

ADVANCED PRACTITIONER (AP) REFLECTIONS





ADVANCED PRACTITIONER (AP) REFLECTIONS



For the past three years, the ETF have commissioned touchconsulting Ltd to design and deliver our Advanced Practitioner (AP) Programme. The ETF recognises the critical role of APs in improving the quality of teaching, learning and assessment in the Further Education and Training sector. The AP programme has evolved over time and a number of innovative and exciting CPD opportunities have taken place, including communities of practice, training programmes, conferences and more. For more information, please visit the **ETF website**.

As someone who previously undertook an AP-type role in the FE sector, I am particularly pleased to introduce this new guide where we hear from APs themselves about how they are bringing about change within themselves, colleagues and their organisations. These powerful accounts offer a range of valuable insights into how to effectively embody this important role.

CATHERINE MANNING MAY 2021

NATIONAL HEAD OF PRACTITIONER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT







This AP Reflections guide is part of the Education and Training Foundation's <u>wider APToolkit</u> which is made up of professional development cards and five guides;



CREATING SPACES TO THINK IN FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING



USING COACHING AND MENTORING TO SUPPORT COLLEAGUES



COACHING AND MENTORING IN ACTION



FACILITATING
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT AND
HIGH-PERFORMANCE
TEAMS THROUGH
SITUATED LEARNING

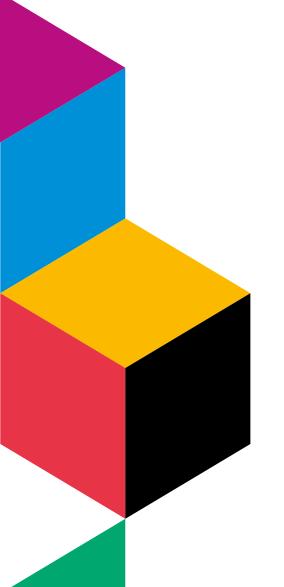


GUIDE FOR MANAGERS

This sixth Guide - AP Reflections - is a much welcomed addition to the suite. It is rich in practice-evidence with APs creatively telling their own stories of influence and impact on self, peers, learners, cultures, organisations and the sector.

The guide is organised by the six 'functions' of the AP-type role for easy navigation. We've also included a Padlet so you don't miss out on the Reflective accounts that are still coming in as the touchconsulting Ltd team close year three of the #APConnect project.

ENJOY!





ONE TO ONE SUPPORT

APs have been the driving force in their organisations moving away from deficit models of one-to-one and towards more collegiate peer approaches and intentional practices of care.





ONE TO ONE SUPPORT

BEATA BARKER

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT MANAGER

East Riding of Yorkshire Council Employment, Education and Skills Team

Beata looks back and reflects on the journey taken by East Riding since they recruited Advanced Practitioners through their #APConnect project in 2018/19.

THEMES >

VALUES > LINK IND DEV AND ORG STRAT





ONE TO ONE SUPPORT

DOROTHY BRAIDWOOD

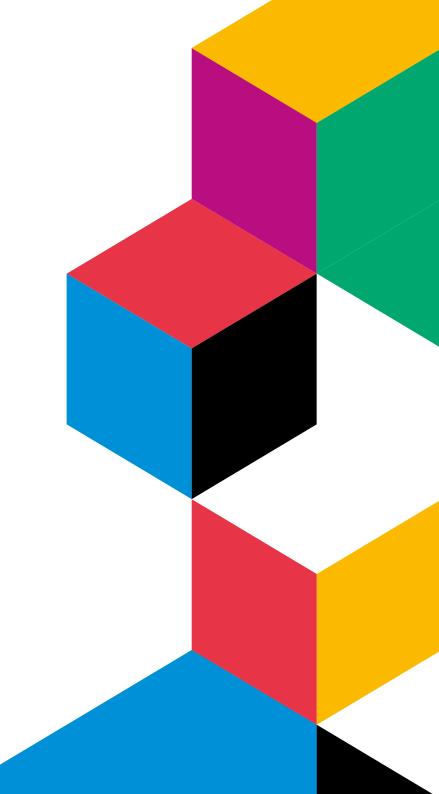
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT OFFICER/TEACHER TRAINER

Norfolk County Council

Dorothy's end of programme reflection on taking part in Constellation C+ as part of #APConnect. She describes the knowledge and skills related to coaching she has gained through engagement in the project and how she has used these new skills to coach her colleagues to be reflective practitioners who develop ther own practice in order to improve the learner experience.

THEMES >

VALUES > SUPPORT FOR ALL STAFF





This function has seen the biggest change, towards communities of practice which have had a real impact in the past year. Quality remains at the heart of this transformation, which has focused on encouraging staff to innovate their own practice.





