



Warwickshire
Teaching School Alliance

Warwickshire Early Years Foundation Stage Aspiration Networks Briefing Paper for Nurseries



National Teaching School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership

Context

Warwickshire Teaching School Alliance is working in partnership with Warwickshire County Council to support quality improvement and provide advice across the early years sector and to facilitate the objectives of the Education Strategy

WE1

Our challenge is to foster childrens love of learning from birth through early childhood and into year 1 so that all young children achieve their potential. Together we will champion the Early Years Foundation Stage. In 2018/19 we will:

- Coordinate high quality training
- Help parents to provide language rich learning at home
- Secure sufficient childcare
- Check that safeguarding arrangements are robust

Rationale: “Our aspirations are our possibilities.” — *Robert Browning*

The overwhelming evidence from research indicates that high quality early learning and care is essential to give children the concrete start they need to achieve better outcomes in school and beyond. Children who experience high quality provision develop better social, emotional and cognitive abilities. Conversely poor quality provision does not support children’s learning and development in the long term.

The Local Authority has a duty to secure the provision of information, advice and training to childcare providers and childcare workers.

Developing the workforce is integral to all aspects of quality improvement.

The best continuing professional development (CPD) is seen via a systematic framework that is sustainable so that everyone can access it and where content and approaches are based on knowledge of what works well.

CPD needs to be transformative, that is it makes a difference which lasts over time.

The framework to develop this opportunity will be provided via the establishment of fourteen area based **Early Years Aspiration Networks** open to all early years practitioners to link early years providers with Schools in their locality. Each network will be facilitated and supported by a member of the Warwickshire Teaching School Alliance allowing national information to be shared.

The Aspiration Networks will focus upon:

- effective teaching & learning
- effective practice for the 30 hours model
- assessment and moderation
- vulnerable learners, closing the gap
- what 'good' or better practice looks like and how to achieve it
- the leadership of quality improvement,
- action research & learning from innovation
- communication & language development
- family engagement in learning
- practitioner wellbeing
- the development of system leadership across the early years sector.



The network will champion collaboration and enable all early years practitioners to share good practice and work together.

Organisation

Early Years Aspiration Networks will meet 5 or 6 times each year with an agenda based on the areas above and local needs identified by data analysis and Ofsted feedback. Attendance will ensure 'membership' of the Aspiration network and support evidencing of CPD. There is no charge.



The meetings will be facilitated and supported by Maintained Nursery Schools and Warwickshire TSA members. The meetings will take place across 14 localities linked to School consortia areas. The venue for each meeting will rotate to support the sharing of good practice and will rely on offers to 'host' meetings.

A phased roll out will commence in November 2018. The Aspiration Network meetings will in some areas be built upon the very strong early year's meetings already in place. Before a new network is developed we will be mindful of local arrangements already in place.



Limited funding is available to support each network with action research.

Over time Specialist leaders of Education (SLE) and Specialist Early Years Educators (SEE) will be accredited and these roles developed to support the delivery of the networks and to provide some direct support for those settings and schools in particular need. Release costs for LLE / SLE & SEE's will be at Warwickshire TSA release rates