

Millais Teaching School Alliance



Leon Nettley with other Teaching School Headteachers at the NCSL, Nottingham.

Millais School and its Strategic Partners have been working on the first phase of the Teaching School agenda over the last term. Leon Nettley, Headteacher of Millais School, attended the induction programme at the National College in Nottingham in September where he was given direction about the role of Alliances and how they would lead on shaping educational policy and practice in the future. Back at school the hard work began and the rest of the term has been spent meeting with Strategic Partners, agreeing the way forward and starting to plan the way we want to work in collaboration across the region.

What is an Alliance?

Schools work together within a teaching school alliance. An Alliance consists of a group of schools and other partners that is supported by the leadership of a teaching school. This will include all those schools that benefit by receiving support, as well as strategic partners that will lead on certain aspects of delivery. Alliances may be cross phase and cross sector, work across local authorities and may include different types of organisations.

What is Millais School's role as a Teaching School?

As well as offering support, teaching schools will be expected to identify, develop and co-ordinate expertise in other schools for the benefit of all pupils across a network of schools – they will play a key part in driving school improvement. This will include brokering support from Specialist Leaders in Education (SLEs).

Millais Teaching School

Strategic Partners — key players in the delivery of the Teaching School agenda

School

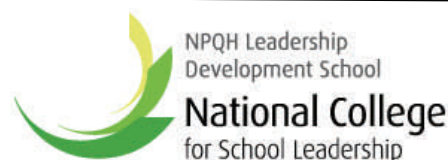
St Paul's Catholic College, Burgess Hill
Oathall Community College, Haywards Heath
Imberhome School, East Grinstead
Davison Church of England High School for Girls, Worthing
Rusper Primary School, Horsham
Holbrook Primary School, Horsham
QEII Silver Jubilee School, Horsham
University of Brighton (Education Department)

Headteacher/ Lead

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Working with our partners

Teaching schools, together with their strategic partners, will be expected to plan and manage a coherent, school-led approach to teacher and leadership training and development, linking this to the priorities of their partnership and their own school improvement planning. Additionally, teaching schools will be responsible for assuring the quality of the work that they and their strategic partners undertake across the following areas:

- initial teacher training
- continuing professional development
- leadership development and talent management
- support for schools

Millais School Alliance Members

Alliance Members are those who have made a commitment to work in partnership with Millais School. This currently comprises the group of Strategic Partners (see front page) and additionally those schools working in the HELP Partnership (Horsham East Learning Partnership); this collective group of schools form the initial alliance. It is envisaged it will grow as more schools want to work on collaborative projects and partnerships.

Millais School (Secondary)	Forest School (Secondary)
All Saints Primary	Heron Way Primary
Horsham Nursery	Colgate Primary
Holbrook Primary	QEII Special School
Rusper Primary	Kingslea Primary
Northheath Primary	Leechpool Primary
St Peters Primary, Cowfold	Littlehaven Primary
Robert Southwell Primary	Northolmes Primary
St Andrews Primary	Holy Trinity Primary

Good News!

Thirty two top universities, including Oxford and Warwick, will recruit 306 trainees onto new physics with mathematics courses from September 2012. These courses, on top of the more traditional physics only courses, will mean that universities will be aiming to recruit 1,150 physics trainees in total – a record number.

We are delighted that the University of Brighton and Millais School Alliance will be part of a this new programme, supporting training for 20 students.

What are SLEs?

Specialist leaders of education (SLEs) are outstanding middle and senior leaders who have the skills to support individuals or teams in similar positions in other schools. They understand what outstanding leadership practice in their area of expertise looks like and are skilled in helping other leaders to achieve it in their own context. The first application round has closed and successful applicants will be invited for interview over the next month.

The Millais School Alliance has been awarded 7 SLE placements. Millais will be responsible for their appointment and deployment. Their work will contribute to improving outcomes for children, with priority likely to be given to supporting the needs of underperforming and challenged schools.

New members

Any school who would like support in any of the four key areas or is interested in collaborative work and wishes to join the Alliance should contact the Teaching School Director, Shirley Springer at Millais School email: shirley.springer@millais.org.uk



The Alliance and e-PD

As a separate entity from the Millais Teaching School Alliance, e-PD was established in June 2011 by the wider West Sussex schools network as a non-profit training organisation to meet real professional development needs in our schools. With complementary aims based on the principle of schools working together by collaborating and pooling resources, there is considerable scope for co-working and delivering some of the Alliance's programmes through the e-PD structure.

With over 200 subscribing schools across all phases, e-PD offers strength and expertise in depth including 'advocate' Headteachers and support from Lead Practitioners and Advanced Skills Teachers. Regular forums are planned to identify specific skills and ideas including the provision of leadership programmes to meet needs.

e-PD has the support of the Learning Service and is attracting growing interest as a means to coordinate and extend the delivery of some national and regional learning and development agendas. As such, the synergy between e-PD and the Alliance promises innovative solutions and will strengthen the learning community on the pathway to a self-improving school system.

The e-PD website is www.e-pd.org.uk and further details can be obtained by emailing info@e-pd.org.uk or telephoning 01403 282019.