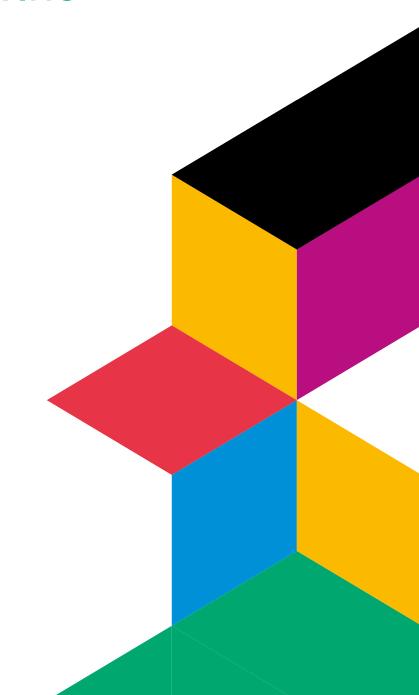
ANGELA MURRAY

ADVANCED PRACTIONER

Bolton College

'Good to Great Project' Angela Murray interviews Alison Loughnane, discussing their third cohort of teachers taking part in their 'Good to Great' collaborative project which started in 2018/19 and is still thriving now in 2021.

THEMES >





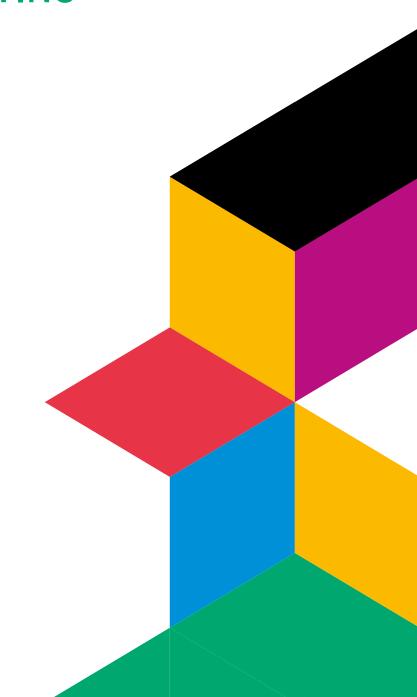
AMY WOODROW

TEACHING AND LEARNING MANAGER

City of Bristol College

'5 reasons why CPD is more important during Covid' Getting involved with CPD and conference planning provided this teacher with a positive focus in a challenging year. (TES, 15-02-21).

THEMES >





CHLOE HYNES

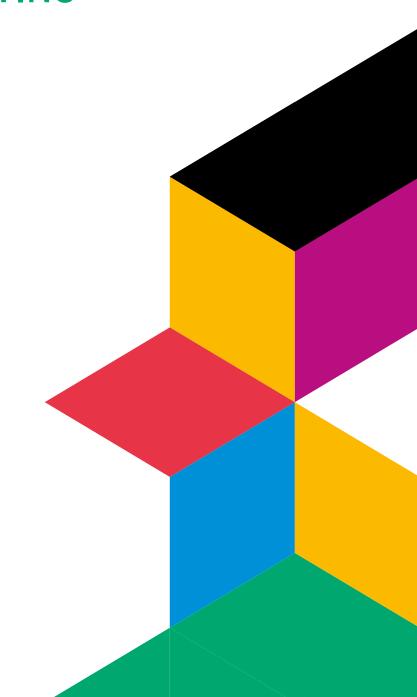
PDN LEAD/TRAINER/MENTOR

Claire Collins Consultancy

'Professional Development North & the heroes journey aka #APConnect end of programme reflection'

Chloe's reflection on her journey of development 'based on a narratology principle of the 'heroes journey', a monomyth used to describe a story of adventure, crisis and transformation.'

THEMES >





MARSIDA HORESHKA

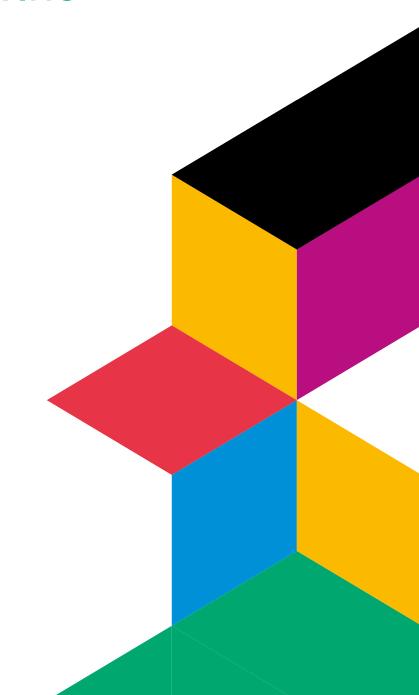
TEACHING AND LEARNING MANAGER FOR MATHS AND SCIENCE

Birmingham Adult Education Service

'My #APConnect Journey' A videoscribe (2 mins:32 secs) created by Marsida Horeshka reflecting on her experiences over the past three years of participating in the Education and Training Foundation's #APConnect programme.

