**WLD Teaching and Learning Digest – w/3rd September 2018**

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| **COMMUNICATION FOCUSES**    Embed the literacy marking policy – ensure students are familiar with codes (printed in student and staff planners) | **DYSLEXIA-FRIENDLY STRATEGY**  Set high expectations with no ‘grey’ areas |

**This week:**

* The **thought for the week** this week is **‘New Beginnings’ -** Please make use of the materials prepared. They are apt and hopefully provide talking points.
* **Welcome to new staff –** We have a number of new staff starting this term. A full CPD induction programme is in place (breakdown on staff noticeboard). Many thanks to those who helped last year with providing training around key areas; and thanks in advance to those who have ‘volunteered’ to lead training again. Your support is always valued.
* **Extra-curricular activities** – All Staff – please refer to email sent our regarding EC activities.
* **Study Groups** – PLEASE SELECT YOUR GROUPS THIS WEEK. We will then initiate the process again over the next few weeks (Subject Mentors/HoDs please explain to new staff). Advanced warning…to allow groups their first initial meeting, we will schedule a CPD meeting in October for groups to meet for the first time. Date TBC. This is a great CPD opportunity for anyone interested in leading a group (new or previous leaders invited).

**This Year – New\*/Continuing**

* **Top Tips in Two –** a **massive thanks** to those of you who shared ideas last year in our morning briefings. I know that everyone really valued the ideas shared and I witnessed many ideas being tried (one pen, one dice really was embraced across a number of subject areas!).
  + \* This year, I have put together a schedule so that each subject area will deliver one top tip in a given week. I will email the schedule to HoDs on Monday so that you can liaise as to who will share. As last year, I will try to rotate them throughout the week so that those on duty don’t miss them all.
* **Preston Teaching Schools Alliance** – no trainees this term; we will host a PE trainee from January to June 2019.
* **Updated lesson observation proforma –** please look at the attached. The only change is that it includes a CPD section so that your line manager (or me) can support if CPD is needed/desired.

**Teaching Approach of the Week – Keep Calm and Teach!**

This week will be all about getting to know our new classes, establishing our expectations and ensuring that we set the bar high to start with. Any chinks in our armour now, will minimise the impact that we could have.

So with this in mind, please use the following policies/documentation/approaches as matter of routine:

* **Expectations** – printed in student planners, staff guide and on the reverse of the new updated T&L Toolkit. As well as attitude to learning and effort/behaviour, please also clarify your expectations in terms of learning. Offer praise where it is worthy and deserved.
* **Intelligent planning** reaps rewards – think about your progress ladders, challenging all students and engaging them (the new teacher planners may help prompt you to think about the choices that you make).
* The 2018-19 **T&L Toolkit** – these ideas are organised into key areas for our students. Some of the ideas are from tried and tested pedagogy (many from Barak Rosenshine’s Principles of Instruction; others have come from you via to Top Tips in Two Minutes).
  + For a quick summary of Rosenshine’s key Principles, click on the following link.

<https://extra.teachinghow2s.com/workspace/uploads/resources/principles-of-instruction-1-daily-review.pdf?dl=1>

* **Literacy matters to each of us but, more importantly, to each of our them** – We are a Reading school – open a discussion about books, discuss words/vocabulary. Use the marking policy that we have had for a number of years as a matter of routine (printed in staff and student planners). This allows for really easy self/peer assessment with very little preparation.
* **Sustainability** – if we start the year with high expectations and students know that we are like ‘dogs with bones’ (metaphorically speaking) and that we are not going to give up, then we will end week/term/year with these expectations still intact.

**Top Tips in Two this Term (HoDs please organise who will share and let me know)**

Schedule emailed separately.

**Bright Spots!**

As I wandered last year, I noticed that the displays in many classrooms really highlighted good work produced by students. I noticed this in Humanities and English so if you have chance, have a look at the displays there.

**CPD Cascade**

If you have read any interesting books/articles/blogs on pedagogy that you would like to share/summarise, please email me or let me know.

Thanks for reading. ‘Like’ or reply to this email if you found anything useful.