

REACH SOUTH LEARNING FESTIVAL 2023

4th January to 2nd February 2023



Aspiration beyond expectation



REACH SOUTH LEARNING FESTIVAL 2023

Welcome to the third Reach South Learning Festival, featuring 30 free events across 18 days. Our Trust-wide Learning Festival showcases our commitment to on-going professional improvement and lifelong learning. As Head of CPD for Reach South, I am passionate about the continuous learning and development of all staff. It's been a real privilege to put this programme together and I hope that you will find something that enthuses and interests you as you look through the pages. I believe that this is an exciting and varied programme that offers something for everyone. Being inclusive is a key Reach South value and I am delighted that this year's programme features a collaboration with Diverse Educators- more on this overleaf.

An event like this wouldn't be possible without a brilliant range of speakers, including many Reach South colleagues. I would like to formally thank all of our presenters here and acknowledge the time and effort that goes into planning and leading these sessions.

Our Trust commitment to 'collaboration, not competition' means you may be reading this as an individual outside of Reach South. If this is you then welcome! We are committed to partnership working and helping all children to succeed. We therefore offer a number of free places throughout the Learning Festival to a number of our partners, including universities, MATs and local authorities across the South West (and beyond!). If you attend and benefit from these sessions, we hope that you consider paying this forward to other educators the next time you host an event.

I'm confident that looking through this programme will make you feel proud to be part of Reach South. If you're not part of Reach South, then you can find out more about us on our [website](#). If you're considering working with us, then take a look at our [careers page](#). You can keep track of all our other professional learning events [here](#) or follow our [Eventbrite page](#).

I hope that you find something in this programme that interests you. More importantly, I hope that you attend a whole range of sessions and use this learning to benefit both yourself and young people. Enjoy these 18 days of learning and I look forward to seeing you next year for the RSAT Learning Festival 2024.

Nicola Brooks
Head of CPD
nicola.brooks@reachsouth.org



Click [here](#) to book your place or use the QR codes on each page.





REACH SOUTH IN COLLABORATION WITH DIVERSE EDUCATORS

I am thrilled to announce our partnership with Diverse Educators. As a Trust we understand the benefits, and importance, of diverse thinking and I am delighted that we have an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) thread running throughout this year's programme.

About Diverse Educators

#DiverseEd has moved from being a grassroots network to Diverse Educators Ltd. We have evolved into a training company due to the demands of our community. We are committed to moving the agenda forwards regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in our school system. We work with state schools, independent schools and international schools to support them with their DEI strategy and their DEI training needs. We believe that we are stronger, and that we can go further together, in collaboration. Thus we collaborate with a number of national and international organisations. Visit our [website](#), follow us on [Twitter](#), or email: hannah@diverseeducators.co.uk

DEI Series- Diverse Educators and Reach South

6 x 60-minute virtual sessions across January and February:

Join Reach South and Diverse Educators for this series of conversations about Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.

Session 1; Monday 9th January – Catrina Lowri: **Neurodiversity**

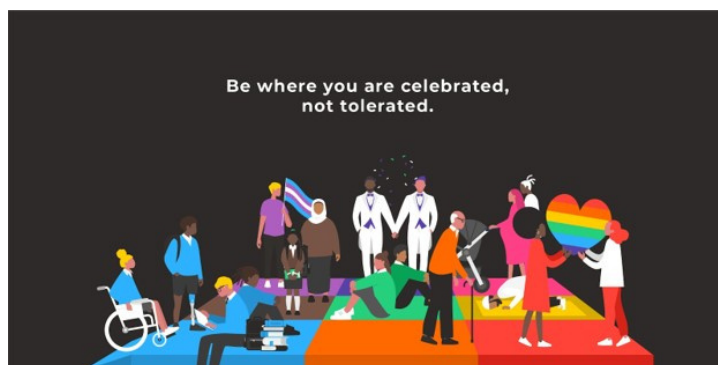
Session 2: Tuesday 17th January – Emma Sheppard: **Life-friendly School**

Session 3: Monday 23rd January – Bennie Kara: **Diversity in the Curriculum**

Session 4: Wednesday 25th January – Jo Brassington and Adam Brett: **Pride and Progress**

Session 5: Thursday 26th January – Amy Sayer: **Mental Health**

Session 6: Monday 30th January – Aretha Banton and Youlande Harrowell: **Mindful Equity**





SESSION

1

MICROSOFT EXCEL FOR BEGINNERS

JENNY CHAMBERLAIN

WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY

4-4.45PM

If your New Year's Resolution is to understand how to use Microsoft Excel, then this is the session for you. In 45 minutes, Jenny will cover:

- Moving around a spreadsheet
- Copy/Cut/Paste and Paste Special
- Creating new tabs
- Calculations - basic addition, subtraction, division and multiplication
- Using filters - text and colour
- Matching Data - Vlookup
- Calculating Data - Sumif
- Providing info at a click of the mouse - Hyperlinks

This session is aimed at beginners or those who would like to refresh their skills. It is also suitable for those looking to recap tools relating to data analysis.

About Jenny Chamberlain, Executive Business Manager, Reach South.

I qualified as an accountant some years ago now and currently work as an Executive Business Manager (EBM) for RST at Parkfield School Bournemouth and certainly couldn't do my job without the use of Excel. Having started out in my career with Lotus 123, only some of you will remember this as it was, before Microsoft became the norm in the workplace. I now have a wide range of knowledge and experience of using Excel, I am always keen for other people to show me hints and tricks they use as well, as we all use it slightly differently. There are a lot of advanced applications that I currently don't know how to use, and it is a piece of software that continues to impress constantly. Everywhere I work I learn something new about Excel, that usually makes life that little bit easier.



I want to show people that whilst Microsoft Excel can be a very powerful tool, it can also help and support in a very basic user-friendly way. Whether this be at work or home. This is purely a basics/beginner's course for those of you who don't currently use the software or are too frightened to open a spreadsheet that may have been sent to you, for fear of doing something wrong. I have also written notes that accompany this mini course and if anybody would like these afterwards, please let me know.