THEMES >

VALUES > EVIDENCED-BASED APPROACHES





MARSIDA HORESHKA

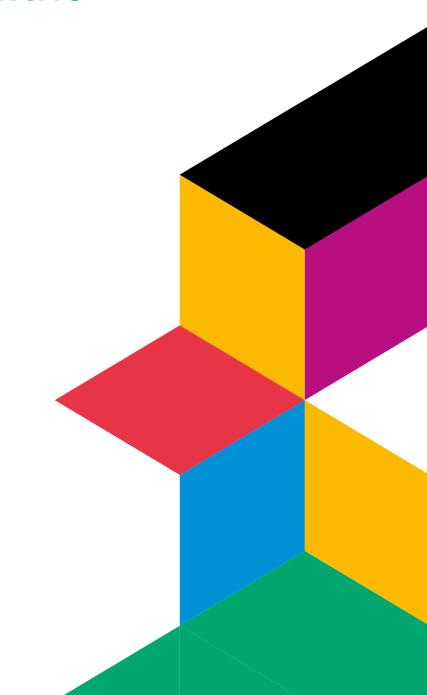
TEACHING AND LEARNING MANAGER FOR MATHS AND SCIENCE

Birmingham Adult Education Service

A blog by Marsida as she reflects on her experiences of participating in #APConnect over the past two years. She delves into the impact participating has had on her professional and personal practice including an exploration of the massive difference her maths work-place project has had on for adult learners. She shares her ambitions for the third year of the programme.

THEMES >

VALUES > EVIDENCED-BASED APPROACHES





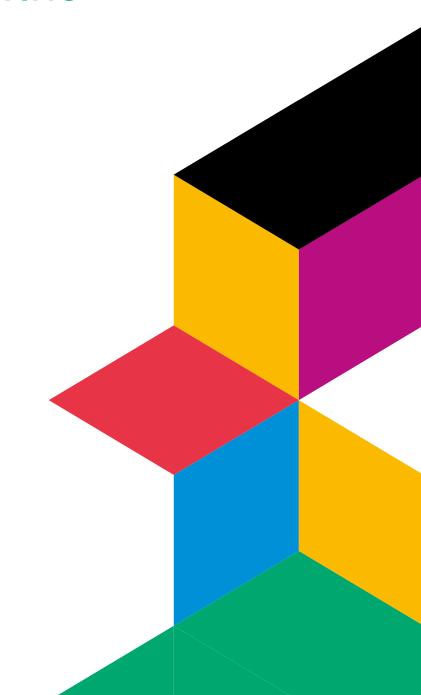
SARABJIT BORRILL

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEAD

Leicestershire County Council

Sarabjit reflects on designing and facilitating professional learning, video observations and the development of teacher reflection and self-efficacy. Included is a practical guide 'Video Capture for Self-Reflection' which she produced for the #APConnect module 'Using Developmental Observations' based on her experiences of rolling out a pilot as well as a review of the research underpinning this topic.

THEMES >





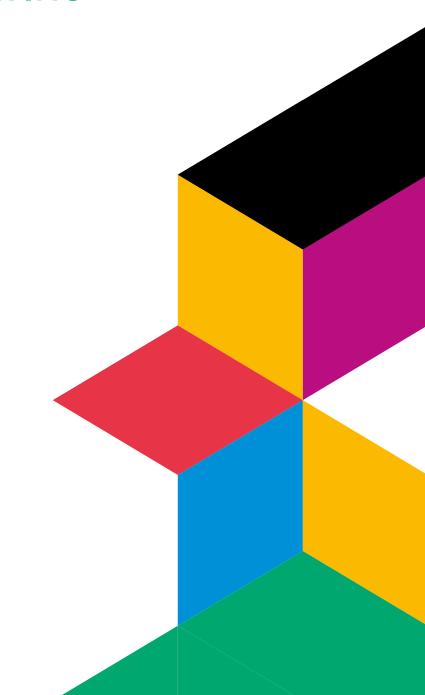
STACEY SALT

ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Oldham College

Stacey shares her reflections about discovering the #APCommunity during March 2020. She explains how her #APConnect project dovetails with a Greater Manchester Digital & Blended Learning project which involves researching what works, where and in which contexts for teachers at Oldham College in online teaching and learning. Stacey cohosts the podcast, Let's Get Digital FE, which can be found here: anchor.fm/digitalfe

