# THE HUBBLE



Cheltenham Stroud Cotswolds

December 2023



A centre of excellence for professional development to teachers and leaders at all stages of their careers

## Welcome to our Christmas edition of the Balcarras Teaching School Hub newsletter 'The Hubble'. What a wonderful term it has been!



I was reflecting last week that this time three years ago, we had submitted our bid to become a Teaching School Hub and were awaiting news of whether or not we had been successful. Roll on three years and I can't quite believe what the Gloucestershire schools have achieved. When combining our work with that of Odyssey our sister TS Hub based at Pate's, we now have...

- A team of approximately 20 strategic, operational and administrative staff designing and developing our programmes.
- In the region of 40 expert facilitators delivering programs (who represent schools and organisations from all phases of education across Gloucestershire).
- Over 2000 teachers who have been involved in either the ECF, NPQs or CPD programmes
- We have firmly established strong relationships with all curriculum hubs and stakeholders in the region.

Many of you reading this newsletter have been directly involved, and I do hope that your reflections are similar to mine, in that the Teaching School Hub program has been revolutionary in putting professional development of our staff at the heart of all we do. That its impact on our children has been overwhelmingly positive. We are always keen to hear your feedback whether that be positive or areas for improvement so please do get in touch if you feel the need.

In other news, I am delighted to hear of the designation in the Summer of the Gloucestershire Research School at Rowanfield Junior School / the GLA . It is wonderful that now we have such a flagship institution in the region at last and we look forward to working with them going forward. We ourselves are awaiting news from the DfE regarding our redesignation which would secure our position for the next 4 years, I will update you all when we hear the outcome. Fingers crossed!

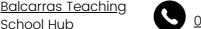
School Hub

I wish you all a Merry Christmas when it arrives and a happy and successful new year.





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#### Written by Harriet Ebanja, Deputy Director of the Balcarras Teaching School Hub

It has already been a busy year in the Hub for our ECTs but before looking at that I'd like to mention our ECTs who completed the programme last year. We are incredibly proud of the colleagues who we worked with over the two years and witnessing their progress in their teaching careers and engagement in the ECT programme was

a pleasure. We had a brilliant event to celebrate the achievement of those ECTs who completed the programme at the end of the summer term and enjoyed getting to hear the next steps that ECTs are looking to make. Look out for information about the celebration event we will hold this year on 27 June 2024.

This year we have a total of 474 ECT's and 376 Mentors within Gloucestershire and we enjoyed getting to meet so many of you at our training events in September. The feedback on these events has been extremely positive. If you were unable to make these, or would like a refresher, the resources are available on your Padlet boards.

Feel free to email the <u>Hub</u> if you require a link for these.

ECT2s are now well on their way with considering how to undertake a practitioner inquiry and the discussions and reflections on these at their training events has been really interesting. It is fascinating to hear the varied experiences that ECT's have had over the last year and to see the progress they are making. We spoke to one ECT about her experience at starting her second year recently and she said:

## 'I have really enjoyed being an ECT year 2 and being able to 'get my teeth into' the practitioner inquiry. I am learning more about my practice and ways to improve teaching and learning and then implement this into my teaching.

I am enjoying this year much more than Year 1 as I am able to reflect and investigate to hopefully find the answers to some of my questions."

As a Hub we are passionate about the training programme we have created that enables ECTs to meet, in person, with our ECTs from across the county. We are aware that this has an impact on cover within schools, but we feel that the benefit of ECTs having time to network and reflect on their practice whilst engaging with the most up-to-date research in education is huge. We know that as a county our schools prioritises good quality CPD and enable staff to attend training where appropriate so we thank you for your support in this with your ECTs.





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# In a snapshot.....

- In September we delivered training to over 700 ECT's mentors and Induction tutors
- We have 474 ECT's and 376 mentors in Gloucestershire currently enrolled on ECF programme
- A total of 191 participants signed up to start an NPQ in Spring 2024. So far since the beginning of the NPQ suite we have enrolled over 500 teachers for an participants signed up to start an NPQ in Spring 2024. So far, since the beginning of the NPQ suite we have enrolled over 500 teachers for an NPQ
- We are Appropriate body for 87 schools in our Hub area.



