



LITERACY SPECIALIST INFORMATION

Funded by



Department
for Education



English Hubs

Whiteknights English Hub

2024

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- Are you a Reading Leader with significant experience in teaching systematic synthetic phonics in Reception and Key Stage 1?
- Can you demonstrate an excellent understanding of early language development, phonics and how to develop a reading for pleasure culture?
- Are you confident planning and modelling lessons, team teaching and leading INSET sessions?
- Are you passionate about ensuring that every child becomes confident in reading and loves to read?

Read on to find out more ➤

Whiteknights English Hub is looking to enhance our team by appointing a Literacy Specialist to work **three days per week**. As a newly appointed Literacy Specialist you will be supported through a national training programme and shadow days with the English Hub Lead, you will then work to provide support for schools, from an initial audit to intensive support and additionally delivering Reading Leader training. We are looking for an enthusiastic practitioner, who has expertise and a passion for phonics and early reading and wish to take this opportunity to develop their expertise and to impact on schools across our region.

> What are English Hubs?

In September 2018, the DfE appointed 34 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 Whiteknights Primary School was chosen to be one of these 34 English Hubs.

English Hubs are responsible for:

- Developing early language and closing the word gap
- Developing early reading through systematic synthetic phonics (SSP)
- Promoting a love of reading.

> Literacy Specialists

This is an important leadership role which will give you the capacity to drive improvements in teaching phonics and early reading at schools throughout Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Milton Keynes, North Hampshire, Oxfordshire, and Surrey.

As a Literacy Specialist, you will work three days per week supporting schools on their phonics and early reading journey. Our recruited Literacy Specialists will receive high quality national training offered by the DfE and attend a compulsory induction day and shadow training day with the Hub Lead. In addition, we will provide further internal training and meetings to ensure that you feel well equipped and confident to fulfil the role.

This is an incredibly exciting opportunity, which will provide you with expertise that can support and progress your career and the opportunity to impact on the lives of children across our region.

Scale

M3+ UPS welcome.

Job Specification

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 in particular 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 and can demonstrate your impact on these outcomes.

- You are a practicing classroom teacher with significant experience of teaching systematic synthetic phonics in Reception and in particular 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 and can demonstrate your impact on these outcomes.
- 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 support to others. This might include experience of 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 training.
- You are passionate about ensuring that every child becomes confident in reading and loves to read.
- To facilitate the demand for supporting schools in different DfE approved SSPs, you need to be willing to train in varying SSPs outside of your 'speciality programme'.

In the first instance, each of our Literacy Specialists will be working intensively with up to three schools. 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 / mentoring individual members of staff.
- Providing staff training.
- Modelling high quality phonics teaching.
- Helping schools audit and develop resources to enhance the teaching of phonics and early reading.

As the role encompasses significant travel to access the national training and to provide support across the region, travel and approved expenses will be paid in addition.

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

- Detailed application form including reference from your Head teacher.
- A face to face interview.
- An observation of a phonics lesson.
- Reviewing your school's phonics and early reading outcomes.

Interested in applying? Please email your interest to **Emma Woodward** at:
ewoodward@whiteknightsenglishhub.org.uk

**Application forms will be supplied upon request.*