member of MSA will receive a £50 discount on their first place booked. Fees will be invoiced by Loreto College

**Bookings can also be made by contacting Rachel Eppy,  
[rachel.eppy@teachmanchester.com](mailto:rachel.eppy@teachmanchester.com) or 0161 226 1773.**



THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT

# ANIMAL AGENTS

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2017

[animal-agents.org.uk](http://animal-agents.org.uk)

The **Summer Reading Challenge** is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for children aged 4 to 11. Last year, in Manchester, nearly 6,000 children took part. This year, as a key element of **Read Manchester**, we want it to be bigger than ever!

The **Summer Reading Challenge** combines **FREE** access to books with fun, creative activities in the library during the summer holidays. It is an opportunity for schools to encourage reading for pleasure and develop links with their local library.

### How do schools benefit?

- It enhances and supports your school's reading policy and your mission for all children to read more widely and for pleasure
- It encourages parental engagement and family involvement in reading
- It helps prevent the tendency for children's reading to dip over the holidays

### School competition

Your school could win a day with award winning picture book author and illustrator, Lynne Chapman. We are running a competition for schools, offering some great prizes, including two author-in-your-school days, a class trip to the theatre and books for your school library. The winning schools will be those with the highest number of children (proportionate to pupil roll) who complete the Challenge.

### We can offer you:

- a class visit at your local library to join children up to the Summer Reading Challenge
- a visit to your school to tell children, teachers and parents about the Challenge

Please contact Jodie Osborne on 0161 234 3885, [j.osborne@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:j.osborne@manchester.gov.uk) to arrange a visit.

Take a look at our video [Summer Reading Challenge 2016](#) to see what it's all about.



## FREE opportunity to help your parents and their families

Parent Gym is a free, evidence-based, six-week parenting programme. It helps parents develop the skills they need to provide a nurturing family environment. This means children arrive at school confident, secure and ready to learn.



"Parent Gym has been a significant factor in the transformation of Kensington Primary School... I cannot recommend the approach highly enough."

Ben Levinson  
Acting Head Teacher, Kensington Primary School

## Parent Gym is...

### fully-funded

we are a philanthropic programme with training and materials provided at no cost to schools

### approved

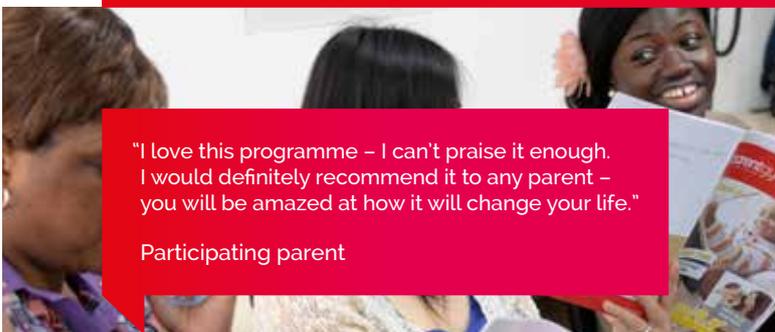
our impact has been demonstrated by independent evaluation (University of Warwick) & the programme has been awarded the national CAN Parent Quality Mark

### experienced

we have worked with over 5000 families in London, Leeds, Bradford & Brighton & we are now excited to be expanding to Greater Manchester

### popular with parents

96% of participating parents have rated the programme as Very Good or Excellent



"I love this programme – I can't praise it enough. I would definitely recommend it to any parent – you will be amazed at how it will change your life."

Participating parent

## How does it work?

We train a member of your staff (who must be a parent themselves) to deliver the programme in your primary school. Once staff are trained, we provide on-going mentoring and support. All training and materials are provided at no cost to you.

## Want to know more?

Visit: [parentgym.com](http://parentgym.com) / Email: [info@parentgym.com](mailto:info@parentgym.com) / Call: 02073685698