THEMES >





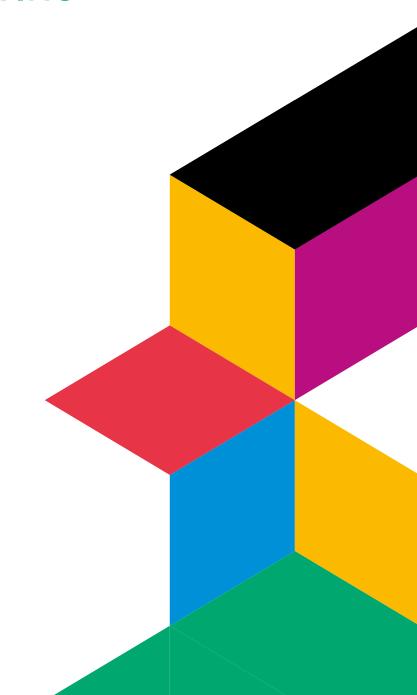
STACEY SALT AND HOLLIE BARNES

ADVANCED PRACTITIONER/ENGLISH PRACTITIONER

Oldham College/Cambridge Regional College

Thinkpiece: To engage or not engage - the big CPD question' Hollie and Stacey explore what makes an effective CPD session and discuss the concept of 'practicing what you preach' in order to facilitate engaging professional development sessions.

THEMES >





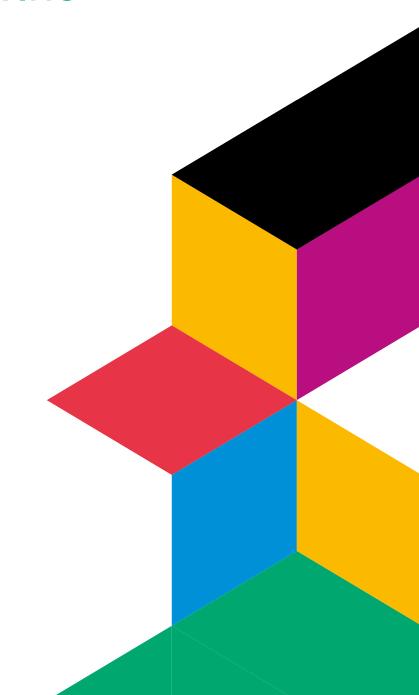
SUSANNA BRANDON

TEACHING AND LEARNING COACH

Myerscough College

Susanna shared her reflections on her personal journey on the #APConnect programme, as well as a range of topics: developing digital skills, creating a newsletter, undertaking action research and using the Thinking Environment.

THEMES >





APs are experienced coach-mentors and this year's innovation has focused on bringing colleagues into co-coaching thinking spaces such as Ideas Rooms. This approach has generated spirited articles in the public domain.







ALISON LOUGHNANE

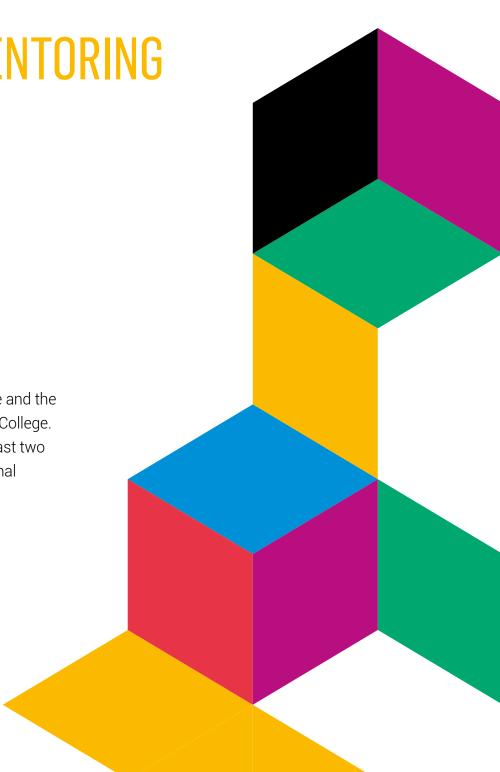
ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Hopwood Hall College

Alison shares her reflections on her personal journey on the #APConnect programme and the rich outcomes of the College's collaborative project, from Good to Great, with Bolton College. During the project teachers whose TLA practice had been consistently good for at least two years across both colleges formed communities of practice and worked in professional learning squares, alongside Advanced Practitioners, to improve their practice further.

THEMES >

VALUES > LINK IND DEV AND ORG STRAT





EVE SHEPPARD AND SALLY GREEN

ADVANCED PRACTITIONER/ADVANCED PRACTITIONER AND SUPPORTED INTERNSHIP TUTOR

Oldham College/Oldham College

#ukfechat on Coaching and Mentoring: A collage of Tweets from #ukfechat, hosted by Eve and Sally with a focus on coaching and mentoring.

THEMES >





HANNAH WOOLGAR

ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Chesterfield College

Joining APConnect led Hannah to Twitter and from there to involvement with other communities of FE practice. 'Eat, Pray, Teach' is a reflection on how the pandemic has impacted on Hannah personally, the realisations it has led her to about education and the positive impact that joining #JoyFE has had on her practice.