"As an English specialist I have never felt particularly confident using Excel. I'm really looking forward to this session and understanding it better." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Professional Skills
- IT Skills
- Data Analysis



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place

You will be sent a link to join the session 24 hours before

Due to the number of sessions, sessions will not be recorded and slides

SESSION

2

MARLBOROUGH PRIMARY- OUR

VISIBLE LEARNING JOURNEY

ANDY DORE

WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY

4-4.30PM

As an evidence-informed organisation, all Reach South schools are Visible Learning schools. Underpinned by the work of Professor John Hattie, Visible Learning helps our schools consider the impact of different interventions enabling us to prioritise the ones that have the greatest effect.

This session is aimed at anyone who would like to learn more about Visible Learning and the impact it has had on teaching and learning at a Plymouth primary school. Prepare to smile, nod your head in agreement and be thoroughly inspired. Our Reach South motto is 'Aspiration Beyond Expectation' and this session is a great example of this.

Andy Dore is an experienced teacher and leader. He is currently Deputy Headteacher at Marlborough Primary Academy in Plymouth. He is also a Visible Learning Impact Coach.

Please note- this session is a repeat of the one delivered at the Visible Learning Celebration in June.

"Andy's presentation was one of the highlights of our summer Visible Learning Celebration. Don't make the same mistake if you missed it then!" Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Visible Learning
- Overcoming challenges
- Inspirational



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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SESSION

3

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT: AN
INTRODUCTION
ALEXANDRA MELTZER
THURSDAY 5TH JANUARY
4-4.30PM**

This session is aimed at anyone who is looking to take on a project and wants to understand the common steps needed to make it a success. Attendees will obtain a greater understanding of what it means to 'manage' a project. They will leave the session having learnt the importance of planning to the delivery of projects. They will be able to apply more rigour to the definition of requirement/acceptance criteria, which will ultimately measure the level of success and value that a project has provided. The session will cover:

- An introduction to the fundamentals of managing a project.
- An overview of the project management process, from conceptualising how to respond to a need and getting a project commissioned, through to delivery and the eventual evaluation of its success.
- Attendees will be shown a basic project lifecycle and the likely activities that would take place during those phases.
- The common pitfalls of projects will also be discussed; highlighting the importance of creating key plans e.g. communication, risk analysis, work breakdown and budgets.

Alex is the Trust's Project Manager, who leads on the delivery of various activities across the organisation. Her work focuses on enabling the wider Trust to seek out and reap the benefits of implementing improved services, building better school accommodation and facilitating growth in order to reach aspirations beyond expectation.

"My usual strategy to taking on a project is to harness my enthusiasm. I'm hoping that this session will help me ensure I have the strategy to match ."

Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Leadership
- Professional Skills
- Strategic Thinking



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**SESSION
4A**

**SORRY, IT WAS MY CHIMP!
BECCY WARNER
MONDAY 9TH JANUARY
3.45PM-4.30PM**

This session will provide a brief introduction to 'The Chimp Paradox' and link this with how we communicate with each other. The Chimp Mind Management Model is based on scientific facts and principles, which have been simplified into a workable model for easy use.

The model explains how your mind works and how you can manage it. It will also help you to identify what is holding you back or preventing you from having a happier and more successful life. By understanding the model, you also begin to build a better understanding of those people around us and therefore build better relationships.

Attendees will be inspired to find out more knowledge around the Chimp Paradox, which is a really useful tool to enable all of us to fully understand how our own mind works and also how others may be thinking. There is literature aimed at children, so teachers or educational support staff may find their practice will benefit from this model.

A bit about Beccy Warner:

I am a HR professional with over 16 years experience in HR working in a wide range of industries - oil/gas, education (including FE and HE), private sector and the NHS. My role is very varied but does involve working closely with people and understanding their behaviours. I have delivered training on 'The Chimp Paradox' to managers and staff and they have found it a very useful tool.

"'The Chimp Paradox' was written by Professor Steve Peters, who is known for his work with British Cycling and top athletes, such as Sir Chris Hoy. If you want to get 2023 off to a winning start, then this is the session for you." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Self-reflection
- Leadership
- Team building



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SESSION

4

AN INTRODUCTION TO NEURODIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

CATRINA LOWRI

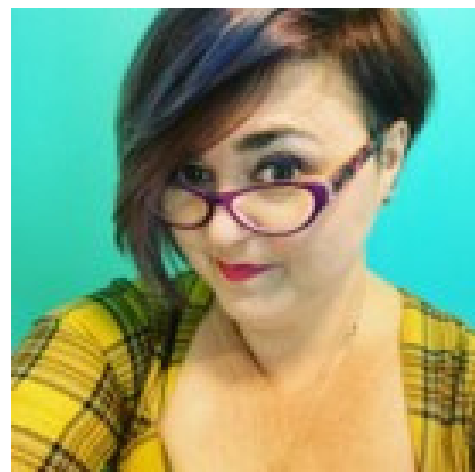
MONDAY 9TH JANUARY

4-5PM

An Introduction to Neurodiversity and Inclusion

What we will cover in the session:

- Thinking about your 'learner in mind'
- What is neurodiversity?
- How divergent is neurodivergent?
- Common types of ND and their prevalence
- Strengths and needs
- Making adjustments in your classroom
- Tips for supporting your 'learner in mind'
- Question and Answer



A brief introduction to the founder of Neuroteachers, Catrina Lowri.

Catrina founded Neuroteachers to help educational settings work with their autistic and neurodivergent learners to find simple solutions for inclusive practice. Catrina is neurodivergent herself, having the dual diagnosis of dyslexia and bipolar disorder. She is a qualified special needs teacher and an experienced SENCO and advisory teacher. Connect with Catrina via her [website](#), [Twitter](#), [email](#), or to book a meeting click [here](#).

Catrina's particular area of research is around exclusion prevention. She has written two papers for the Good Autism Practice Journal. The first in 2018 was a case study about [preventing exclusion](#) for an autistic, ADHD boy with extreme demand avoidance. The second, published in 2020 looked at [reintegrating autistic children into school](#) after a period of persistent absence. Catrina believes passionately in true inclusion for all.

"Inclusion is one of our core Trust values, so I am really looking forward to this session with Catrina." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Classroom Strategies
- Neurodiversity
- Inclusion

All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

You will be sent a link to join the session 24 hours before.



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SESSION

5

HOW CREATING CLEAR BOUNDARIES CAN EMPOWER YOU TO THRIVE IN TEACHING

GEMMA DRINKALL

TUESDAY 10TH JANUARY

4-5PM

When teachers are able to attend to their own needs first and pour from a full cup, everyone in education can thrive. Studies by Leeds Beckett University reported that students learn best when their teachers are happy and healthy.

