



Department  
for Education

# INVITATION

## Stoke-on-Trent Opportunity Area Celebration

Friday 1 July 2022  
from 10am to 4pm  
at the Catalyst Building,  
Staffordshire University

- Sharing Learning
- Developing Networks
- Informing Next Steps  
for Educational  
Improvement

# Stoke-on-Trent Opportunity Area Celebration 1 July 2022

We will:

-  Celebrate success
-  Share experience and develop networks
-  Look at what's next for children and young people in Stoke-on-Trent
-  Help you to make connections

The programme for the day offers a mix of workshop sessions and a market-stall type area, all of which will encourage collaboration and participation.

## The programme

Please note the programme is indicative only and subject to change.

Doors open for registration <b>08:30</b>	Arrival, registration, refreshments.
<b>10:15 - 11:00</b>	Welcome address hosted by our co-chairs of the OA Partnership Board, Liz Barnes CBE and Carol Shanahan OBE.  'The Story of Stoke-on-Trent Opportunity Area'
<b>11:00 - 11:10</b>	Comfort break
<b>11:10 - 11:30</b>	<b>WORKSHOP SESSION ONE</b>
<b>11:35 - 11:55</b>	<b>WORKSHOP SESSION TWO</b>
<b>12:00 - 12:20</b>	<b>WORKSHOP SESSION THREE</b>
<b>12:25 - 13:10</b> 45 mins	<b>Lunch break</b> – picnic style lunch will be provided
<b>13:15 - 13:35</b>	<b>WORKSHOP SESSION FOUR</b>
<b>13:40 - 15:30</b>	<b>Keynote Session with Marc Rowland: Addressing Educational Disadvantage in Stoke-on-Trent and Creating a Sustainable Impact.</b> Marc is currently the adviser for improving outcomes for disadvantaged learners for the Unity Schools Partnership. Marc works on a range of programmes focussed on ameliorating educational disadvantage. He has worked with the Department for Education and over 500 schools to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. <b>Discussion Panel: What's Next for Children and Young People in Stoke-on-Trent?</b> A panel of representatives from Stoke-on-Trent City Council, the Education Challenge Board and the OA Partnership Board will discuss next steps for educational improvement in Stoke-on-Trent and take questions from delegates.
<b>15:30 – 16:00</b>	<b>Networking opportunity</b>

 **Music performances from children and young people of the Stoke-on-Trent City Music Service will take place throughout the day for delegates to enjoy.**

## Refreshments

In addition to the refreshments provided, the Catalyst Building has a deli café which will be open throughout the day if delegates wish to purchase a hot lunch or any other items.



# RSVP

Please complete the form below and send by email to [sot.oa@education.gov.uk](mailto:sot.oa@education.gov.uk) by **Friday 27 May 2022**

Name:

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Job role/title:

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Organisation:

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Email :

Telephone number:

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Dietary requirements (please tick boxes and name other were appropriate):

vegan  vegetarian  gluten-free  halal  other

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(please add any allergies or other dietary requirements)

Any additional needs or information for the event organisers:

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Any other comments:

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## Workshop attendance

There will be 4 workshop sessions throughout the day. Please indicate your first and second choices for each of these sessions.

We are aware that some delegates may be unable to attend for the whole day due to other commitments. In this case, please leave any workshop sessions you are unable to attend blank and let us know when you plan to attend during the day in the comments box above, so that we can plan for catering accordingly.

Please complete the form and send by email to [sot.oa@education.gov.uk](mailto:sot.oa@education.gov.uk) by Friday 27 May 2022

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# Workshop session 1 11:10 – 11:30

Please indicate your first and second choice of workshop

## 1. Early Years: Closing the Word Gap Project Sarah Jimenez-Novoa & Victoria Bailey

**Speech and language as the golden thread for all aspects of learning**

Sharing why speech and language underpin learning, key aspects to consider for schools and settings and success stories from schools which have taken part in the programme. Suitable for practitioners working with all ages.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 2. English Key Stage 2/3: English Excellence Partnership

**Introduction by Margaret Yates  
Senior Executive Leader**

**A Celebration of the 'Treasure Island' Transition Unit (10 minutes) Rachel Johnson/Sarah Preston**

A short presentation showcasing the achievements of 'Treasure Island': work samples, quotations from staff and students, feedback from case studies and a tribute to Gareth Jones (montage at the end accompanied by music).

