

## The LP accreditation in local authorities

'During the application period, teachers have made a commitment to the local authority to:

Attend half-termly network meetings to support development towards accreditation and, within their school setting, work to build and evidence the ten Lead Practitioner skills.

Following successful accreditation, they have committed to:

Provide support in a range of ways for up to ten days per academic year including: modelling good practice, CPD delivery, team teaching, work scrutiny, using data to inform intervention, supporting assessment and developing curriculum. Support will not be formal lesson observations, interviews or capability issues.

We are employing a model using Advanced Skills Teachers (ASTs) as coaches to develop the lead practitioners. This is proving to be very effective. Each AST has two Lead Practitioners to support. As well as email contact between them, time is available at each network meeting for the Lead Practitioners to discuss with their AST mentor their progress. These discussions have proved invaluable to the teachers. They are able to use the expert knowledge of their AST mentor to receive honest feedback on the work they are doing and ask them for advice on their next steps. The ASTs are providing excellent advice and asking the teachers to think about how they can evidence the work they are doing so that it can count towards their accreditation. Sometimes, a simple reassurance that they are following the right path. We then ask the ASTs to work with different teachers in order for them to experience a number of perspectives.

Some of the teachers have already been involved in local authority work – two have run sessions for NQTs on 'the effective use of other adults in the classroom' and one has worked with the LA primary literacy consultants on 'what level 6 writing looks like' in order to support them in the moderation work they do.

As the Lead Practitioner manager, my role is to facilitate the support network to ensure the teachers gain their accreditation and, subsequently, to co-ordinate the work they deliver for the local authority both in and out of schools.'

**Henrietta Grice, Cheshire West & Chester LA**