



DEVELOPING TOGETHER

SOCIAL WORK TEACHING PARTNERSHIP

Newsletter | Issue 25 | Date: 29.9.23 |

Dear colleagues,

The last couple months have been a whirlwind of activity, with a number of changes to the TP Team (see pages 10-11), recruiting four new Teaching Consultants (page 8), board meetings and in person workshops. We have celebrated the success of the new series of 'The Black Voice of Social Work' events and look forward to celebrating Black History Month.

We have also very much enjoyed coming back to the Kingston University campus to see lots of activity as students embark on their next year after the summer break, and we've met lots of new students and newly qualified social workers too!

We hope that you enjoy the latest iteration of our newsletter.

The TP Team

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CPD Offer 2023-24

We have recently updated our CPD Brochure for 2023-24! If you work for one of our primary partner agencies, you should book via the links in the Teaching Partnership's [annual CPD Brochure](#).

You can also [click here](#) to sign up for direct CPD Updates going forward.

The brochure features the Teaching Partnership logo on the left, the title 'DEVELOPING TOGETHER SOCIAL WORK TEACHING PARTNERSHIP' in the center, and the CPD Accredited Course logo on the right. Below the title, it states 'Continuing Professional Development Offer April 2023 - March 2024' and 'Version 1: 8.3.2023'. At the bottom, there are four small photographs: a woman and a man at a table, two boys working on a project, a woman with a child in a hammock, and a woman with two children at a table.

DEVELOPING TOGETHER
SOCIAL WORK
TEACHING PARTNERSHIP

Accredited
cpd
Course

THE CPD STANDARDS OFFICE
CPD PROVIDER: 2201
2020-2022
www.cpdstandards.com

Continuing Professional Development Offer
April 2023 - March 2024

Version 1: 8.3.2023

*Primary partners are: Achieving for Children, Croydon Adults, Croydon Children, Kingston Adults, Merton Children, Merton Adults, Richmond & Wandsworth Adults, Sutton Adults, Sutton Children, Wandsworth Children, NSPCC, Welcare and Kingston University.

Training for External Colleagues - Practice Educator/Onsite Supervisor Provision



Developing and Assessing Professionalism in Learners	12.10.2023, 9:30am - 12noon
The Anti-Racist and Anti-Oppressive Placement	20.11.2023, 2 - 4:30pm
Struggling Placements: Working Positively with Learners	11.01.2024, 2 - 4:30pm
Planning for and Working with Individual Difference	5.2.2024, 9:30am - 12noon
Supervision Skills for Reflection and Analysis	7.3.2024, 9:30am - 12noon
Assessing & Evidencing Values & Ethics	25.1.2024, 1 - 3:30pm

N.B. If you work for one of our primary or secondary partner agencies* or are part of the Central Bedfordshire Teaching Partnership, please **do not** use these links to book, instead you should book via the links in the Teaching Partnership's annual CPD Brochure - your Workforce Development Team can provide you with a copy, or you can email us admin@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk.

*Primary partners are: Achieving for Children, Croydon Adults, Croydon Children, Kingston Adults, Merton Children, Merton Adults, Richmond & Wandsworth Adults, Sutton Adults, Sutton Children, Wandsworth Children, NSPCC, Welcare and Kingston University.

*Secondary partners are: Surrey Children



NQSWs and Compassion Fatigue Research Call Out

Our colleague at Kingston University, Aga Buckley (Senior Lecturer & MSW Course Leader), is researching Newly Qualified Social Workers' Lived Experiences of Compassion Fatigue

This is a call for any colleagues and Newly Qualified Social Workers in England within the first two years of qualifying who self-identify with experiences of Compassion Fatigue during their first years in practice and are willing to share it.

For more information, email aga.buckley@kingston.ac.uk
Please [see here](#) for full participant information.

Through Their Eyes

COMPASSION FATIGUE AMONG NQSWs

Aga M. Buckley
@Kingston University

is looking for NQSWs in England to volunteer in a doctoral research study on experiences of Compassion Fatigue in early social work career.

Make an impact by sharing your lived experience.

Research supervised by:
Dr Melania Calestani
Professor Katherine Curtis



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/aga-m-buckley/>



<https://www.twitter.com/AgaMB2/>



Individual Work-based Learning Projects and Associate Fellows

Over the last semester, David Nilsson and Susan Watson, Associate Professors at Kingston University, have co-led another delivery of the 30-credit Level 7 SW7025 *Individual Work-based Learning Project* module for four Teaching Consultants and four Apprenticeship Sub-Regional Assessors. This is the third time this project-based module has been provided for Teaching Consultants and this is the first time that it has also been offered to SRAs. The module has been jointly funded and supported by Kingston University and the Teaching Partnership.

David and Susan provided academic input on learning and teaching theory and practice skills. The module participants then constructed their individual 'projects' around critically reflecting on their development as educators in within qualifying social work programmes and how they more effectively utilise educational theory within their teaching. All participants chose to incorporate within their assignment a draft application to Advance-HE for teaching recognition as an Associate Fellow.