This session will give you the tools to:

- Manage your workload and make your life easier
- Create a work-life blend that enables you to switch off from teaching and switch on in your life
- Avoid burnout

This session will be suitable for ECTs, Middle Leaders and SLT.

Gemma is an educational wellbeing coach, trainer, speaker and podcaster with the ambition to transform middle leaders' quality of life for the betterment of themselves, their students and their team. With over 7 years' experience working in the education sector as a classroom teacher, head of year and co-head of department, Gemma is well-versed in the challenges and daily grind that teachers face just to survive.

The switch from career-obsessed teacher to qualified coach and trainer is the source of Gemma's superpowers. Having experienced panic attacks, low mood and anxiety, she crashed and burned out of her teaching career. She brings these personal experiences to her work, making it her mission to help other teachers avoid the same fate and instead, create clear boundaries so that they can switch off from teaching and switch on in their lives.

Gemma is the host of the popular "Teachers with Boundaries Podcast", which shares tips and advice for teachers on how they can switch off from teaching, reduce the overwhelm and guilt, and increase their time, energy and happiness. This support continues in Gemma's Facebook community, Teachers with Boundaries. You can connect with Gemma on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#). You can contact her at: gemma@headsphere.co.uk

"Clear work/life boundaries are essential to being at our best in the workplace. A new year is the perfect time to review your boundaries and make 2023 your best year yet"
Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Well-being
- Self-care strategies



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

You will be sent a link to join the session 24 hours before.

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SESSION

6

**DEVELOPING SCIENTIFIC VOCABULARY
AND SUPPORTING PUPILS TO READ AND
WRITE ABOUT SCIENCE
HAMPSHIRE AND DORSET SCIENCE
LEARNING PARTNERSHIP:
TUESDAY 10TH JANUARY
4-5PM**

Drawing on resources from STEM Learning and the Education Endowment Foundation, this one-hour workshop, aimed at secondary science teachers, will explore strategies to support pupils with reading and writing in science lessons.

You can find out more about the Science Learning Partnership [here](#). Science Learning Partnerships are your local curriculum hubs for Science. Science Learning Partnerships in conjunction with STEM Learning combine local expertise in primary, secondary and post-16 teaching and learning in science, facilitating CPD, and providing school-to-school support. You can follow them on [Twitter](#). You can access their full programme [here](#).

Please book this session through the Science Learning Partnership [here](#).

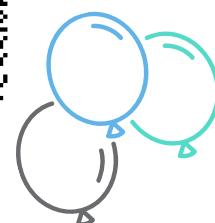
"I'm pleased to welcome the Hampshire and Dorset Science Learning Partnership to the RSAT Learning Festival." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- STEM
- Classroom Strategies
- Secondary



SCIENCE
LEARNING PARTNERSHIP



Due to the number of sessions, sessions will not be recorded and slides will not be shared. Book this session through the Science Learning Partnership [here](#).



SESSION 7

FIVE EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT HIGH-QUALITY TEACHING FOR PUPILS WITH SEND HISP RESEARCH SCHOOL THURSDAY 12TH JANUARY 4-5PM

This session provides an introduction to the EEF Guidance Report into 'Special Educational Needs in Mainstream Schools'. You can access the guidance [here](#). This one-hour workshop will explore the recommendations and focus on the '5 a day' approach.

This session will be led by Steve Smith and Sadie Thompson. Steve Smith has been teaching for over 20 years and is Director of HISP Research School at Thornden as well as being a school improvement lead for HISP MAT. Sadie Thompson is Head of German and Deputy Director of the Research School at Thornden.

The HISP Research School is based at Thornden School in Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh. For more information please visit their [website](#). You can also follow them on [Twitter](#) at @HISPResearchSch

"After session on metacognition and feedback in previous years, it's great to welcome back HISP Research School for a session on SEND. Inclusivity is one of our core Trust values." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Evidence-informed
- SEND
- Classroom strategies



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

You will be sent a link to join the session 24 hours before.

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SESSION

8

BEGINNERS' GUIDE TO MAKEUP APPLICATION

**KIMBERLEY UNDERDOWN
THURSDAY 12TH JANUARY**

3.45-4.30PM

I trained in makeup as a hobby because it is a passion of mine. I am keen to share some skills on how to create the perfect base, different eye looks and some basic makeup tips and tricks! This will be the perfect guide to help you create the ideal makeup for every day. I am more than happy to answer questions during the session too on any makeup hacks/tips you need! Bring along to the session - a mirror and your makeup bag so that you can try/play as we go along!



About me

I am Head of Ebacc at Millbay Academy and whilst Geography is my passion in school, I love everything makeup in my spare time. I am trained in makeup, from basic 5 min faces, to bridal and even whacky or gory Halloween looks! These are some of my crazier looks!...Don't worry, we are going to keep it simple with everyday makeup looks during this session!

"This is definitely an example of a picture being worth a thousand words. It's great to be able to showcase some of the hidden skills that our staff have. Let's think ourselves lucky that Hollywood haven't snapped Kimberley up yet!" Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.



Themes:

- Non-educational
- Learn something new
- Personal care and wellbeing



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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SESSION

9

COLLABORATING THROUGH THE ARTS

ROXANNE MCPHERSON

MONDAY 16TH JANUARY

4-4.30PM

**It's time to get Arty!
Collaborating through the Arts**

In 2021, Malmesbury Park achieved the Artsmark Platinum Award, a remarkable achievement which reflects the high priority we place on the Arts throughout all aspects of school life. A fundamental part of the Artsmark process is in collaborating and sharing experiences not only within a school, but within groups of schools and the wider community. In this session, we want to share our experiences so far, and discuss how we can all continue working towards our own Artsmark goals. The hope is that we can use this session as a forum for the discussion of ideas, and help each other to create new artistic and awe-inspiring experiences for all the children across the Trust.

A bit about Roxanne McPherson

The Arts is something I am really passionate about and have continually developed during my time at Malmesbury Park. I have worked across the school in a number of roles including 1:1 TA and managing our Autism Unit. I have recently moved into the role of Senior Specialist HLTA, in which I not only develop Arts at a school level but am also working on developing the Arts across the Trust. I am looking forward to sharing my love of the Arts and hopefully inspiring you all to create your own masterpieces.

"I always enjoy seeing the wonderful art on display at Malmesbury Park. I've no doubt that this session will inspire you to rethink your art curriculum too." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.



