

Nancy Malkin

Issue 6 – Autumn term '15



Welcome back!

Update – 2014-15 was a very busy year for 'Narrowing the Gaps' with the highlights being two exciting and innovative pilot projects and two conferences. (NB All info and resources can be found on Q2P).

This year 'Narrowing the Gaps' is aiming even higher and will focus on sharing outstanding national and local practice and you will all play a vital role in driving this agenda forward. The pilot projects are being rolled out, if you want to be involved, and there will be some fabulous trips out to national PP Award winning schools, including to Tower Hamlets, throughout the year as well as courses and training sessions. I hope you will get involved and be inspired!

Provisional 2015 FSM 'Gap' Results

EY – GLD = **16.9%**, **wider** than 2014 by 0.6%.

KS1 – L2+ Read **8.6%**, Write **13.2%**, Maths **7.8%**.
Narrower than 2014 by Read 3.3%, Write 2.3%, Maths 3%

KS2 – L4+ Read, Write, Maths combined = **18%**.
Narrower than 2014 by 6.3%.

KS4 – 5 A*-C incl Eng + Ma GCSE = TBC

NOTE - results have not been validated and there is no national gap data for comparison yet.

Words Count

One of our Health and Well Being Priorities is to increase levels of Literacy for all our communities in North Lincolnshire. Words Count is a project which aims to improve the levels of Literacy (reading and writing) for all children and families and we all know that low levels of literacy have the greatest impact on disadvantaged pupils. For further info please look at: <http://www.northlincs.gov.uk/schools-libraries-learning/schools-colleges-education/words-count-north-lincs/words-count/>

Poverty Proofing the School Day

Last year a project called 'Poverty Proofing the

School Day' was piloted which focuses on removing barriers faced by children in school who are living in poverty. The over-arching principle of 'Poverty Proofing' is that no school policy or practice should discriminate on the basis of a pupil's financial situation. Run with support from the Newcastle charity 'Children North East' it involved six local schools – primary and secondary – and brought together the views of pupils, parents, teachers, school staff and governors. For further information about Children North East please take a look at their website: <http://www.children-ne.org.uk/> The project proved to be highly engaging and a powerful tool for change in all six schools. This project is now being rolled out so that any school who wishes to can be 'poverty proofed'. Further information will be sent out in the Autumn term, including the key findings from the six schools.

"Overcoming poverty is not a task of charity, it is an act of justice. Like Slavery and Apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings. Sometimes it falls on a generation to be great. YOU can be that great generation. Let your greatness blossom." — Nelson Mandela

Pedagogy Project

Also last year, a project called 'The Pedagogy Project' was piloted which focused on developing practical teaching strategies for FSM pupils in secondary schools. Selected schools formed a regional network and included a lead teacher from each school discussing NtG topics, such as cross curricular Literacy and parental engagement, and a focused project on developing teaching strategies to improve pupils' attainment in English, Maths and Science using the skills of Jake Mansell, a Consultant from the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. For further information about Jake and his work look at: <http://www.narrowingthegaps.org/> This small scale project was successful and very popular with classroom teachers and is now being extended to include other secondary schools and primary schools.



Pupil Premium

Now that results are in it is a good time to be reviewing last year's spending and impact on results. Remember to consider value for money i.e. benchmark PP pupils' progress with national non-PP and spending.

Pupil Premium Awards

No winners in our region for primary or secondary last year but I am hopeful that we will have some winners here in N Lincs this year! Entry is now automatic but you will be contacted by DfE if you qualify to ask if you want to proceed to the award stage. Even if you don't win there are there are hundreds of Qualifier Awards on offer for schools whose disadvantaged pupils have made the most sustained progress.