THEMES >

VALUES > EFFECTIVE PEER SUPPORT





HOLLIE BARNES

ENGLISH PRACTITIONER

Cambridge Regional College

'My Tools for Unlocking Engagement in English (Pt 1)' An account of the findings of Hollie's Action Research studies where she specifically explored strategies and tools for motivation and engagement in GCSE resit learners.

THEMES >

VALUES > LINK IND DEV AND ORG STRAT





ISLA FLOOD

TEACHING AND LEARNING COACH

Solihull College

'Reflective Ed: Adventures in Podcasting - Reflecting on #IdeasRooms in college' Thinking and reflections around teaching, learning and development in further education and beyond, a reflection on the concept of #Ideasrooms and bringing this to Solihull College.

THEMES >

VALUES > EFFECTIVE PEER SUPPORT





JAMIE PARTINGTON

TEACHING AND LEARNING QUALITY LEAD

Chesterfield College

'Wellbeing Feature' An account of reflections on past approaches to student wellbeing in the further education sector and shared actions taken to support students to develop their social purpose through collaboration and shared best practice amongst practitioners.

THEMES >





KAYTE HASELGROVE

POST 14 FE AND SKILLS LECTURER

University of Derby

'They say it takes a village...' A summary of responses from the #APConnect, #JoyFE and Twitter community to a survey on the current and longer term issues in Initial Teacher Education across the education sector, including solutions and opportunities which have arisen from the current challenges around teacher training in COVID times.

THEMES >





LAURA KAYES

ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Luminate Education Group

A collection of articles written by Laura Kayes, including 'Let's all celebrate our little triumphs in lockdown', 'The 10 commandments of remote CPD', 'The teaching moments when time stands still' and 'Teacher me can deal with anything, but the real me...'

THEMES >





SAMMY WHITE

ADVANCED PRACTITIONER IN TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED LEARNING

Leeds City College

Sammy reflects on developing engaging pedagogy online during the pandemic and tells us about the exploration and changes made to her own practice using theory, as well as the importance of building relationships with her (maths) learners to create effective conditions for learning. Two blogs are also included capturing Sammy's ideas on how teachers can be supported through digital tools such as Flipgird and Wakelet to capture and reflect on their teaching, and in the second how communities of practice play a pivotal role in the new normal.

THEMES >

VALUES > EVIDENCED-BASED APPROACHES





STACEY SALT

ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Oldham College

'Thanks to Twitter, I thrived as teacher last year'

Since connecting with other advanced practitioners on Twitter, Stacey Salt says she is empowered, inspired and grateful. (TES, 19-01-21).

THEMES >

VALUES > EFFECTIVE PEER SUPPORT





In a year of emergency, balancing strategic objectives with day-today operations has been the central challenge of every organisation. These accounts show how culture change is possible even in the most challenging times.





ALISON RUDMAN

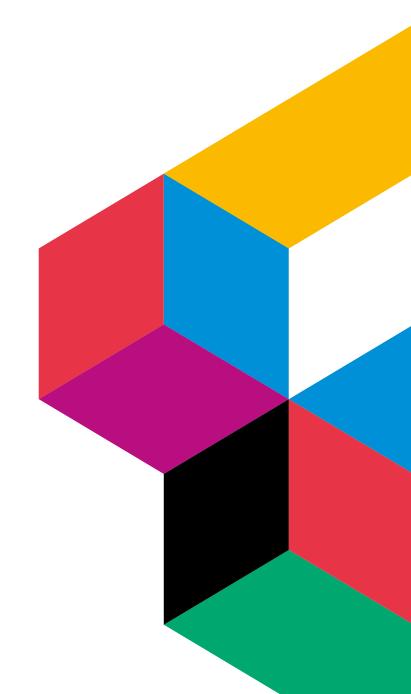
TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT COACH

Newcastle College

A reflective account on Ali's project on improving engagement in English and maths for apprentices as part of the #APConnect Constellation. Ali describes how they increased attendance and achievement through a 12 week programme for English and maths, using a consolidated and consistent approach to the delivery of the qualifications.

THEMES >

VALUES > EVIDENCED-BASED APPROACHES





BEATA BARKER AND TEAM

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT MANAGER

East Riding of Yorkshire Council Employment, Education and Skills Team

Beata Barker and team reflect on their three year journey as members of #APConnect. Starting in 2018/19 when they were successful in a bid (alongside another provider) for an AP project around collaborative practice in teaching and learning, they begun to apply the Thinking Environment to improve their methods of communication. Their journey then developed in to an English and maths based project in 2019/20 and ended in a project on supporting virtual delivery in 2020/21.