Themes:

- Art
- Curriculum development
- Inspirational

All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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SESSION

10

DEVELOPING ORACY ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

DEBBIE NUNN

MONDAY 16TH JANUARY

4-4.30PM

This session will focus on a range of activities that have been tried and tested to develop oracy across the curriculum. This session is particularly aimed at teachers of KS1 and KS2, however the activities can be adapted for some KS3 classes. Attendees will gain some practical activities to enhance oracy skills. These can also be transferred to a whole manner of curriculum subjects.

Hello, I'm Debbie and am currently the Head of School at Drake and Morice Town Primary Academies.

I've been a teacher for 21 years and have worn many different hats (like we all have to do) - from Science Leader to Senco, Values Leader to DHT, KS Leader to Christmas Production Director to name but a few! I am also currently the English Lead at Morice Town and have taken part in the Plymouth Oracy Project recently. I'm all about sharing practical and useful tips to use in the classroom to develop children's use of language, build their confidence and to increase engagement. My contribution to this year's learning festival will give you some practical 'try now' activities that will work across a range of subjects as well as being fully adaptable for children from EYFS to KS3/4!



"I'm thrilled to welcome Debbie as an experienced school leader to the Learning Festival. This session will support schools to develop oracy, which is an important life skill. " Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Oracy
- Classroom strategies



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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SESSION

11

CREATING LIFE FRIENDLY SCHOOLS

EMMA SHEPHERD

MONDAY 16TH JANUARY

4-5PM

With 38% of teachers in The MTPT Project's research into women leaving the profession aged 30-39 blaming school culture for their decision quit, we know that more needs to be done to improve communication between schools and teachers to address the retention crisis.

A positive school culture that supports teachers as they become parents doesn't just benefit mothers and fathers: the practical strategies we share in this workshop improve balance for all staff, and will help colleagues, whatever their role or level of responsibility, to create "life friendly" schools.

Emma Sheppard founded The Maternity Teacher Paternity Teacher (MTPT) Project, the UK's charity for parent-teachers, whilst on maternity leave with her son in 2016. Having trained through Teach First as an English teacher in 2010, she continued to teach in the British International School, Ho Chi Minh, acting as Head of House, before returning to the UK as Lead Practitioner at an academy in South London. Here, she held responsibility for ITT provision, teaching and learning, and line managed the EAL department. In 2022, Emma qualified with her Diploma in Personal and Performance Coaching with The Coaching Academy. She is now based in the south of France, coaching and running The MTPT Project full time. You can connect with Emma on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or by [email](#).

"There are no schools without teachers, and it saddens me when fantastic teachers leave the profession. It is vital that we retain our staff and I'm pleased that Emma is highlighting this important issue." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- [Staff retention](#)
- [Equalities](#)
- [Organisational development](#)



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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**SESSION
12**

**WHAT MAKES PRIMARY WRITING
EFFECTIVE AS EVIDENCED THROUGH
COMPARATIVE JUDGEMENT**

KRIS WINTHORPE

TUESDAY 17TH JANUARY

3.45-4.30PM

As part of my current Master's studies, I completed a research project last summer. This analysed effective year 6 pupil writing, as ranked by Comparative Judgement, to analyse the features of the most effective writers.

The findings from this micro-research will be shared and discussed and the implications for teachers trying to produce effective writers will be explored. The session will also touch on authorial voice, the impact of reading and books and the place of Theory of Mind in exploring how to write effectively.

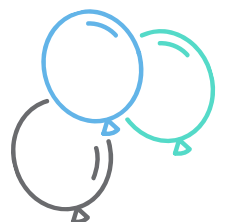
This session is suitable for teachers, particularly those teaching Year.3 to Year.8 and English or literacy subject leaders. It is also relevant for individuals interested in how academic research can explore and have an impact on pedagogy. Attendees will consider what makes an effective piece of writing and how this is best fostered to support and extend young writers.

Kris Winthorpe is an experienced teacher and leader. He is currently Deputy Head of Hill View Primary, a large primary school in Bournemouth. Kris facilitates the NPQSL programme for the Trust.

"It's great to be able to celebrate and share the postgraduate level research that members of the Trust are involved in." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Writing
- Teaching and Learning
- Research informed



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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SESSION

13

**DYSLEXIA: IDENTIFYING AND SUPPORTING
STUDENTS IN THE MAINSTREAM
CLASSROOM**

DR. HELEN ROSS

WEDNESDAY 18TH JANUARY

4-5PM

This session will give an overview of what dyslexia is and how it can manifest in the classroom. Dr Ross will give those supporting young people in the mainstream classroom tools to identify where students may have dyslexia, how to support them and suggestions as to how further exploration of students' difficulties may be undertaken. It will provide signposts to help you discern whether students may be experiencing dyslexic-type difficulties, even if they appear to be able to read, write and spell in line with their peers. It will help you understand how young people may be supported whilst remaining in the classroom so that they are able to access learning and demonstrate their knowledge in an inclusive setting. This session is particularly aimed at classroom teachers, teaching assistants and SENCOs who feel that they want to deepen their understanding of dyslexia and how it may look in the classroom.

Dr Helen Ross is the Owner and Founder of Helen's Place Education Consultancy. She is a fully qualified special needs teacher and former SENCO, working as an independent educational research consultant, specialist assessor and SEND expert. Helen is a Co-Vice Chair of the British Dyslexia Association and is Chair of the Wiltshire Dyslexia Association. She has consulted for the British Dyslexia Association, The Committee for Science and Technology, and Wiltshire Local Authority. She also works with various third sector and commercial organisations with evaluation, consultancy and resource development. Helen tweets as [@drhelenross](#) and regularly speaks on dyslexia and special educational needs. Her website is www.helensplace.co.uk and you can access a selection of her publications [here](#).

"I'm delighted to welcome Dr Helen to the Learning Festival. Her expertise in this area will help us better support dyslexic learners." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Classroom strategies
- Inclusion



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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SESSION

14

**AN INTRODUCTION TO
TALK4WRITING
LAURA CLARKE
THURSDAY 19TH JANUARY
3.45-4.30PM**

Talk for Writing is an approach to writing developed by Pie Corbett. This training is not accredited Talk4Writing training. You can find out more about this on the official Talk4Writing [website](#). This session provides an overview of how Talk4Writing approaches have been used successfully at Goosewell Primary Academy in Plymouth. This session is particularly suitable for Early Career Teachers or Teaching Assistants looking to learn more about this approach. It is also suitable for those looking to refresh or recap prior training.

