



DEVELOPING TOGETHER

SOCIAL WORK TEACHING PARTNERSHIP

NEWSLETTER

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PRACTICE EDUCATION TEAM UPDATE

The Teaching Partnership Practice Education Team (PET) continues to be busy delivering workshops and facilitating support groups for Practice Educators (PEs) and support groups for students on placement as well as being PEs themselves to Kingston University students in placements across the partnership. Workshops have been delivered on Ethics and Values, Individual Difference, Reflective Supervision and Critical Analysis, Struggling Placements and Individual Difference.

"How useful I have found these workshops to be. Method and style of your presentations very collaborative and content inspiring, thank you so much."

Upcoming PE workshops can all be found on our [website events page](#) where you can follow instructions to book on. If you're interested in attending one of the PE support groups being run in Partner agencies, please speak to your Workforce Development Lead.

The Practice Education hub on the website has also been updated with a PCF Toolkit, with all tools linked to the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF). The tools include activities and exercises to support PEs in their assessment of students on placement and can be found [here](#). If you have effective tools that you want to share for the website, please send through to sarah.cave@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk or josie.newton@developingtogether.org.uk

ONSITE SUPERVISOR PROGRAMME (OSS)

Our Practice Education Team's (PET) hard work doesn't stop with workshops, support groups and toolkits! They have also been hard at working piloting an Onsite Supervisor Training Programme (OSS) with both qualified social worker and non-qualified programmes available. Evaluating the feedback gathered, particularly from the social work programme, it is apparent that there was a strong need and appetite for a programme of development for those supporting students' practice learning in the role of OSS. There are early indicators that the programmes will contribute towards the expansion of practice learning opportunities in the region and feedback suggests that the quality of support provided to students will be enhanced. Furthermore, according to the refreshed PEPS (2019, p.17):

"Onsite supervisors should be working within the values and good practice guidance of the PEPS and be adequately supported and prepared for their role...Wherever possible, onsite supervisors should have minimum training and recent experience of supporting student social workers in the team"

Therefore, a key focus for the Teaching Partnership is to continue development and rollout of the OSS programmes, contributing to meeting these refreshed standards. You can read the full report on the OSS pilot by Dale van Graan, who led on the development of the programmes, [here](#).

PARTNER NEWS



Achieving for Children

Our children's services in Kingston have been graded Outstanding by Ofsted after their inspection in October @RBKingston

Full article [here](#).

Croydon Children

Our inspirational Executive Director @HendersonRober opening @CroydonCSC staff conference and launch of our Early Help and Social Care Academy! Well done to @NickiShaw68 and team! #bethechangecroydon

Kingston University

@KUSTGeorges social work expert Farrukh Akhtar collected her @AdvanceHE National Teaching Fellowship at a ceremony in Manchester yesterday. She was recognised for helping develop an inclusive curriculum and promoting mindfulness at #KingstonUni

Full article [here](#).

SOCIAL WORK ENGLAND

2nd December marked the change in social work regulator from HCPC to Social Work England (SWE). The Teaching Partnership welcomed Colum Conway, CEO for SWE, to Kingston University for an update on what the change will mean for the sector. You can find information relating to their Standards, plans for Continuing Professional Development, how they will communicate with social work professionals and more in this [article](#) on our website. There is also some useful information in this [article](#) on Community Care's website. There is still a Regional Engagement Officer vacancy for the London region; you can find more information about the role on SWE's [website](#).

NATIONAL TEACHING PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE & SUSTAINABILITY

On 14th November, the Teaching Partnership's Social Work Lead and Project Lead attended the National Teaching Partnership Conference in Liverpool where they heard from Social Work England's Regional Engagement Officer for the North West, Matt Devlin, and Director of Children and Young People's Services Liverpool City Council, Steve Reddy. There were also a number of workshops facilitated by the more mature Teaching Partnerships (TP) such as Suffolk and Norfolk TP and South Yorkshire TP, covering a variety of topics. A key theme throughout the day was sustainability of Teaching Partnerships and it was interesting to see the different approaches taken by those in Years 3, 4 and 5 of their programmes. The majority had retained a central project team in some form or another and one had looked at income generation as a way of funding their TP going forward. This was a very timely visit as there are currently decisions being made as to the future of our Teaching Partnership beyond the funded period (funding currently ends March 2020 although the DfE has applied for sustainability funding for our TP). We hope to share an update on the sustainability of our TP in February 2020.

SOCIAL WORKER WELLBEING UPDATE

Following our successful Wellbeing in Social Work Conferences in March and September this year we are continuing to focus on the wellbeing and development of emotional resilience of social workers across our Partnership. We welcomed Sass and Kate from Self Care Psychology who delivered training to managers on supporting wellbeing in social workers and building resilient teams. The Teaching Partnership website also now includes a wellbeing hub which provides advice and guidance on wellbeing and can be accessed [here](#). We will be running 'Wellbeing in Social Work' workshops in the New Year in partner organisations as well as holding a further Conference in April (date TBC) so keep an eye on the [events page](#) on our website for further announcements.

SERVICE USER & CARER GROUP UPDATE

The Service User and Carer (SUC) Group at Kingston University is actively involved in all areas of the social work programmes, taking a significant role in the student selection days, teaching on the BA and Masters Social Work courses, as well as attending Teaching Partnership meetings and Kingston University's Board of Studies and other moderation panels. Since September, the Teaching Partnership has supported Kingston University in the delivery of training for service users and carers in selecting students for the social work courses as well as presentation and public speaking skills. The SUC group is always looking for new members in order to enable student learning to be enriched by those who have experiences of social workers in their lives. If you know of any service users or service user groups that may wish to get involved please find our most recent flyer [here](#).

TEACHING CONSULTANTS

This has been a busy term for our Teaching Consultants from across the Partnership who have been working alongside Kingston University academic staff in teaching sessions to bring social work practice into the classroom. Students have greatly appreciated their input:

'Very useful, she asked questions to extend learning which helped my thought process'

'Was very helpful in helping me understand how reflective practice is used in assessment'

Our Teaching Consultants are also very positive about their role in engaging students in discussions about social work practice and refreshing themselves in social work theory and research. In recognition of the contribution made by Teaching Consultants on the social work degree programmes, Kingston University has adapted an existing 30 credit module for Teaching Consultants who want to gain recognition of prior learning in the form of an accredited qualification. Thanks to all our wonderful Teaching Consultants who continue to be so committed to their role.

There have been a few queries lately about whether there are any 'vacancies' for Teaching Consultants. At the moment, we aren't recruiting but when we do, it will be advertised on our website and Twitter, so make sure you keep an eye out! All the existing Teaching Consultants have had access to a significant amount of training and development from academic staff at Kingston University before undertaking their role and we want this programme of support to be consistent for all practitioners who take part in admissions and teach on the social work courses. As a result, we are likely to recruit in a cohort model rather than to an individual vacancy.

YEAR ONE PROGRESS REPORT

Hopefully most of you will have seen that the Teaching Partnership has released its Year One Progress Report. This is a comprehensive report that demonstrates all the key achievements to date and highlights some of the challenges. You can read it in full [here](#). Please also RT (retweet) our announcement on Twitter [here](#) and join us in celebrating our success!

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