THEMES >

VALUES > EVIDENCED-BASED APPROACHES





DR. LYNNE TAYLERSON

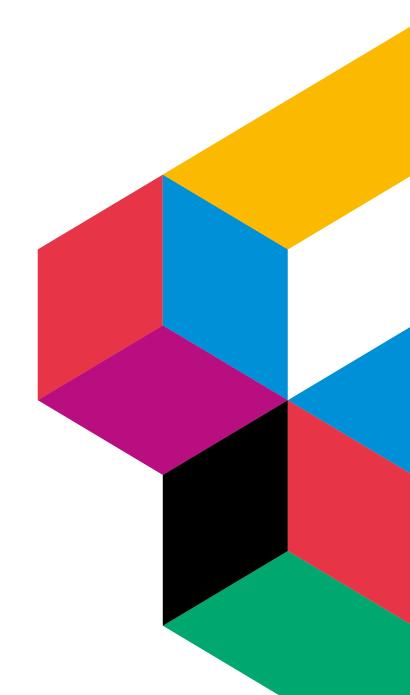
TRAINING, MENTORING AND EDUCATION CONSULTANT

Real Time Education

Lynne Taylerson, a member of the #APConnect programme team, created a Wakelet to capture the Twitter activity generated by #APConnect participants who joined the Constellation Bs Reconnections Day (15-01-21).

THEMES >

VALUES > SUPPORT FOR ALL STAFF





HAROON BASHIR

QUALITY MANAGER AND DEPUTY SAFEGUARDING LEAD

Halesowen College

Haroon Bashir reflects on how #APConnect has provided a vehicle to investigate and develop anti-racism professional development for his College - fully supported by senior managers and delivered to staff.

THEMES >

VALUES > LINK IND DEV AND ORG STRAT





KATE MACKINTOSH

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

North Hertfordshire College

Kate reflects on exploring how her #APConnect project changed from a literacy focus to designing and leading staff development days across the College. She examines how sessions were created to facilitate safe spaces for teachers to reflect on how far they'd come, celebrating successes and co-defining what success looks like as they move forward in this a world of online teaching and learning.

THEMES >

VALUES > SUPPORT FOR ALL STAFF





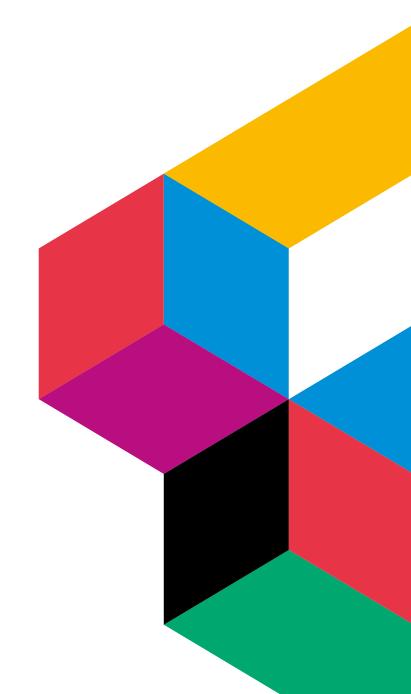
MATT PEARSON

TEACHING AND LEARNING QUALITY LEAD COORDINATOR

Chesterfield College

Matt shares his reflections on his personal journey on the #APConnect programme and outlines the College's project on innovative ways of driving teaching & learning forward through peer collaborative triangles and communities of practice.

THEMES >





PAMELA DALE

ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Calderdale College

Pam reflects on the need for a joint approach between subject teams and English teams, to further enhance the relevance and buy-in of learners into their English resit qualifications. Pam explores approaches to English skill development as well as the importance of communication and collaboration of teaching teams.

THEMES >

VALUES > EVIDENCED-BASED APPROACHES





SAJ MOHAMMAD

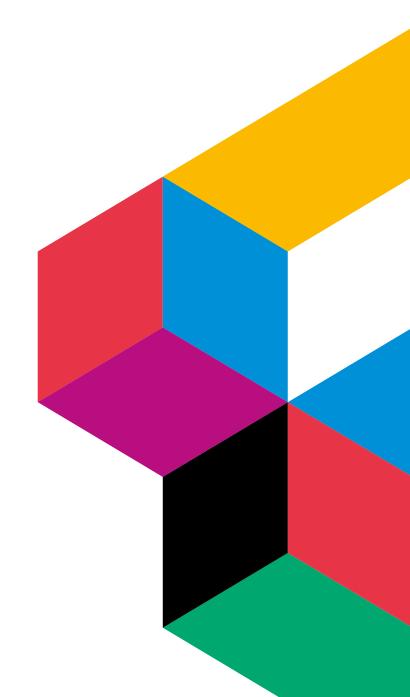
ADDITIONAL SUPPORT TUTOR

University College Birmingham

Extra Support: Making a difference to those in need is the motivation for FE support tutor, Saj Mohammad. Read about his journey from studying sound engineering to becoming a support tutor and his passion for supporting students to develop their English skills at a variety of levels. (Intuition, page 38, 01-03-21).