This session will be led by Laura Clarke, an experienced teacher and leader. Laura has been teaching for eighteen years and has experience of being both KS1 and KS2 English Lead. Laura has completed the NPQSL and is now a Trust SLE for English. Laura leads the Trust's English Improvement Team.

"We have a talented group of SLEs across the Trust and I am delighted that Laura is able to share her experience and expertise with us."
Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.



Themes:

- Writing
- Classroom Strategies



Goosewell
Primary Academy

Rise To Greatness



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).
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**SESSION
15**

**HOW CAN TEACHERS REBOOT THE
FUTURE? FINDING MICRO-OPPORTUNITIES
FOR CHANGE IN THE SCHOOL DAY**

HOLLY EVERETT

THURSDAY 19TH JANUARY

4-4.30PM



Reboot the Future is a charity who believe a better world is possible if we treat others and the planet as we'd wish to be treated. Join their Education Manager, Holly Everett, as she shares her experience and ideas around how - even when we struggle to find time in the curriculum - we can all find micro-moments in the school day to create more connection, compassion and conversation. Plus find out about Reboot the Future's online resource hub Global Dimension - a vast library of free teaching resources and support, exploring issues from the climate crisis to discrimination, mental health, and more, from trusted organisations including Oxfam, ThoughtBox, and British Red Cross.

Holly Everett is Education Manager at Reboot the Future. Her work includes the development and delivery of educational resources which inspire greater connection, conversation and compassion. Holly is a qualified secondary school teacher, and is currently training as a personal development coach.

Reboot the Future's mission is to foster a world where we treat others and the planet as we'd wish to be treated. We host an education platform called Global Dimension, which brings together a calendar of events and a vast library of free sustainable development resources.

The Harmony Project aims to transform education to ensure it is fit for purpose in preparing young people for the 21st century, not just to pass exams. We work with teachers and other educators to re-frame learning around natural laws and principles which show the world as an interdependent whole.

"I am pleased to welcome Holly and Reboot the Future to the Reach South Learning Festival." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Sustainable development
- Classroom Resources
- Empower and inspire

**Reboot
the Future**



**The
Harmony
Project**

All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

You will be sent a link to join the session 24 hours before.

Due to the number of sessions, sessions will not be recorded and slides will not be shared.



SESSION

16

DIVERSITY IN THE CURRICULUM

BENNIE KARA

MONDAY 23RD JANUARY

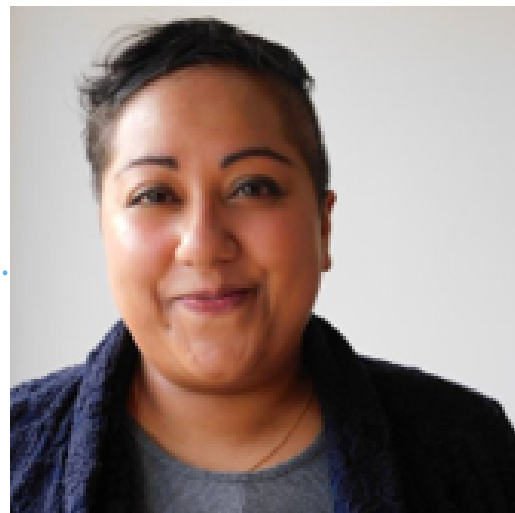
4-5PM

In this session, Bennie delivers an in-depth look at practical ways in which you can diversify the curriculum.

The session includes:

- An overview of the social and moral imperative behind diversity in the curriculum
- An examination of how diversifying the curriculum can avoid tokenism and align with current ideas in curriculum theory
- A practical look at how schools can successfully navigate process of diversifying the curriculum
- An insight into how to evaluate your current curriculum
- Clear, defined and cross-phase/subject strategies that can be applied in adapting the curriculum.

Bennie Kara is a Deputy Headteacher in Derby, specialising in curriculum, teaching and learning. She Co-Founded #DiverseEd during her Deputy Headship at a start-up school in Oxfordshire. She is a speaker, trainer and writer on topics such as diversity, language, literature, and the curriculum. She has written two books: *A Little Guide for Teachers: Diversity in Schools* (2020) and *Diverse Educators: A Manifesto* (2022). You can connect with Bennie via [Twitter](#), [Mastodon](#) or [email](#).



"I look forward to Bennie's session starting conversations within and across our schools on how we can diversify our curriculum." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Equality and Diversity
- Curriculum



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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SESSION

17

**FROM THE COST-OF-LIVING-CRISIS TO
THE CLIMATE CRISIS: HOW ARE WE
CONNECTED TO ANTARCTICA?**

HOLLY EVERETT

MONDAY 23RD JANUARY

3.45-4.30PM

This session will be of interest to any educator (particularly Years 5&6 teachers) who wants to find out about the wonders of Antarctica and the principle of interdependence using The Harmony Project and Reboot the Future's new teacher pack. As we become more focused on the need to reduce energy costs and work with ever-stretched budgets in our own homes and schools, it can be easy to forget that our actions not only impact ourselves and our communities but ripple all the way to the southernmost point of our planet. Aimed at upper KS2, this pack brings the wonders of Antarctica to life through English, Maths, Art, Science, PSHE and more. Packed with activities for a half term of enquiry, explore the ways we are all connected to the Antarctic ecosystem, and investigate the impact our own actions have on this frozen habitat as well as actions we can take to protect our shared future.

Holly Everett is Education Manager at Reboot the Future. Her work includes the development and delivery of educational resources which inspire greater connection, conversation and compassion. Holly is a qualified secondary school teacher, and is currently training as a personal development coach.

Reboot the Future's mission is to foster a world where we treat others and the planet as we'd wish to be treated. We host an education platform called Global Dimension, which brings together a calendar of events and a vast library of free sustainable development resources.

The Harmony Project aims to transform education to ensure it is fit for purpose in preparing young people for the 21st century, not just to pass exams. We work with teachers and other educators to re-frame learning around natural laws and principles which show the world as an interdependent whole.