**Non-Fiction into Fiction (10 minutes) Chris Davies/  
Rachel Johnson/Working Party**

- An introduction to the 'Non-Fiction into Fiction' publication by the working party.
- Colleagues will present the rationale behind the unit and explain the benefits on teaching and learning.
- A 'market stall' will be set up at the event with copies of the unit and texts for delegates to peruse.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 3. SSTEAC (Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Teacher Educator Collective) Di Swift

**Supporting our Teacher Educators**

The Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Teacher Education Collective (SSTEAC) was created through Opportunity Area funding to enable Initial Teacher Training (ITT) providers who work across the city and sub-region to come together to support school-based teacher educators (TEs). SSTEAC has created a web-

based dialogic tool ([www.sstec.online](http://www.sstec.online)) that enhances and enriches the work of all TEs, regardless of phase, subject or provider. This workshop will share both the resource itself but also how the Collective has enabled providers to sustain and develop the essential work of our teacher educators.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 4. Post-16 Emotional Wellbeing in Further Education

**Jane Betteley and Kirsty Cooper**

Our journey through the 12 month project of providing mental health support to post-16 learners across the City of Stoke-on-Trent. This workshop will focus on the challenges and successes of the project as well as our plans for sustainability.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 5. Marketplace

A dedicated space open throughout the day which will host market stalls led by project leads, partners, teachers and associates. Here you will find a wealth of information, resources and food for thought, from the early years right through to post-16. You are sure to leave the marketplace feeling inspired and with plenty of ideas to take back to your school or setting.

First Choice  Second Choice



## Workshop session 2 11:35 – 11:55

Please indicate your first and second choice of workshop

### 1. Early Years: SMILE Project

Farha Aziz & Elise Lewis

**SMILE- targeting speech and language right from the start**

Sharing the successful mainstreaming of a targeted speech and language programme for 18-30 month olds developed as part of the OA project.

First Choice  Second Choice

### 2 Key Stage 2 Maths: Stoke-on-Trent Mathematics Excellence Partnership

Ceri Bedford & Simon Bullock

**Improving through collaboration**

Stoke-on-Trent Mathematics Excellence Partnership was launched in February 2016 with the aim of improving mathematics teaching and learning in Stoke-on-Trent.

The first phase of the project focused on Secondary mathematics with a second phase on Post 16. In December 2018 the partnership was successful in its bid to receive Opportunity Area funding to expand and extend its work into primary schools.

The ethos of the project has been to work both within schools and across schools and trusts to develop teaching and learning through collaboration. This workshop will look at how this has been achieved with examples of the project's activity, the impact this has had and how we hope it will be sustained.

First Choice  Second Choice

### 3. Key Stage 4 English: English Excellence Partnership

Tom Pinkstone & Jaime Peacock

**Improving KS4 outcomes in English**

How to set up and maintain a purposeful network of schools centered around sharing best practice. In this session, we will provide details of how to organise and deliver subject specific CPD to colleagues, establish innovative teaching approaches and promote students' independence.

First Choice  Second Choice

### 4. Behaviour and Attendance Project

Angela Hallam & Carli Parkes

**The effective use of internal AP & Nurture Hubs to improve pupil attendance and to reduce exclusions**

The workshop will share examples of the journeys schools have undertaken to set up effective internal AP and Nurture Hub provision, showcasing the lessons learnt and sharing good practice.

During the workshop we will demonstrate how effective use of internal AP and Nurture Hub provision can have a positive impact on improving attendance, reducing exclusions and also in supporting pupils' emotional wellbeing and engagement with learning, helping to secure better outcomes and life chances.

First Choice  Second Choice

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First Choice  Second Choice



# Workshop session 3 12:00 – 12:20

Please indicate your first and second choice of workshop

## 1. Early Years: Improving Literacy and Numeracy Debbie Jacobs

Early Years Team, Stoke-on-Trent City Council

This project has used OA funding to improve outcomes in the Early Years in phonics and maths, from CPD for Early Years staff to SLE support and collaboration with the city’s Curriculum Partnerships, whilst also providing resources and supports for parents in our community.

The workshop will explore the impact and legacy this has had in PVIs and schools across the city, demonstrating the many resources that are now available to support children at this crucial stage of learning.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 2. Key Stage 2 Science: Science Across the City Christina Whittaker supported by school-based lead science practitioners

Why did what we did make such a big difference?  
The SATC story of success

This session supports the reflection on the ‘Bananarama’ effect of the OA project known as ‘Science across the City’ ([www.scienceacrossthecity.co.uk](http://www.scienceacrossthecity.co.uk)). Explore with members of the SATC team not just what we did but the way that we did it: “That’s what gets results!”

With Stoke-on-Trent primary science project outcomes now regularly celebrated and shared beyond the city, find out the key messages of project design that make others think and talk about SATC approaches.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 3. Football Mentoring project: Stoke City Community Trust David Bartrum

Making the most of mentoring

Mentoring is a personalised way of supporting an individual. Our mentors develop a safe environment with each young person and focus on developing a trusting positive relationship with the young person. Our mentoring staff listen to young people and try to identify the cause of any concerns and work with the young person to develop skills and strategies to build resilience and make positive changes in their life. We have delivered mentoring and one to one support to young people in schools for over 5 years. This workshop is based on our experience and will

support schools and other referral agencies in how to best use mentoring in an educational setting.