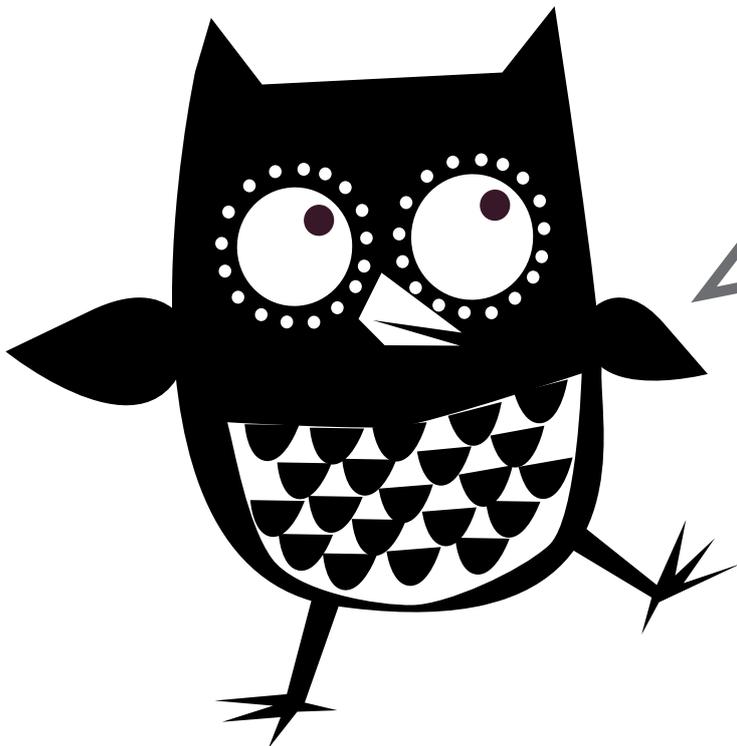
# Parents

Helping you to help your child's reading and maths

## You *can* make a real difference!

Getting involved in your child's learning can have a real impact on their success at school.

Oxford Owl for home is a **FREE** and **easy-to-use** website that has been built with teachers and parents and is packed with **helpful advice**, **free eBooks** and **fun activities** to help you support your child's reading and maths.



“ This website is fantastic; it has everything for my 6 year old who loves reading and also my 10 year old who has been struggling with phonics and reading... Well done. ”

Ms L Elwell

- **Help your child's reading and maths (and support their teacher too!)**
- **Enjoy 250 FREE eBooks with your child**
- **Phonics guide (including how to say the sounds correctly)**
- **Ideas for motivating boys to read**
- **Great ways to keep up with learning in the holidays**
- **Treasure chest packed full of fun maths activities and games**

[www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home)

“ I love Oxford Owl. My children love it too and it is something we enjoy together. It helps us with creative new ideas of things to do with the kids. ”

Mrs A Dyer



# Manchester Creative Learning Teacher Networking

## By Manchester Children's Book Festival

On **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July**, representatives from around 30 of Manchester's educational and cultural organisations will gather at Manchester Met University to showcase their creative learning offer for schools. If you are a teacher, librarian, social worker or parent and interested in finding out about a host of activities, projects and venues that support creative education across the curriculum, you should not miss this event.

The event takes the form of a drop-in market-place, with stalls offering information about the offers of venues such as the People's History Museum, Manchester Museum, The Whitworth and Z-Arts and projects and resources aimed at supporting creative teaching of children from early years to post-16.

**Drop in between 4.30 – 7pm to share a glass of wine and browse the stalls.**

**We are delighted that Councillor Sara Rowbotham, Chair of Health, Schools and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee for North Middleton, will be our guest speaker.** Sara's tireless efforts, while she worked as Rochdale's Crisis Intervention Team Co-ordinator until 2013, to expose the Rochdale grooming scandal recently featured in the hard-hitting BBC drama 'Three Girls', where she was portrayed by Maxine Peake. Sara is very keen to speak with teachers who are at the front line when it comes to child protection and to find ways to facilitate open discussion of issues through creative expression. Her talk will run from 5pm until 5.30pm and will be around for questions for the rest of the evening.

From 5.30pm, there are **optional, 25minute CPD sessions**. You can opt to pre-book 2 of these free sessions when you book on via the Eventbrite link.

There is no charge for attending this event and we welcome last minute visitors on the day. It helps enormously with our planning, though, if you are able to **book online in advance**. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/manchester-creative-learning-teacher-networking-tickets-33273845969>

Kaye Tew

Director: Manchester Children's Book Festival

[www.mcbf.org.uk](http://www.mcbf.org.uk)

Manchester Metropolitan University

Faculty of Arts and Humanities



# The Linking Network

## Manchester Schools Linking Programme

Endorsed by the DfE and DCLG, schools linking offers a positive, age appropriate curriculum response to SMSC, British Values and the Prevent Duty, supporting children to explore identity, diversity, community and equality. Schools linking offers strong evidence for the *Rights Respecting Schools* award.

### Structure of the Programme

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
<i>Who am I? Who are we?</i>	<i>Where do we live?</i>	<i>How do we all live together?</i>
CPD 1 for lead teachers – 1 full day	CPD 2 for lead teachers – half day	Work in class / reflection times
Work in class / reflection times	Work in class / reflection times	Exchange information
Exchange information	Exchange information	Reciprocal class visits ( <i>if not completed in spring term</i> )
Neutral venue visit	Reciprocal class visits	

### Cost

Approximately £450—£500 to cover neutral venue visit and transport. All CPD is free, funded by the DfE and DCLG.

Hardship fund available to schools.

**Contact** Julie-Ann McCulloch, 0161 477 9000, [julie.ann.mcculloch@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:julie.ann.mcculloch@stockport.gov.uk)



The Linking Network



Department for Education



Department for Communities and Local Government

Pears Foundation