

A belated Happy New Year to you! The team here at HUDCETT hope you had a good break and that you returned refreshed and energised to put in place those all important new year's resolutions for your teaching. We have some exciting events and CPD opportunities for you this term, and this newsletter also includes a valuable teaching tip from Geoff Petty which will save you oodles of time and improve your learners' progress so read on!

Upcoming Events

1. "Planning Your English and Maths CPD for 2016/17" on Wednesday, 16th March 2016 at the University of Huddersfield

This free half day conference is aimed at Programme Leaders of maths and English. The event focuses on lessons learned from the first two years of the government's policy on GCSE English and maths and will be led by Sue Lownsborough and John Barton, the Regional Specialist Leads for English and maths respectively. The event will start at 10am (registration from 9.30) and close with lunch at 12.30. Further details and a booking link will be available at <http://consortium.hud.ac.uk> from Monday, 15th February.

2. "Maths and English in Future Apprenticeships": the why, what and how to increase confidence in delivering English/maths learning within the new Apprenticeship standards

This one day briefing session is available at two regional venues:

- a. Yorkshire and Humberside event** is on Friday, 4th March at Superdrug, Stadium Way/Dale La, Pontefract WF9 2XR. This event costs £100 per

person (including lunch) and bookings can be made at <http://www.et-foundation.co.uk/supporting/courses/> The booking reference for this event is P88C8

- b. North West event** is on Monday, 21st March at Skills Solution, City Tower, New York St, Manchester M1 4BT. This event costs £100 (including lunch) and bookings can be made at <http://www.et-foundation.co.uk/supporting/courses/> The booking reference for this event is P88C7

3. "Maths and English Colloquium"

This blended half-day event is on Friday 4th March and is aimed at those with responsibility for the leadership, management and governance of English and maths. The event starts at 10am and finishes at 1pm (lunch follows the close of the session). Local venues are Hugh Baird College, Liverpool and In Touch Care, Sheffield. Guest speakers include Ofsted's Paul Joyce and Dr Ron Hill. For further information go to <http://gcseleadership.com/gcse-leadership-colloquium/> Bookings can be made at <http://www.et-foundation.co.uk/supporting/courses/> The booking reference for this event is P84C1

4. "Behaviour management Conference"

University of Huddersfield on Friday, 1st July. The cost of this event is £100 per person to non-Consortium college staff. Full details of the event and a booking link will be available at <http://consortium.hud.ac.uk/> from Monday 29th February. Consortium partner colleges and their trainees will get a separate email with details of how to book.

Professional Development opportunities

There are still some courses you can take advantage of to support maths and English delivery but time is running out. All these courses finish in March 2016.

Maths – Teaching the new GCSE Maths specifications

There are three 1 day courses available in ‘Number, Probability and Statistics’; ‘Ratio, Proportion and Algebra’; and ‘Geometry and Measure’. Each of these courses is available at Simian (Birchwood, Warrington); Kirklees College (Huddersfield); Askham Bryan College (York); and Hull College. The cost is £100 per person per day. Dates of courses and how to book your place are on the [ETF website](#).

Core Maths – The Training Programme

A free 3 day course is available in Manchester (3rd, 4th and 5th March); Birmingham (4th, 11th and 12th March); and London (10th, 11th and 12th March). Further details and book your place on the [ETF website](#).

English – Supporting your learners to develop their English

1 day in-house course available. Cost is £350 (call Sue or email her – see below)

Functional Skills Consultation

The consultation process on the future of functional skills is now open. Visit the [PyeTait](#) website to register your interest and for further information.

Consultation on GCSE Resit Availability (Ofqual)

Ofqual has announced consultations on GCSE resits with particular reference to the possibility of a May/June 2017 resit for GCSEs in maths and English which would mean that the 2016/2017 cohort would not need to take the new GCSE specification from scratch in a year. The consultation is open until **2nd February**. Make your views known [here](#).

Teaching Tip

Diagnostic Questions - Teaching Tip from Geoff Petty

Diagnostic questions is the topic of Geoff Petty’s article in December’s *InTuition*. In it he talks about the value of “finding faults and fixing them with diagnostic questions”. So what are diagnostic questions and how can they improve teaching and learning?

Petty gives examples of questions for maths and English that a tutor can ask their learners during a teaching session. The idea is to ask the whole group about six true or false questions about the key concepts being taught. The questions include some common misconceptions learners have for that particular topic. A quick show of thumbs up or down for each question gives the tutor an overview of all the learners’ grasp of the topic. This method provides the tutor with information for early intervention to address areas for improvement which Petty calls a “genius teaching method” and “real time formative assessment”.

For further information see Petty, G., (2015) The best teaching method? Finding faults and fixing them with diagnostic questions *InTuition* Issue 22 Winter 2015 p. 30-31 (*InTuition* is free for all members of the Society for Education) and Petty, G., (2009) *Evidence - based teaching: a practical approach*, 2nd Edition, Cheltenham: Nelson Thornes.

Not a member of The Society for Education and Training (SET) yet? Have a look at their website. <https://set.et-foundation.co.uk/>. SET offers support, 20% discount for CPD as well as the informative journal *InTuition* and much more.

Contact Details

For further information about any of these events or for support with your maths and English teaching and learning contact:

English - Sue Lownsbrough on 077 468 04135
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