THEMES >

VALUES > EVIDENCED-BASED APPROACHES





STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

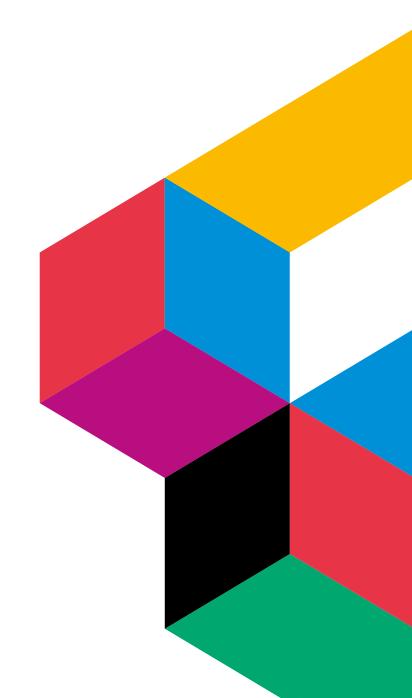
SOPHIE SMITHDALE

ENGLISH LECTURER

Reaseheath College

Sophie discusses how her #APConnect project has enabled her English team to examine how online delivery can be a powerful experience for her GCSE resit learners. She compares her English team's experiences of adapting online to that of the math's team. In the process she unearths deep insights drawn from her team's evolving practice on the ground, and informed by learner feedback.

THEMES >





These reflections demonstrate the powerful 'whole' of the AP role, where AP teams are working as a unit to drive both quality and wellbeing in a practice of care. Here you will get a sense of how great the shift has been, given the opportunities provided by a turbulent year.





ALISON LONGDEN & HELEN HAZLEHURST TEACHER EDUCATOR

Northern College

'The Future of Education' In February 2021 colleagues Ali and Helen met as part of the #APConnect Constellations to talk about the work they'd been doing around social purpose and education. This article is drawn from the transcript of that meeting.

THEMES >





AUDREY FAIRGRIEVE TEACHER EDUCATOR

Oxfordshire Adult Learning at Abington and Witney College

Audrey describes her experience with #APConnect Constellations in an interview with Dorothy Braidwood. Firstly engaging in the Communities of Practice in Year 1, then Developing APs programme in Year 2 and finally, how her interactions on Slack in Year 3 have influenced her practice.

THEMES >



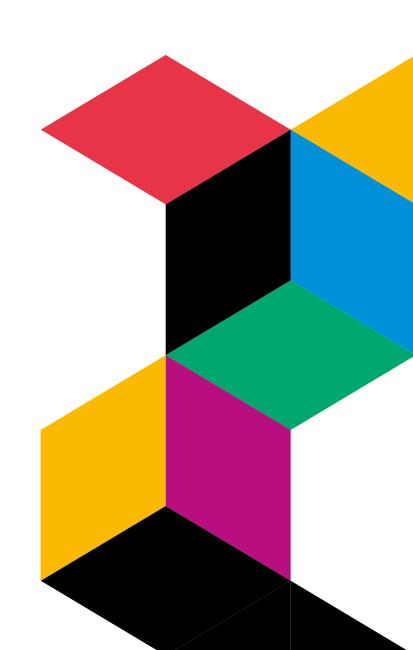


BRIDGET BIRCUMSHAW TEACHING AND LEARNING QUALITY LEAD

Chesterfield College

'HIVE' A poetic reflection on Constellation B by Bridlyb.

THEMES >





DR LYNNE TAYLERSONTRAINING, MENTORING AND EDUCATION CONSULTANT

Real Time Education

'Joy in a Cold Climate: Reflections on #APConnect 2020-21' A blog piece written as a contribution to this year's #APConnect collection of Reflective Accounts. Lynne's role in the programme is as 'digital nurse', event facilitator and online space designer for Constellation B. she draws on observations and reflections from participating in Advanced Practitioner (AP) conference days, weekly Thinking Environments and Ideas Rooms and as a result of contributing to the Evaluation Circles and Slack dialogues.

THEMES >

VALUES > DEVELOPING OTHERS





HOLLIE BARNES & SAMMY WHITE ENGLISH PRACTITIONER & ADVANCED PRACTITIONER IN TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED LEARNING

Cambridge Regional College & Leeds City College

'English & Maths Booth': Hosted by Hollie Barnes, English specialist (@hblx93) and Sammy White, Maths expert and IT guru (@WhatTheTrigMaths) A podcast by teachers, for teachers within the Further Education sector. Discussing real, day to day experiences, trials and tribulations and what life is like teaching E&M in the Post 16 sector.

