



## Newsletter - September 2019

Welcome back to a new school year. The Partners at PFSI hope you have enjoyed a lovely break over the summer period and the new term has settled down well for you.

### **PFSI Website - Updated schools password**

To maintain the 'schools area' of the website solely for PFSI schools, each year we update the password access for this part of the site. The new password for PFSI schools to access the schools tab of the website is: `pfsi_schoOls19`

There are now over 90 self-evaluation and school improvement tools and templates available on the site in the 'schools area' section, including updated Ofsted documentation for the new Ofsted Framework. [Click on this link](#) and then enter the new PFSI password above to log in. We are regularly updating and adding new documents, so it's worth having a look at the documentation available to support your self-evaluation and school improvement processes.

### **Upcoming CPD Events**

Our developing range of CPD events have been very well received over the last five years and we have used your evaluation sheets to plan our latest courses. Our next event is entitled 'Inspecting the Substance of Education' – The new Ofsted Education Inspection framework, to be held at the Cambridge Golf and Conference Centre on September 26th, 9.15 - 3.30. Working in partnership with Focus Education, the 'Partnerships for School Improvement' team has organised this one-day course for headteachers, senior and middle leaders, and governors. It will provide you with an overview of the revised September 2019 Ofsted inspection arrangements and enable you to consider the implications for your school. It will help you to prepare your staff and governors for the demands of the revised Ofsted Education Inspection Framework.

We are delighted that Tim Nelson, Focus Education Consultant, will join us for the morning to give a full overview of the new September 2019 Ofsted Education Inspection Framework.

School leaders will have time during the afternoon to consider the implications and what you will need to do to ensure that their school is fully prepared to meet the demands of the new framework and handbook.

If you are interested and haven't yet booked a place, please contact Nigel as soon as possible:

[nigelbattey@pfsi.co.uk](mailto:nigelbattey@pfsi.co.uk)

### **Future plans and news**

Thank you to those partner schools who have already taken part in our new Peer Review scheme. The participants, including the PFSI partners, have all found the experience enjoyable and very useful. Here is a quote from one of the participating Headteachers:

'I have found this process rewarding, useful and excellent CPD for our school and for me as a head teacher. The first review was at my school where our focus was 'how well are children fed back to about their learning and does it impact on progress now that teachers no longer mark in children's books.' In addition, we wanted to find out if the new feedback and responding to children's work policy had reduced teacher workload and the impact of this. I prepared and sent out the key lines of enquiry, the context of the identified focus area and timetable in advance so we all knew our roles when everyone arrived. I was nervous at the start and I know some of the teachers were too. We started with a learning walk, talking with children and looking in their workbooks followed by interviewing the teachers. The morning ran to time and we all felt we could be open and honest in the discussions we had around the learning walks, talking with children and staff. The most useful part of this part of the process for our school was the collective responses from a team who notice different things, have different perspectives on things and discuss this all with you as a group rather than listening to feedback from one or two people. The pupils, teachers and other staff felt valued and listened to. Visiting other schools in the process has been equally if not more rewarding in this peer review process. I had high quality CPD and feedback on three occasions through this process. My SDP has objectives which were identified in the visit to my school as well as the subsequent visits to the schools in my Peer Review Team. I have established trusting relationships with the partner schools and PfSI partners and look forward to this becoming part of our school's CPD and review process every year.'

If you are interested in setting up a peer review group but haven't let us know, please contact your PfSI partner as soon as possible.

The introduction of the revised Ofsted framework means there will be a new emphasis the intent, implementation and impact of the curriculum across the full range of subjects in the primary phase. As some of our schools have asked us to consider Subject Leadership as our next conference subject, we have plans to put on a training event in the spring term. If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

## **Arrangements with your PfSI Partner for 2019-20**

By now you will have discussed with your Partner your ongoing requirements for the forthcoming year. Don't forget that Partners are able to offer you bespoke visits, tailored directly to your school improvement and self-evaluation priorities. The ['services' page](#) on our website gives you a flavour of the variety of the support we can offer you. Please do not hesitate to contact your Partner if you are seeking something that we have not listed – we may be able to help.

## **PfSI Charges for 2019-20**

A reminder for you and your finance team. As of 1st September 2019, the PfSI daily rate remains at £450 per day. This usually covers a half-day visit, plus a half-day to prepare and write any necessary reports.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to support your school improvement, whatever the world of education has in store for us this year! We hope the term goes well for you and all at school.

With best wishes

The PfSI Partners