"I am looking forward to hearing more about these new resources to support pupils' learning on climate change and the cost of living." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Climate change
- Classroom Resources
- Empower and inspire

**Reboot
the Future** 



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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SESSION

18

**TACKLING DISADVANTAGE IN
THE CLASSROOM
JONATHAN EATON
TUESDAY 24TH JANUARY
3.45-4.30PM**

Tackling disadvantage is a complex, ongoing problem, but the evidence does point us towards some 'best bets'. In this session, we'll focus on how evidence can support us to tackle disadvantage through our everyday class teaching. This session is suitable for teachers and leaders.

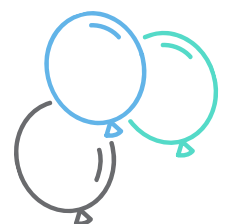
Jon is Director of Kingsbridge Research School, working with schools and other improvement partners in the South West to broaden schools' understanding of evidence and to provide access to guidance, training and support. Jon has worked particularly around metacognition, literacy and implementation and is currently part of the panel working on the next iteration of the EEF's implementation guidance.

You can find out more about Kingsbridge Research School on their [website](#). They tweet at [@KCCRResearchSch](#).

"This session will bring colleagues some of the latest research around supporting disadvantaged learners." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Evidence-informed
- Classroom Strategies
- Disadvantaged pupils



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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SESSION

19

**PRIDE AND PROGRESS
DR ADAM BRETT AND JO
BRASSINGTON
WEDNESDAY 25TH JANUARY
4-5PM**

Pride & Progress is a podcast and platform which amplifies the voices of LGBTQ+ educators, and explores ways to reimagine our educational spaces as more queer inclusive. It was co-founded by Dr Adam Brett (he/him) and Jo Brassington (they/them), who are experienced secondary and primary school teachers respectively. They are currently writing their first book - 'Pride & Progress: Making Schools LGBTQ+ Inclusive Spaces' - which will be published in pride month 2023.

Making Schools LGBTQ+ Inclusive Spaces

This session will explore what it means to make a school an LGBTQ+ inclusive space in theory, in practice, and in action. Adam and Jo will pull on their experience through Pride & Progress to offer practical advice on how you can reimagine your educational space as more LGBTQ+ inclusive. You can connect with Adam and Jo via Twitter: [@PrideProgress](#) [@DrAdamBrett](#) [@JoBrassington](#). You can also email [Jo](#) and [Adam](#).



"All children deserve to feel safe and included at school. This session will help us reflect on what more we can do to support LGBTQ+ students and staff." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Equality and Diversity
- Inclusion
- Organisational development



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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**SESSION
20**

**PRACTICAL SCIENCE:
MAKING SLIME SAFELY
CHRIS SODERA
THURSDAY 26TH JANUARY
3.30-4PM**

Without doubt the most frequently requested resource from our lower school is for SLIME making. With all kinds of recipes readily available on the internet (some of which recommend using ingredients unsuitable for use by children) Chris will be demonstrating the official "school method" complete with risk assessments, as provided by CLEAPSS (the advisory organisation for safe science education in UK schools).

Anyone wishing to join in with the science will need:

- A plastic cup
- A stirrer/lolly stick
- 1 x dessert spoon of white PVA glue
- Pinch of sodium bicarbonate
- Liquid paint (optional)
- Contact lens solution (must contain boric acid) eg BOOTS own brand.



Attendees will leave knowing what ingredients are suitable for making slime in schools. They will learn an easy to follow method that gives great results every time. If you can source the ingredients ahead of time, then you can have a go at producing your own slime as you follow along during the session. This session is suitable for teachers and support staff.

Chris Soderer (RSciTech) is the science technician at the Springfields Academy, supporting science lessons throughout the school by providing resources and classroom assistance as required. Having been a school technician for 18 years and with a background in biology research she is well placed to aid the science education of all our students from reception through to KS4.

"Chris returns to the Learning Festival with another brilliant practical session. Due to its hands-on nature, places on this session are limited, so be quick to book your place." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Science
- Classroom strategies



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).
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SESSION 21

MENTAL HEALTH AMY SAYER THURSDAY 26TH JANUARY 4-5PM

This session will include:

- Why discussing staff mental health is important now
- Spotting the signs and behaviours of colleagues who might be struggling with their mental health
- How to use active listening and empathy to have meaningful conversations about mental health with colleagues.
- Learning what 'reasonable adjustments' are how they can be used to support colleagues who are struggling with mental ill- health.
- External support services and resources which could be used to help colleagues.

Amy is a free-lance mental health trainer for schools and is the author of 'Supporting staff mental health in your school'. She works for West Sussex Minds as a content writer and trainer. She also works with the Chartered College of Teaching as a content writer and Leading Diversity Advisor. She has previously been a coach for the SMHL Award with Creative Education. You can connect with Amy via [Twitter](#), [website](#) or [email](#).



"We're proud of our Trust benefits offer for staff. This session is another good example of how much we value our people." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Organisational development and wellbeing
 - Mental wellbeing
 - Inclusion
- All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).
You will be sent a link to join the session 24 hours before.



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SESSION

22

HEALING TRAUMA IN CHILDREN THROUGH NATURE AND THE OUTDOORS

LOTTA SAMPSON-STONE

MONDAY 30TH JANUARY

4-4.45PM

This session will define trauma as a real and prevalent experience for children. We will explore the persistent effects which impact the child's daily life, as well as the long-term physical and emotional health implications of unprocessed trauma.

But there is hope! Nature and the outdoors can have profound effects on well-being and the potential to heal trauma. We will look at the research underpinning the theory of healing through nature and consider some practical ideas and recommendations for getting children outside.

Whilst this session will be based around the concept of healing trauma in children, I hope that those who work with teenagers and adults will also find this of interest. We must not presume adulthood to be a trauma-free destination and as educational practitioners, it is imperative that we begin a life-long healing process.

I look forward to sharing my knowledge and passion for this area with RSAT colleagues and hope to offer a deeper understanding of trauma and an appreciation of the healing capabilities of nature and the outdoors.

Lotta is a practitioner at Millbay Academy in Plymouth. She holds a BA (hons) in Education Studies and a MA in Education. She is also a TIS (Trauma Informed Schools) Practitioner.



"Lotta's session is an important part of our Trust commitment to becoming more Trauma-informed." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD

Themes:

- SEND and Inclusion
- Practical strategies
- Nature and the outdoors
- Pupil well-being



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

You will be sent a link to join the session 24 hours before.