Topics discussed:

- Referral/identification - cause or effect
- Meeting the needs of pupils
- Culture Change
- Examples of success and value for money impact of mentoring

First Choice  Second Choice

## 4. Post-16 GCSE Resits project: English Helen Hewlett

Improving GCSE English Levels in Resit Learners

Helen Hewlett is Stoke-on-Trent’s English consultant. She was tasked with improving the GCSE English resit results across all three colleges in the city. In this workshop Helen will cover some of the varied strategies used by each college to help achieve this.

Stoke-on-Trent College’s ‘Licence to Practice English’ was developed to equip learners with the specific skills ready in advance of sitting the GCSE examinations.

Newcastle College focused on teaching English in vocational areas improving learner literacy skills through their main subject and Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form took a focused approach to tackling levels of motivation and engagement.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 5. Family by Family project Carly Attridge

Shared Lives Plus

Shared Lives Plus invites you to come and learn about Family by Family from their network of families thriving in Stoke-on-Trent. They will be sharing more on what the model is, what they have learnt and what’s been most important to families, as well as plans for the future.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 6. Marketplace

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First Choice  Second Choice

# Workshop session 4 13:15 – 13:35

Please indicate your first and second choice of workshop

## 1. Holiday Activities and Food:

### The HUBB Foundation

**Sheena Bateman & Adam Yates**

#### Opportunity-Area funded Holiday and Activities Programme, the HUBB Foundation

The HUBB Foundation team will demonstrate how OA funding was used to deliver holiday and activities programmes for children and young people in Stoke-on-Trent during school holidays, and the impact that this has had on our community.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 2. Better Together

**Kayleigh Harold & Rachel Dodd**

'Better Together' was a joint OA and LA funded project covering primary and secondary schools in the city. Schools were provided with a link to a Social Worker and Educational Psychologist, helping to identify children and families at risk of running into difficulties as well as training school staff in spotting the early signs.

This workshop will inform delegates about the learning and legacy from this project, and how this has been woven into the new Supporting Families Stoke-on-Trent service.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 3. Football Mentoring project:

### Port Vale Foundation

**Tom Sherratt (Head of Foundation) & Will Turner (Head of Business and Community Development) for Port Vale FC**

#### Dare to Dream

Port Vale Foundation have used the power of football and delivered the Football Mentoring Programme in partnership with Stoke-on-Trent Opportunity Area since September 2020. The project has allowed young people to "Dare to Dream". They have dared to dream by raising aspirations, improving their attainment and opening up future opportunities and taking control of their future.

The organisation will share their model for the successful delivery of the programme, the success stories, challenges and future plans to embed this approach into their mainstream work supporting them in achieving one of their core strategic objectives of increasing educational aspirations and attainment.

They will discuss the approach of creating a mentoring partnership network across the city with a shared set of values and an agreed outcomes framework. The blended approach of one to one mentoring and group activity supports young people throughout the year. Our lead coach mentors develop a safe environment and an individualised plan for the young people to focus on their strengths, building confidence and setting goals.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 4. Post-16 GCSE Resits: Maths

**Martin Newton**

#### Improving confidence and achievement in post-16 maths across Stoke-on-Trent

Martin Newton of Mathematics in Education and Industry has worked across Stoke-on-Trent on the project to improve confidence and achievement in mathematics. This has been achieved across the city through a range of initiatives working with maths specialists and vocational teachers at the 3 city colleges and with independent training providers. The project became known as ASK Maths. Come along to this session to find out about some of the innovative initiatives that have supported the change and improvements to mathematics across Stoke-on-Trent.

First Choice  Second Choice

## 5. Marketplace

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First Choice  Second Choice

## The Venue

The event will be held at the Catalyst building at Staffordshire University. The Catalyst is located on the Leek Road Campus on the former Brindley building site.

### By rail

The building is within a few minutes walk of Stoke-on-Trent railway station, which is served by frequent direct services from national rail operators.

### By bus

The Leek Road campus has excellent bus links with the city centre and wider area.

### By car

Our Stoke-on-Trent campus is within easy reach of the M6 motorway, A50 and A34 if you're travelling by car.

### Parking

Parking is available on the Leek Road Campus and will be **free of charge** for all delegates on the day. Please use the postcode ST4 2DF to get to the Leek Road campus car park. There are five car parks on the Leek Road site which you can use, all of which are just a short walk from the Catalyst building. Car park 1 is immediately on your left at the mini roundabout. All other car parks can be found by turning right. Please refer to the detailed campus map for the exact locations [How to find us - Staffordshire University \(staffs.ac.uk\)](https://www.staffs.ac.uk)

## Further details and queries:

Please contact Kay Nicholls at [SoT.OA@education.gov.uk](mailto:SoT.OA@education.gov.uk)

Thank you for your interest in our event, and we very much look forward to seeing you on 1 July. You will receive a confirmation email when we receive your booking which will explain the next steps.



Stoke-on-Trent

### GET IN TOUCH

 [SoT.OA@education.gov.uk](mailto:SoT.OA@education.gov.uk)

 [@StokeonTrentOA](https://twitter.com/StokeonTrentOA)