



English Hubs

The Cornerstone English Hub

What are English Hubs?

In September 2018, the DfE appointed 32 English Hub schools across England to support schools to deliver excellent early language and phonics teaching in Reception and Key Stage 1.

We are delighted that The Cornerstone English Hub is one of the chosen 34 schools. We have had a busy first year and are already working with schools across the South West.

We are passionate about supporting schools to ensure that every child is a reader and are eager to continue to expand our support offer as we move into our second year.



Our next steps

In order to increase our capacity and support more schools on an intensive basis, The Cornerstone English Hub will be recruiting Literacy Specialist Teachers to be part of our English Hub team. This is an important leadership role which will give you the capacity to drive improvements in teaching phonics and early reading at schools throughout our area.

Literacy Specialist teachers will offer intensive support to schools to develop reading and early language development. They will take part in a National Training Programme offered by the Department for Education. This is an exciting role that will improve the outcomes of many children in our region.

If you are considering applying to become a Literacy Specialist Teacher, please read the following criteria to check your eligibility:

- You are a practicing classroom teacher with significant experience of teaching systematic synthetic phonics in Reception and Key Stage 1.
- You consistently achieve exceptional outcomes for the children in your class shown in, for example, above national Year 1 phonics check results.
- You understand the importance of fidelity when teaching a phonics programme and having decodable books which match the phonetic sounds children have been taught.
- You can demonstrate an excellent understanding of early language development, phonics and how to develop a reading for pleasure culture.
- You have experience of mentoring and offering school-to-school support. You have a positive, constructive approach and are able to identify specific strengths and next steps.
- You are confident developing action plans, planning and modelling lessons, team teaching and leading INSET sessions
- You may or may not be an existing Specialist Leader in Education (SLE).
- You are passionate about ensuring that every child becomes confident in reading and loves to read.



What work will Literacy Specialist Teachers be doing within the English Hub?

Each of our specialist teachers will be working intensively with our partner schools. This work will take place over the 2022-23 academic year and will involve six days support in each school. The support will focus on improving the outcomes of pupils in the area of phonics and early reading in Reception and Year 1.

This work will involve working closely with school leaders to develop and implement a robust and effective action plan. Using your considerable skills and expertise you will be completing a wide variety of work depending on the needs of the school including:

- Supporting schools in developing their understanding and delivery of their chosen SSP scheme
- Coaching of mentoring individual members of staff
- Providing staff training
- Modelling high quality phonics provision
- Helping schools audit and develop resources to enhance the teaching of phonics and early reading

The English Hub Council have developed key performance indicators to measure the work of English Hubs with their intensive support schools.

Literacy Specialist will also be involved in working together to review each other's practice, delivering CPS to staff, conducting reading and early language audits with schools, leading aspects of networking meetings and the showcase days.

All literacy specialists will have to write reports on schools they are supporting after each of their visits. There will be training that you will receive during the year to ensure that you stay current with your practice.



How will our Literacy Specialist Teachers be appointed?

To ensure we recruit the best possible specialists we will carry out a rigorous selection process. This will include:

- Detailed application form
- A face-to-face interview
- Observation of you teaching a phonics lesson
- Looking at the outcomes of your pupils in phonics and early reading (e.g., Y1 phonics check outcomes).

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