John Yates International (JYI)

Hounslow School Leadership Cluster Programme 2021/2022

Led by Dr John Yates

The six-session cluster leadership programme for the senior teams of Hounslow primary schools has been very well received for the decade in which it has been running. Before the Covid-19 outbreak the sessions would bring the senior teams of up to 25 schools together (normally at the Lensbury Club in Teddington). However, because of the pandemic, the half-day sessions this current school year have been in the form of online webinars. The 2021/2022 programme will follow the same format.

The 2021/2022 programme starting in September will build on the work done this year. In addition to keeping participants up to date with key national developments, the focus will be on ensuring schools make the most of this rare opportunity to take the initiative and prioritise the developments which the profession know to be right as we prepare children not only for the next phase of education but also for life in an increasingly challenging world. The developments include building a curriculum that will equip children for life; becoming an even stronger values-led school; taking the personal development of pupils to a deeper level; shaping teaching and learning in readiness for the future and maximising the job satisfaction and fulfilment of the workforce. In addition, the ongoing focus on strengthening school-wide leadership, school /Trust wide teamwork and partnership working will remain a priority.

The online sessions will be 3.5 hours in length and will be available to view during a three-week window, which will make it much easier for the senior leadership team to access. Our fee per session will remain the same per school as in recent years. Schools wishing to participate in the 2021/2022 programme will need to sign-up with the Hounslow co-ordinator by Tuesday 22 June 2021. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Building a better world: supporting school-wide school improvement

Proposed new programme structure for 2021/2022

There is a growing recognition by schools that the pandemic has provided an opportunity to challenge the status quo and to usher in change that lasts and reflects what good leaders and teachers know to be right. It is a good time to focus even more strongly on what we believe really matters as we prepare children for life in an increasingly complex world.

As we do this and play our part in 'building a better world' there is also an opportunity for the work you do with John Yates to be delivered in a way which builds on the current successful cluster work with senior leadership teams by involving other key leaders and members of the workforce. This wider engagement will build momentum enabling the delivery of the key strategic priorities for improvement and change to be achieved more easily.

Proposed way forward:

The 2021/2022 programme led by John Yates will be based around the half-termly 3.5-hour sessions as now, with all members of the SLT viewing the webinars in school as a team. In addition, given that the viewing window has been extended, there is the opportunity for each session to be viewed by team leaders and other key staff. This will build the wider engagement of staff and build a stronger momentum for change and school improvement.

John suggests that – with good forward planning - the viewing for team leaders should take place in the week following the SLT session (with the discussion being facilitated by a member of the senior team who had attended the webinar for the senior team the week before). Getting this right has the potential to be a valuable CPD opportunity for current and future team leaders who have an important role in taking the school forward.

Commencement of three week viewing windows:

Autumn term launches: Tuesday 5th October and Tuesday 16th November

Spring term launches: Tuesday 8th February and Tuesday 15th March

Summer term launches: Tuesday 24th May and Tuesday 21st June

John Yates 28th May 2021