You can also for the first time apply for a **high aspiration award of £25,000**. This is an award designed to reward those schools that have excelled in improving outcomes for their **most able disadvantaged** pupils, in the context of improving attainment for all of their pupils. For more info about prizes on offer and timescales see: <http://www.pupilpremiumawards.co.uk/ppawards2015/2016-awards>

Early Years PP (EYPP)

From April 2015, nurseries, schools, childminders and other childcare providers have been able to claim extra funding through the Early Years Pupil Premium to support children's development, learning and care. For further information about EYPP please see: <http://www.northlincs.gov.uk/schools-libraries-learning/early-years/information-for-childcare-providers/>

Adolescent Lifestyle Survey

Last year's survey in N Lincs revealed the following:

- only 53% of FSM Boys reported having somewhere quiet to do homework
- only 41% of FSM girls reported that they eat breakfast every day
- higher proportions of FSM pupils reported 'spending time looking after a sick or disabled relative' – almost 1 in 4 FSM Boys (and 15% of FSM Girls). A Young Carers policy for schools can be found on Q2P: http://c0275115.myzen.co.uk/?page_id=571
- The proportion of FSM and non-FSM boys reporting 'thinking that they'll be in FE at 18/19 years old' was low (50% and 47%), compared with girls (59% and 68%).

Let's Hear it for the Boys!

What better way to get boys engaged in literacy than to get the LEGO set out!



'StoryStarter' has been named Best Primary Resource at this year's Education Resource Awards. A **FREE** workshop to look at this product will take place this term followed by, if there is enough interest, a full day's training run by LEGO on improving boys' literacy using the 'StoryStarter' pack and a pilot project. A pack includes software & a curriculum pack as well as 1,144 pieces of LEGO. For more information about 'StoryStarter' look at <https://education.lego.com/en-gb/lesi/elementary/storystarter>

Narrowing the Gap (White British Boys' Literacy) Learning Network

Each member of the 'Improving White British Boys' Literacy' Learning Network is doing a piece of action research into an aspect which is relevant to their school context. The results of these will be published on the Q2P website in January '16.

Pupil Premium Co-ordinators' Network

Anyone with responsibility for co-ordinating PP in school, or just has an interest in PP or NtG, can attend this FREE session. It provides all schools with an informal opportunity to find out about and share good practice as well as to network with other schools across the LA.

NtG courses / meetings this term

- 24th Sept @ LDC (9.15am-4.15pm). Developing Middle Leaders programme, Session 5, Narrowing the Gap.
- 30th Sept @ LDC. (1.30- 3.30pm). White British Boys' Literacy Learning Network.
- 1st Oct @ LDC. (6.30- 8.30pm). Governor Training - Closing the Gap - an introductory course
- 16th Oct @ LDC (1pm-4pm). NtG input for ITT students.
- 19th Oct @ LDC (9am-4pm). Pedagogy Project day 1 – primary.
- 20th Oct @ LDC (9am-4pm). Pedagogy Project day 1 – secondary (cohort 2 only).
- 20th Oct @ LDC (4-5pm). PP Co-ordinators meeting.
- 21st Oct @ LDC (4-5.30pm). A FREE 90 mins hands on LEGO workshop.

My contact details:

For bespoke in-school support and advice on NtG and PP please contact me using these details:

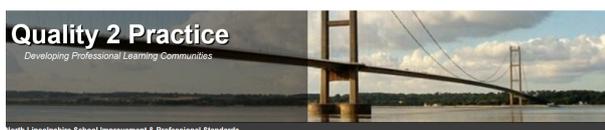
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Local and national NtG info, news and resources can be found on the Q2P website at:

http://c0275115.myzen.co.uk/?page_id=314 or just Google - **q2p NtG**

This site has been updated over the Summer with new resources so please take a look!



Narrowing The Gap

This section provides information and guidance on 'Narrowing the Gaps' for all 'vulnerable' groups but most of the focus is on FSM/poverty and boys. School leaders and classroom teachers at all Key Stages, and in all settings in North Lincolnshire, should find practical resources here to support their work. There is a mix of national information and research as well as local NtG news and resources.



NOTICE: You can now follow 'NtG North Lincs' on Twitter
@NtG_North_Lincs

This is a very useful way to keep up to date with all things NtG and **no you don't have to join Twitter to read it!**, you only have to have an account if you want to comment or 'follow'. Just Google NtG_North_Lincs and you can read it all. Give it a go!