If you know that you have an ECT in your school starting in the coming months, then <u>please get in touch</u> with us so that we can ensure that they are registered and enrolled in the programme successfully.



<u>Balcarras Teaching</u> School Hub

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# In a snapshot.....

- We are currently running 4 DfE approved CPD Courses
- We have signed a partnership agreement with UoG for ITT and GITEP for secondary ITT



We have successfully launched four fully funded CPD courses this year.

We are running two EYFS CPD courses in collaboration with Early Education. Thinking Together with Children: Conversations that Generate, Amplify and Sustain Children's Learning, delivered by Debi Keyte-Hartland and Extending Children's Thinking and



CPD

Developmental Outcomes Through Sustained Shared Thinking, delivered by Leslie Patterson.

Following on from the success of both the Secondary Teaching for Mastery in EBACC subjects and Primary Embedding Formative Assessment in KS2 Maths, delivered by Steve Lomax in 22/23, we are able to offer them for a second year.

If there is enough interest in these 2 CPD courses we are looking to run them again in starting in the Summer Term. If you would like more information please email: jmn@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk

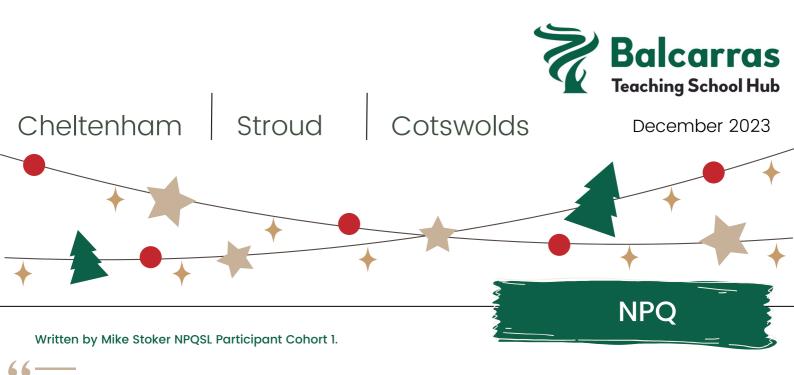


**In** Balcarras Teaching School Hub









I decided to pursue Senior Leadership mainly because at every stage of my career, I have always sought a new challenge. The NPQ relaunch coincided with the start of a new academic year, so I decided to give it a go. I certainly didn't regret it. One day, I may pursue a role in Senior Leadership, so it seemed like a great opportunity. I was certainly right. The workload was a significant concern and did require a small adjustment in my routines. Fortunately, a manageable habit formed of being able to do most of the course preparation on a Saturday morning.



I loved the excuse to not walk the dog and/or get out of my pyjamas, meaning that I did every task as I embraced everything that came my way.

I think the NPQ in Senior Leadership brought about a dynamic shift in my understanding that, to date, has only really happened during the PGCE! I have made many changes to my practice as a current Head of Department. I would like to think I have elicited a great deal of change in my school. I now know just how important it is to be an effective leader, as change in a whole school setting impacts all of our learners. The NPQ utilises both local and global perspectives on the importance of embedding school culture and, of course, the crucial importance of behavior. My students have benefited from fresh approaches in exploring the SEND, curriculum, governance, and accountability domains.

In summary, I can certainly recommend this NPQ to any existing or aspiring Senior Leader. The knowledge and connections it has offered me have been a genuine boost to my confidence in my career.







