

Autumn One 2026

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Aspire Hub Newsletter!

Message from Senior Partners

I hope you are well and that you enjoyed a wonderful, restful summer. As we begin this new academic year, I am delighted to welcome you to another exciting term of collaboration, learning and shared ambition across the Aspire Hub.

A particularly warm welcome to all our new schools joining us this year. We are thrilled to have you as part of our community and look forward to the insight, expertise and energy you will bring. To our existing Aspire Hub schools, welcome back - your continued commitment, generosity of spirit and willingness to share practice remain the foundation of our hub's strength.

The Aspire Hub continues to grow in both size and influence, and this is entirely due to the exceptional school leaders who give so freely of their time, knowledge and experience. Your collaborative approach is what makes our hub such a powerful force for improvement, innovation and collective excellence.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to our two Hub Managers, **Simon Goodwin** (Secondary) and **Kirsten Topping** (Primary). They will be in touch over the coming weeks to connect with schools and 'touch base' as we begin the year. In the meantime, please do reach out to them if you need anything — they are always happy to support.

We have an exciting and energising programme of events planned for the year ahead, and I look forward to working alongside you all as we continue to strengthen practice, deepen collaboration and celebrate excellence across our hub for all our children, young people and staff.



Michelle Ridsdale
Senior Partner

Upcoming Diary Dates

Autumn Hub Meeting-
Friday, 16th October
1:30- 3:00pm

Autumn Hub Conference-
Friday, 13th November
(All day at Benchill Primary School)

Spring Hub Meeting-
Friday, 22nd January
1:30- 3:00pm

Spring Hub Conference-
Friday, 12th March
(All day at Benchill Primary School)

Summer Hub Meeting-
Friday, 18th June
1:30- 3:00pm

Aspire Hub Autumn Conference

Friday, 13th November 2026- Benchill Primary School

We are holding our autumn conference at Benchill Primary School in Manchester on Friday, 13th November. Our guest will be **Mary Myatt** and the focus will be our reading curriculum. The day is designed for primary and secondary schools. Mary is an internationally renowned educationalist, writer and speaker. Her keynote will outline her ideas for developing reading through the KS1,2,3 and 4 curriculum, and will be followed by workshop activities and the sharing of good practice across our Hub.

Mary Myatt Learning

Myatt & Co



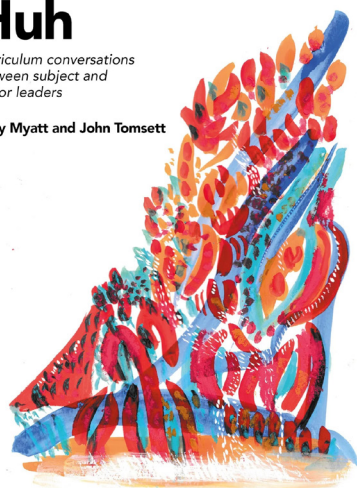
The conference is **free** to all our schools, with a **maximum of 3** places per school. Please make your expression of interest by completing the short form.

Register your interest!

Huh

Curriculum conversations
between subject and
senior leaders

Mary Myatt and John Tomsett

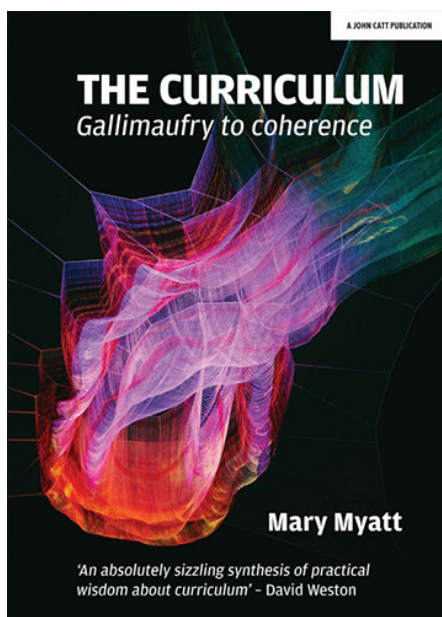


THE CURRICULUM

Gallimaufry to coherence

Mary Myatt

'An absolutely sizzling synthesis of practical
wisdom about curriculum' - David Weston

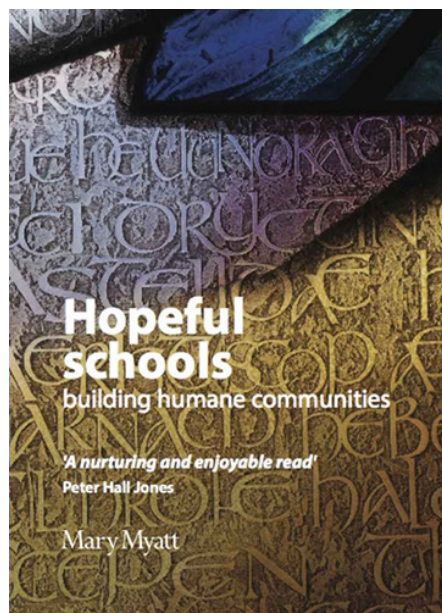


Hopeful schools

building humane communities

'A nurturing and enjoyable read'
Peter Hall Jones

Mary Myatt



Carousel Teaching Offer

Carousel Teaching - Adam Boxer

Carousel Teaching is the organisation through which our summer speaker, Adam Boxer, delivers his online CPD programme. **We have agreed a package with Carousel to offer access for 8 of our schools for a maximum of 4 of their online courses over the course of the year.**

These go into much greater depth than the free webinars offered elsewhere in this newsletter. The quality of the courses is excellent. Each course is designed for 3 formats – for an individual teacher, an INSET style course to be delivered to staff by a leader, or a booster session.