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SESSION 23

MINDFUL EQUITY ARETHA BANTON AND YOULANDE HARROWELL MONDAY 30TH JANUARY 4-5PM

Improving diversity in leadership

This session will include:

- Identification of issues facing BAME teachers in leadership, and more specifically issues facing Black and Asian women
- What does the concrete ceiling reflect and look like in 2022?
- Allyship vs Sponsorship - what really works?
- The importance of building and sharing accessible networks

About Mindful Equity UK

Mindful Equity UK is a service supporting Black and Asian women educators right from the start of their careers - from trainee teacher onwards. Our mission is to ensure that more Black and Asian women educators join the teaching profession, stay in the teaching profession and move into leadership in the teaching profession. We encourage solution focused conversations about representation and inclusion within the education sector with the aim of influencing changes within educational policy and practices. You can connect with Mindful Equity through their [website](#), [email](#) or [Twitter](#).



"It is imperative that all students can see themselves represented in their teachers. As a profession we must do more to support BAME women into leadership." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Equality and Diversity
- Leadership
- Allyship



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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APPRENTICESHIPS- ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

SESSION

24

AARON MACLEAN

TUESDAY 31ST JANUARY

4-4.30PM

This session will provide a guide to Apprenticeships which will help answer the following questions:

- What is an Apprenticeship?
- Who are they for and how could they benefit you?
- How are they structured?
- What is an Apprenticeship Levy? and How does the funding work?
- What types of Apprenticeships are available?
- What is off the job training?
- How does the Apprenticeship wage structure work?
- What are the progression routes beyond an Apprenticeship?

For those looking after an Apprentice, you will gain a better understanding how they work and a greater confidence in managing the process. For those seeking an Apprenticeship, it could answer many questions that you have, offer an alternative to other higher education options, or inspire you to upskill in your current job.

This session is suitable for those working in schools or within central services. It is ideal for those in management who want to better understand how apprenticeships work, or those interested in undertaking an Apprenticeship. Likewise, it could be useful for parents of post-16 aged individuals considering an Apprenticeship as their next step.

Aaron is the Trust's Resourcing and OD Manager, part of the Trust's central services team.



"Apprenticeships are a valuable form of staff development. If you're not sure how they could benefit you or your team then attend Aaron's session." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Staff development
- Apprenticeships
- Recruitment and retention



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

You will be sent a link to join the session 24 hours before.

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**SESSION
25**

**ACTIONS TOWARDS RACE
EQUALITY IN SCHOOLS
SOFIA BEN-ALI AND LISA MEEK
TUESDAY 31ST JANUARY
3.45-4.30PM**

Reach South is committed to equality across the Trust. A programme of working with every school on culture change and the Leeds Beckett anti-racism awards has begun. We have also developed a BAME network and an Equalities Hub. In this session, Sofia and Lisa will reflect on our race equality journey as a Trust and our involvement in Integrity Coaching and the Leeds Beckett award. There will be time for reflection and discussion, alongside question and answer.

Sofia Ben-Ali is the Trust's Equality and Diversity Lead. Sofia is an experienced teacher and leader. She is currently a Science Teacher and Equalities Lead at The Springfields Academy in Calne.



Lisa Meek is a highly experienced and inspirational teacher and leader. Currently Headteacher of Pilgrim Primary Academy, a large primary school in Plymouth, Lisa is committed to creating an inclusive school community.



"Lisa and Sofi will talk with honesty about our Trust's journey towards equality. They won't pretend that it is easy work, but they will inspire you to begin the journey yourself." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.



Themes:

- Equality and diversity
- Inclusion
- Inspirational

All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

You will be sent a link to join the session 24 hours before.

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SESSION 26

IT'S TAX-IN NI KNOW IT JOANNE LAKE WEDNESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 3.45PM-4.30PM

This session will explain how tax, NI and Pensions are calculated, where our monies go and the benefits of paying into the pension fund. As an employer we have a legal obligation to calculate and deduct deductions from pay. There are two types of payroll deductions- those that are required by law and voluntary deductions. This session will help you understand the difference between the two. We will look at how lawful deductions are calculated, what the benefits are and understand where our money goes. Attendees will develop a greater understanding of payroll deductions.

Joanne Lake is the Trust's Payroll and Pension Manager. She is a vital part of the Trust's central services team.

"If you'd like a greater understanding of payroll and school finances then this is the session for you. Thanks to our colleague Joanne for sharing her expertise in this area." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Finance
- Leadership
- Staffing



Aspiration beyond expectation

All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

You will be sent a link to join the session 24 hours before.

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SESSION
27

**THE MENOPAUSE AND OUR
WORKPLACE**
TRACEY SAVAGE
WEDNESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY
3.45PM-4.30PM

With over 50% of Reach South's workforce being females over the age of 45, this session is designed to give an introduction to Menopause within the Workplace. This is being delivered in advance of the new Menopause at Work Policy which will be introduced this academic year as a positive move by the Trust in creating a working environment that is menopause-friendly; promoting a workplace where women going through the menopause can thrive, feel able to talk openly about this subject, and easily access the support they need.

Session content seeks to raise awareness for managers and staff, bridge knowledge gaps about the menopause, 'myth bust' and de-stigmatize in an effort to normalise the menopause and reduce any feelings of awkwardness attached to this topic. Ultimately seeking to encourage ongoing, open conversations about this topic within the workplace.

Tracey Savage forms part of the Central Reach South People team. She is a HR & OD People Partner.



"Talking about the menopause may make some people feel uncomfortable. This session will raise awareness, but also confidence in supporting those going through the menopause in the workplace. I'm proud to work for a Trust that's having these conversations." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Well-being
- Staffing
- HR
- Leadership



All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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SESSION

28

DYSCALCULIA: WHAT IS IT AND WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE IN SCHOOL?

DR. HELEN ROSS

THURSDAY 2ND FEBRUARY

4-5PM

Dyscalculia is less widely understood than dyslexia, yet it has substantial effects on individuals and their ability to engage with the curriculum. This session will give an overview of what dyscalculia is and how it can affect all areas of the curriculum. We will explore different definitions of dyscalculia and link those definitions to outcomes and responses to tasks/subjects in school. Practical strategies for support will be shared and you will have time to reflect on how dyscalculia may impact on your own subject area, and what you may be able to change within your practice to support young people. This session will give you an understanding of what dyscalculia is, within current understandings. Those understandings will be linked to classroom behaviours and student responses to certain types of task and topics. The key take-home point will be that dyscalculia affects substantially more than just maths; it is a specific learning difficulty with a broad impact. This session is particularly aimed at classroom teachers, teaching assistants and SENCOs who feel that they want to deepen their understanding of dyscalculia and its impact on areas of the curriculum other than maths and numeracy.