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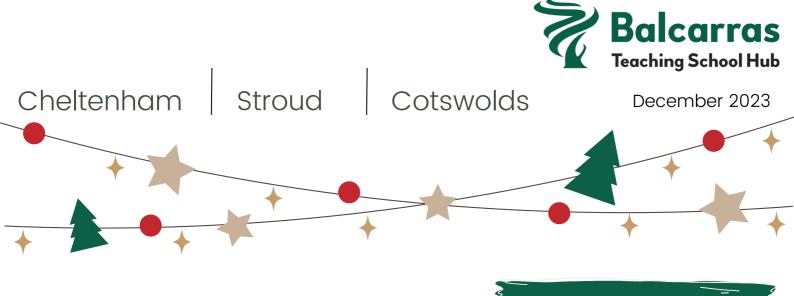














## Get Involved.....

#### **GLOW Live: Coming to a primary** school near you

Wondering if Teaching for Mastery (TfM) is right for your primary school? Want to see how it works in reality? Come and watch a TfM lesson, live in the classroom, and see the positive impacts it can have on a child's learning. For a list of all GLOW Live dates and how to register, click here.

#### Free support for your Secondary Maths

If your Secondary school has ever been involved in Teaching for Mastery (TfM), you have access to free CPD from the GLOW Maths Hub - forever! Take a look at our Secondary Sustaining programme of activity and get involved.



## Take your Maths Leadership to the next level

Considering the next step in your professional development as a maths leader? We have five free and fully funded programmes, designed to develop you as an expert in teaching for mastery and the leadership of professional development in maths. Click on the links below to find out more and to apply. Starting in September 2024.

- Primary Mastery Specialist
- Secondary Mastery Specialist
- Further Education Mastery Specialist
- Professional Development Lead
- School Development Lead.

### **NPQ Leading Primary Mathematics**

NPQ Leading Primary Mathematics (NPQLPM)

Be part of the next generation of primary maths leaders with our new NPQ programme. With our new NPQ Introducing for Spring 2024

programme. Working with delivery partner, University College London (UCL), and facilitated by GLOW Maths Hub leads Ed Neale and Steve Lomax, we've teamed up to offer this exciting opportunity to develop your Maths Leadership. Starting in Spring 2024, make sure you register your place by 18 January 2024.

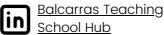






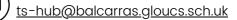
Maths4All

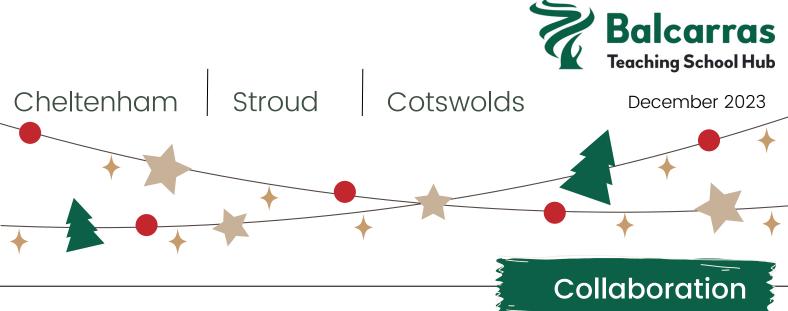






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Supported by the Education Endowment Foundation

The GLA are delighted to announce that after a very rigorous process, the trust has been selected to join the EEF Research School Network in September. Our new Research School will be named the Gloucestershire Research School (based at Rowanfield Junior School) and will be the first ever Research School in the county! The new Research School Network will include 33 schools nationally that will continue to focus on bringing evidence informed practice into schools in line with the EEF vision.

'The Education Endowment Foundation is an independent charity dedicated to breaking the link between family income and educational achievement. We do this by supporting schools, colleges, and nurseries to improve teaching and learning through better use of evidence.' EEF

We are looking forward to establishing the Research School, building connections and partnerships with other schools and working together to put research into practice to improve the quality of education for all pupils in the county and beyond. If you would like to know more about the Gloucestershire Research School, please contact Laura Spence (Research School Director) at

l.spence.gloucestershire@researchschool.org.uk.

'Our Research Schools aim to lead the way in the use of evidence-based practice and bring research closer to schools.'

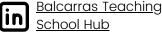






As part of our role as a Teaching School Hub we can signpost you to other CPD being delivered by Curriculum Hubs and Research Schools in the region.







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