



April 2009

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Cambridgeshire Advisory Service

Special points of interest:

- International CPD
- Learning with and from colleagues in the developing world
- Opportunities for Senior Leaders

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To: International Coordinator

This issue focuses on a range of international opportunities for professional development appropriate to different stages of career in teaching.

General Considerations

International professional development opportunities are exciting ways to learn with and from colleagues abroad. They help you reflect on and develop your own classroom practice. They can help you recognise universal features of teaching. They may even lead to links with schools abroad.

The main purpose of these opportunities is CPD. You should consider the following three questions in relation to these opportunities:

- How could it contribute to your own professional development?
- How could it contribute to enhancing learning and teaching?

- How could it contribute to whole school development?

There may be some aspects that make the opportunity attractive to you or the school; there may even be some which could be a barrier for you or the school. These could include, for example, funding, taking place in term time or holidays, language(s) required for the specific programme.

You and the school would need to weigh these up and consider them against the personal professional development gains, potential gains for learning and the gains for the whole school to help decide if it is an opportunity to pursue further.

Each of the opportunities require a degree of planning ahead as there are set deadlines for applications for activities which could be several months before the activity takes place. The information and links provided will help you to decide if it is a suitable CPD opportunity to pursue for yourself or colleagues.

Comenius Professional Development

These are grant funded, formal courses for teachers in any the 30 participating countries across Europe. There is a mixture of general courses, science, arts and social sciences and languages.

The courses are for staff involved in school or further education. They are a means of sharing practice amongst teachers in Europe. They tend to last from 5 days up to two weeks.

The courses must be in the database of Comenius Training courses. This will list important information about the course, including dates, venue, the language(s) of the course and other information.

To access the database go to:

<http://ec.europa.eu/education/trainingdatabase/>



Comenius in-service training grants are available for staff involved in school or further education. Funding up to 2000 Euro for 1 week and 2500 Euro for 2 weeks towards the cost of the courses is available. A higher grant may be awarded where special needs or exceptionally high travel costs are involved.

Next deadline is 15th September 2009 for activities taking place between 1st January 2010 and 30th April 2010.

The British Council website has further information, including the steps you need to take when applying for courses and funding. Please go to:

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/comenius-professional-development-courses.htm>



Sangam Teacher Study Visit to South India

The main objective of these 11 day visits is to enable groups of no more than 10 teachers to learn at first hand about this very different and rapidly developing country and culture. The visits are open to teachers in all phases of education.

The visits are structured to suit the curriculum needs of the members of the group giving you the opportunity to bring back relevant learning and resources to your school.

The visit increases first-hand experience of India. It can enrich curriculum subjects, such as geography, art and RE and contribute to developing the global dimension in the school.

In addition to the visit there is an essential preparation session to share objectives, and hear full information and advice about travel, health and cultural issues.

Please note: There is a charge for the study visit. £500 will cover all costs in India, including accommodation, food, study packs and travel. In addition you need to pay your airfare, for a visa (c. £30), for vaccinations and travel insurance.

The deadline for applications for visits this year is: Friday 15th May 2009.

The visit is to take place between Wednesday 21st October 2009 – Sunday 1st November 2009.

A visit is also planned for Wednesday 10th February 2010 – Sunday 21st February 2010.

For further information go to:

<http://www.globalgateway.org.uk/default.aspx?page=2996>

or

<http://www.sahiprojects.com/sangam>

Teachers' International Professional Development

General

The TIPD programme is principally aimed at classroom teachers in nursery, primary and secondary schools (who teach more than 50% of the time), with at least two years' post-QTS experience. Funding for TIPD includes travel from the UK airport to the destination, accommodation and the cost of the programme. It does not include travel to the port of departure in the UK, subsistence or gifts for hosts. Two opportunities within this programme are highlighted below.



Local Authority Study Visits

Over 100 teachers from Cambridgeshire have taken part looking at good practice in Australia, Lithuania, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Taiwan, Uganda and the USA.

Teachers are expected to apply in pairs from a school. There are 3 stages to the visits.

- 1 Prior to departure - There are 2 meetings and you complete a SWOT analysis with the colleague(s) from your school taking part.
- 2 Study Visit Abroad - You take an active part in the programme and contribute to daily discussions.
- 3 After the study visit - You contribute to a group report penned by the LA group leader. You produce an action plan at 6 months on how developments will be introduced in your school. You participate in the 6 weeks, 6 months, 1 year and 2 year meetings.

Cambridgeshire is seeking applications for the following Study Visits.

Transition, February Half term 2010
Deadline for applications Wednesday July 1st 2009.

Social Inclusion, Easter 2010
Deadline for applications is Wednesday November 11th 2009.

For further information and an application form please go to: www.ie.cceducation.net

School Determined Visits

The Specialist Schools and Academies Trust administer this element of the programme. It is aimed at schools in England that already have an existing active link with a school overseas (for at least six months at the time of application), and wish to develop the partnership further through a short study visit.

A minimum of 2 teachers can take part in a study visit, with a maximum allocation of 4 teachers per school. The 1 week study visit must be based around a theme that will enhance the professional development of each teacher involved and will ultimately contribute to raising pupil achievement in the UK classroom.

Funding is offered on the basis that you will be spending five days of the visit within your partner school, working in-depth with staff and pupils. It is not permitted to spend time in other institutions.

Participants will be required to write a group report four weeks after the visit, which will be uploaded to the SSAT and Teachernet websites. Participants must also be able to show that their study visit findings will be widely disseminated beyond their own school.

There are 500 places each year. The places are allocated on a first come first served basis. For further information on this exciting opportunity please go to:

www.ssatrust.org.uk/tipd

Opportunities for Senior Leaders



International Leadership Learning Programme (ILLP)

The ILLP offers a unique opportunity to reflect upon leadership and investigate a particular leadership theme pertinent to school and system wide development.

The programme has been designed by NCSL and is delivered by the SSAT and ASCL. It is almost TIPD for senior leaders. The 3 parts of the programme run over period of 1 year.

You may apply for the programme individually or as part of an existing group, identifying your areas of interest.

Funding includes travel from the UK airport to the destination, accommodation and the cost of the programme. It does not include travel to the port of departure in the UK, subsistence or travel to and from workshops in England.

Applications are now open. For further information please go to:

www.ncsl.org.uk/illp-index and follow the links.

If you have any queries, please contact the SSAT at:

illpenquiries@ssatrust.org.uk

Leaders in International Development (LiID)

NCSL, NAHT, ASCL and VSO are partners in this scheme. It is an 11 month project with a 12 week placement in the developing world in one of VSO's education programmes.

The project is open to headteachers, deputy or assistant heads currently serving in maintained schools in England who have at least 7 years of leadership and management experience and are members of either ASCL or NAHT.

The deadline for applications is midday on the 16th of June. Placements will start in mid January 2010. Each school will receive £5000 to help cover the costs incurred during the secondment.

For further information and to request application details, please go to:

www.vso.org.uk/partnerships/ncsl.asp

Comenius Professional Development Courses

There are opportunities for senior leaders under General Courses in the database of Comenius Training courses. Please see page 2 for additional information on this programme.

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