THEMES >



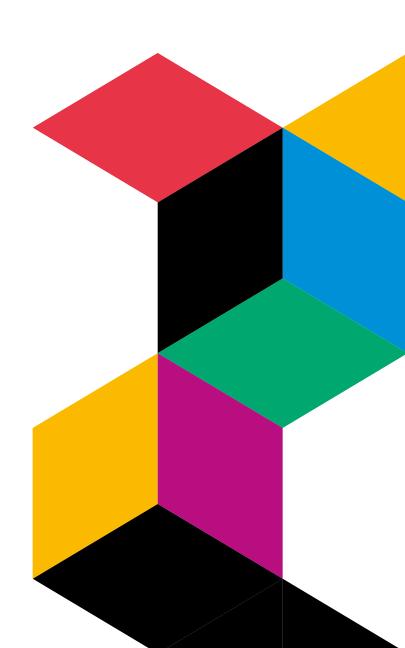


ISLA FLOOD TEACHING AND LEARNING COACH

Solihull College

'FE and Educational; Podcasts' An excellent collection of FE podcasts collated and presented by Isla, for your perusal. Isla will keep adding to these so you have a one stop shop!

THEMES >





MATT GORDON ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Waltham Forest College

Matt shares his reflections on his personal journey on the #APConnect programme and outlines the project he engaged with, collaborating with colleagues from other colleges in creating webinars for oneanother's English groups to aid teaching online and to target those harder to reach students.

THEMES >





OLIVER CAMERON-SWAN (WITH BETH CURTIS AND WILL COSSEY) TECHNICAL LECTURER

Hereford Sixth Form College

'Hope: Don't Stop Me Now. The unexpected joy of practitioner research and why now we've started, we just can't stop.' Three accounts of journeys of practitioner research in Further Education.

THEMES >





PAMELA DALE ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Calderdale College

'Reflecting on # AP Connect 2020 - 2021: A Community of Collaboration and Joy' Pam's moving reflections on her experience engaging in Constellation B, how it has changed her practice and had a 'momentous impact upon [her] vision of [herself] and the way [she] perceived [her] role as an Advanced Practitioner.'

THEMES >





SAMMY WHITE ADVANCED PRACTITIONER IN TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED LEARNING

Leeds City College

Through APConnect, Sammy began to identify herself as an adult education tutor and this led her to the #AdultConversations campaign. 'My maths and ed tech merry-go-round!' is a reflection on the challenges of welcoming adult learners back to the classroom and introducing them to a new world of education including apps, websites and ed tech.

THEMES >

VALUES > EFF USE OF MOBILE AND DIGITAL TECH





SARAH-JANE CROWSON SCHOLARSHIP AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, HEREFORD COLLEGE OF ARTS

Hereford College of Arts

A digital collage created by Sarah-Jane Crowson on behalf of attendees at the Midlands regional AP Network - Dec 2020. The words and images represent reflections of a turbulent Autumn 2020 term.

THEMES >





SOPHIE SMITHDALE & PAMELA DALE ENGLISH LECTURER & ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Reaseheath College & Calderdale College

An interview with two advanced practitioners whose lives have changed dramatically through their engagement in the #APConnect programme. Read about their individual realisations regarding the meaning of being 'agents of change' and the concept around 'amplifying their voices' which have unleashed confidence and an eagerness to challenge and to innovate in these practitioners.

THEMES >

VALUES > SUPPORT FOR ALL STAFF





STACEY SALT ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Oldham College

'Tip: Toolboxes for Students and Tutors' Stacey shares her tips on creating learner toolboxes to support with online learning and to reduce the overwhelming feeling students feel as they delve in to the hoards of resources stored on Google Classroom.

THEMES >





STACEY SALT & EVE SHEPPARD ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Oldham College & Oldham College

'A year of Covid: We've all been doing the hokey cokey' During Covid colleges have been in, out and shaken all about – but we've learned a lot, say two advanced practitioners.

THEMES >

VALUES > SUPPORT FOR ALL STAFF





STACEY SALT & EVE SHEPPARD ADVANCED PRACTITIONER

Oldham College & Oldham College

'Let's Get Digital FE' podcast. Two curious FE teachers from Oldham College chat to staff about the fantastic work they have been doing in blended and digital learning. Practical tips on how to get online learning to work in FE, including: 'The Power of YouTube', 'Saving time with digital literacy', 'Plumbing and gas - a digital success story' and 'Flipping the Access to HE classroom'.

THEMES >

VALUES > EFF USE OF MOBILE AND DIGITAL TECH





VICKY LANG, JODIE COLLINS, CHERYL HALL & GEORGIE BURNS

TEACHING AND LEARNING COACHES

North Hertfordshire College

'Connecting FE - APConnect Reflections' Discussions, chat and sharing good practice. Open and honest conversation about life in the FE sector.

THEMES >





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THIS PROGRAMME IS FUNDED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Company registration number (England and Wales): 08540597. Charity number: 1153859