The options include:

Better behaviour

Better instructions

Retrieval Practice

The amazing mini whiteboard

Motivational Theory

Getting homework working

How to observe a lesson and give feedback

Supercharge your questioning (parts 1 and 2)

Smashing your starter (parts 1 and 2)

For more information, or to register your interest, please follow the links below:

[Find more information here](#)

[Register your interest](#)

If you'd like further information please contact [Simon Goodwin](#).

Upcoming events

A snapshot of what's to come!

Challenge Partners- National Network Conference and National Induction

Join the National Network Conference and QA Review Induction online on Tuesday, 29th September. Hear from keynote speaker, **Jeffrey Boakye**, connect with colleagues and share effective practice, followed by a QA Review induction for schools new to the process.

Tuesday, 29th September 2026

Online- Zoom

10:00am- 12:30pm

[Sign up here](#)

Carousel Learning: Free webinars from Adam Boxer

Adam Boxer's Carousel Teaching organisation is offering a series of **free** webinars to schools throughout 2026/27.

The webinars cover behaviour management, homework, leading change, questioning, mini-whiteboards, retrieval practice and lesson observation. You can book any number of webinars. There are limits on numbers, but all the sessions currently have places still available.

View upcoming events

**Better Behaviour:**
Simple Strategies That Actually Work


Adam Boxer
Director of Education

**FREE WEBINAR**

 Monday 28th September

 4:15pm - 5:45pm

 2026-09-28  16:15

Better Behaviour webinar

In this FREE webinar, Adam Boxer will outline a number of simple and effective strategies for improving behaviour in your classroom.

[BEHAVIOUR](#) [CAROUSEL TEACHING](#) [EDUCATION](#) [GUIDES](#)

[TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT](#)

[Sign up](#)

**How to Improve Homework Completion**


Adam Boxer
Director of Education

**FREE WEBINAR**

 Monday 19th October

 4:15pm - 5:15pm

 2026-10-19  16:15

How to Improve Homework Completion webinar

In this FREE webinar, Adam will look at a few "quick win" strategies for boosting homework completion.

[HOMEWORK](#) [HOMEWORK COMPLETION](#)

[TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT](#) [CAROUSEL TEACHING](#)

[Sign up](#)

Professional Development Programme for Teaching Assistants

Friday, 6th November 2026- Friday, 22nd January 2027

We are proposing to repeat the very successful Ambition Institute Teaching Assistant CPD programme that we offered last year. Louise Thompson, Headteacher of Parochial CE Primary School, has kindly offered to facilitate this again. Louise has been trained to facilitate this Ambition Institute programme and has kindly offered to run this for all Aspire Hub schools. There will be no cost to participants.

This programme would be ideal for level 3 TAs or HLTAs, or TA's who aspire to those roles. It would consist of a programme of 10 x 50-minute remote sessions taking place at 2pm/3pm in the afternoon.

Note - this is a coherent programme that requires participation throughout. Each session will have pre-session and post-session tasks.

Sessions overview:

Facilitator: Louise Thompson

Start Date: Friday 6th November

End date: Friday 22nd January

Workbooks for each session will be provided.

The sessions will focus on:

Working memory	Giving Effective feedback
Pupil motivation	Giving instructions
Effective questioning	Pupil independence
Pupil attention in the classroom	How to check for understanding
Giving meaningful praise	Building and maintaining positive relationships

Later in the year we propose to run a similar programme for teachers. This programme is called "Adaptive Teaching". Further information can be found here - [Adaptive Teaching: Train the trainer | Ambition Institute.](#)

More news on this will follow later in the Autumn Term.

Register your interest

Updates Across The Sector

Autumn 26 Updates

The Key for School Leaders

We've scoured the "The Key for School Leaders" website for Autumn 26 updates. If you do not have a subscription to this resource, we recommend it!

[Sign up to The Key](#)

Benedict's Law

Benedict's Law is now in force. It's new legislation that requires your school to put safety measures in place to protect pupils with allergies.

[Find out more here](#)

What you need to know about the September 2026 updates to education inspections

[Find more information here](#)

Enrichment benchmarks

Schools are now expected to use **DfE Enrichment Benchmarks** to evaluate their personal development curriculum. The Key for School Leaders has created a handy **summary of new enrichment framework**.

Curriculum and Assessment Review briefings

The DfE curriculum and assessment review is still taking place. Here are some articles that will help you prepare for the likely outcomes:

[Primary toolkit](#)

[Secondary toolkit](#)



Latest updates from across the Hub