Dr Helen Ross is the Owner and Founder of Helen's Place Education Consultancy. She is a fully qualified special needs teacher and former SENCO, working as an independent educational research consultant, specialist assessor and SEND expert. Helen is a Co-Vice Chair of the British Dyslexia Association and is Chair of the Wiltshire Dyslexia Association. She has consulted for the British Dyslexia Association, The Committee for Science and Technology, and Wiltshire Local Authority. She also works with various third sector and commercial organisations with evaluation, consultancy and resource development. Helen tweets as [@drhelenross](https://twitter.com/drhelenross) and regularly speaks on dyslexia and special educational needs. Her website is www.helensplace.co.uk and you can access a selection of her publications [here](#).

"This session will develop knowledge and skills with regards to dyscalculia, supporting inclusive teaching." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.

Themes:

- Classroom strategies
- Inclusion

All places must be booked via Eventbrite. Book your place [here](#).

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SESSION

29

EMBEDDING A SUCCESSFUL APPROACH

TO VALUES BASED RECRUITMENT

TRACEY SAVAGE

THURSDAY 2ND FEBRUARY

3.45PM-4.30PM

With the average cost of hiring an employee in the UK currently estimated at £3000 (per person) there is an ever growing need across all sectors (and particularly in Education) to attract talent, whilst still experiencing increased pressure to generate financial savings and challenges to accessing funding. As a result there is more of a focus than ever before that we not only attract the most talented candidates to our Trust but also ensure we do our best to get it right first time. This session is designed for hiring managers and anyone involved in recruitment process to highlight the potential pitfalls of getting Recruitment & Selection wrong and what the impact of this can be to the individual Academy/School and the Trust as an organisation.

Session content is designed to improve understanding of what good recruitment and selection practice looks like, highlights the risks and costs to the organisation when it goes wrong and offers helpful tips and practical solutions to some of the challenges Hiring Managers face in trying to recruit the most talented candidates in the current labour market.

This session will be led by RSAT Central Team member Tracey Savage. Tracey is a HR & OD Business Partner.

"This session is a great opportunity to learn from our colleagues in HR and ensure that we get recruitment right during 2023." Nicola Brooks, Head of CPD.



Themes:

- Recruitment
- Safeguarding
- Leadership
- HR



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REACH SOUTH LEARNING FESTIVAL 2023 OVERVIEW AND BOOKING LINKS

Session 1: [Microsoft Excel for Beginners](#)

Session 2: [Marlborough Primary- Our Visible Learning Journey](#)

Session 3: [Project Management: An Introduction](#)

Session 4A: [Sorry, it was my chimp!](#)

Session 4: [An Introduction to Neurodiversity and Inclusion](#)

Session 5: [How creating clear boundaries can empower you to thrive in teaching](#)

Session 6: [Developing scientific vocabulary and supporting pupils to read and write about science](#)

Session 7: [Five evidence-based strategies to support high-quality teaching for pupils with SEND](#)

Session 8: [Beginners' Guide to Makeup Application](#)

Session 9: [Collaborating through the Arts](#)

Session 10: [Developing Oracy Across the Curriculum](#)

Session 11: [Creating Life Friendly Schools](#)

Session 12: [What makes primary writing effective as evidenced through Comparative Judgement](#)

Session 13: [Dyslexia: Identifying and Supporting Students in the Mainstream Classroom](#)

Session 14: [An Introduction to Talk4Writing](#)

Session 15: [How can teachers reboot the future? Finding micro-opportunities for change in the school day](#)

Session 16: [Diversity in the Curriculum](#)

Session 17: [From the cost-of-living-crisis to the climate crisis: how are we connected to Antarctica?](#)



REACH SOUTH LEARNING FESTIVAL 2023 OVERVIEW AND BOOKING LINKS

Session 18: [Tackling Disadvantage in the Classroom](#)

Session 19: [Pride and Progress](#)

Session 20: [Practical Science: Making Slime Safely](#)

Session 21: [Mental Health](#)

Session 22: [Healing Trauma in Children Through Nature and the Outdoors](#)

Session 23: [Mindful Equity](#)

Session 24: [Apprenticeships- All You Need to Know](#)

Session 25: [Actions Towards Race Equality in Schools](#)

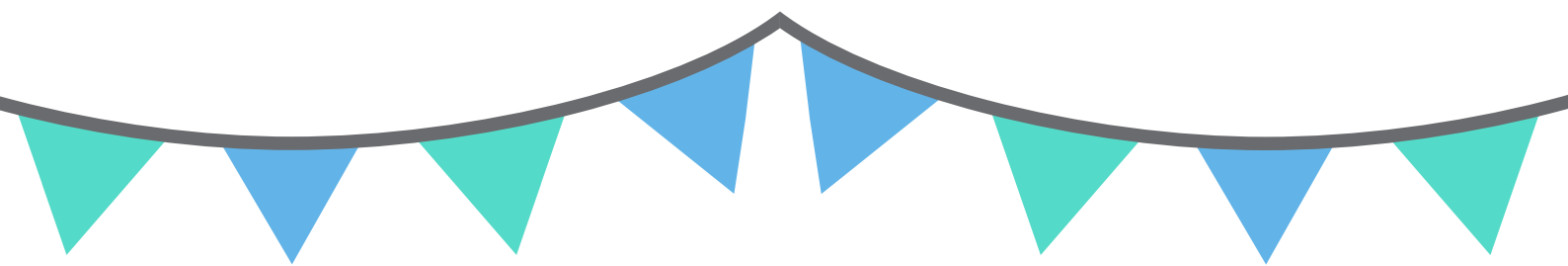
Session 26: [It's Tax-in NI Know it](#)

Session 27: [The Menopause and Our Workplace](#)

Session 28: [Dyscalculia: what is it and what does it look like in school?](#)

Session 29: [Embedding a Successful Approach to Values Based Recruitment](#)





REACH SOUTH LEARNING FESTIVAL

Thanks for taking part!

Join us next year- the Learning Festival
begins on Monday 8th January 2024.

Stay in touch using the QR Codes.