Seven of the eight participants have now submitted their projects for assessment, and all have passed the module. Four of these were our Teaching Consultants: David Nwokedi, Mary Scarlett, Cherelle Wilson-Morrison and Anthony Adedokun. The successful SRAs included Marva Pickersgill-McKenzie and Carmen Graham. One of the SRA's has been delayed submitting with mitigating circumstances.

Six students are also now ready to submit their applications to Advance-HE so that they can gain formal teaching recognition as Associate Fellows and gain the post-nominal, AFHEA. We congratulate these students on their academic success and look forward to them all gaining AFHEA status!



Successful Launch of New Post Qualifying Module SW7038 Safeguarding Across the Life Course!

This new interdisciplinary module ran for the first time this month and was well received by those who attended. The module does what it says on the tin and explores current issues in safeguarding across the life course by providing students from different agencies opportunities to learn together to develop a better understanding of collaborative approaches to safeguarding children and adults. This new module takes a holistic safeguarding approach and allows practitioners to identify wider family needs that extend beyond the individual they are supporting, promoting a 'Think Family' approach. This 5-day module which ran over two weeks involved students from adults, children, and transition services and also included nursing and well-being practitioners. This provided an innovative and exciting learning environment that allowed students from different disciplines to develop their knowledge, skills, and understanding of the barriers and enablers to effective multidisciplinary, multi-agency safeguarding practice.

Please contact pqsocialwork@kingston.ac.uk to find out the next cohort and book your place!

The excellent feedback from students included:

"It's been enjoyable learning experience"

"Ww engaged in group exercises which supported our learning and made the course very interactive and interesting."

"Excellent staff - all so knowledgeable, experienced and inspiring discussions"

"Yes, each presenter has lots of experience in their field, hence they brought relevant case examples which brought the subject matter to life."

"staff have been very approachable welcoming and understanding of learners who may have been out of formal education"

"Yes - freedom and encouragement to try new things is a breath of fresh air"

Teaching Consultant Recruitment

We are delighted to share that this year's Teaching Consultant recruitment received many high quality applications that were all taken through to interview, which has resulted in four successful candidates. This year, we recruited selectively to the following four areas of specialism:

- Learning disability
- Youth justice
- Forensic social work
- Fostering

The new Teaching Consultants will be working together with module leaders and existing Teaching Consultants to co-develop, co-deliver and contribute to teaching within the social work programmes at Kingston University. They will have the opportunity to share their skills and knowledge through direct teaching in lectures, seminars, small groups and skills workshops, as well as involvement in recruitment to courses and the development of students' employability.

A huge congratulations and welcome to: Lydia Billington (Merton Children), Olutobi (Tobi) Ladejobi (Sutton Children), Trudy Eastwood (Wandsworth Children) and Alice Grishkov (SWL & St George's Mental Health NHS Trust)!

We look forward to their valuable contributions in the new academic year!



The Black Voice of Social Work Discussion Group



Our second discussion group session on 11th September was another success, with co-facilitator Sherma Charles introducing a very interesting and thought provoking topic: 'Code switching in the Social Care Arena'.

Food for thought based on themes from the last group:

*How are the different cultures of colleagues celebrated in your team/organisation?
How much do you know about the culture of your black colleagues?*

It was great to see so many different people attend and we look forward to our next session: 'Intersectionality- how it impacts Black Social Workers' presented by our new co-facilitator Anne Utulu (9th November 2023).

Please keep on sharing the invites that we send, and encourage people to attend so we can continue to learn from each other and join to fight racism together!

Please save the dates of the next Discussion Groups below, the invite links can be found in our CPD brochure, or please contact the Teaching Partnership for the calendar invites/links to attend.

Thu 9 Nov 2023	2 - 3:30pm
Mon 15 Jan 2024	10 -11:30am
Thu 14 Mar 2024	10 -11:30am

SOCIAL
CHANGE
is a
TEAM
EFFORT

Black History Month is Coming!



Black History Month is from 1st-31st October 2023.

SAVE THE DATE for our Celebrating Black Voices event

Mon 30/10/2023 14:00 - 15:30

Please contact the Teaching Partnership for the calendar invites/links to attend.

This year there will be a focus on **'Saluting our sisters'**, a celebration of the achievements of black women who historically have often been overlooked or forgotten.

From the official website:

"Black History Month is a momentous occasion to recognise and celebrate the invaluable contributions of black people to British society. It also serves as an opportunity to inspire and empower future generations. This year, Black History Month will be dedicated to honouring the achievements of black women who are often the forgotten heroines. We want to amplify their voices and challenge the systems that oppress them"

Please have a look at <https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk> for further information.

If you have any black female social workers/colleagues in your teams and organisations who should be celebrated more, please send in their names and your reasons for nominating them to the admin@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk for a shout out at our event or in the next newsletter!



Teaching Partnership Team Updates



We have had a few changes recently within our central team.

Sharon, our Lead Partnership Practice Consultant, was due to return from annual leave in July, but unfortunately became very unwell and is currently undergoing treatment. The team has been working to cover her activities. We hope you will join us in wishing her a swift and smooth recovery!

In addition, Libbi, our Head of the Teaching Partnership was due to return from sabbatical at the beginning of September. Sadly for us, Libbi decided that she would not be returning to her role in the TP. Please see below for an excerpt in Libbi's own words:

“My original plan was to return in September, either full time or part time depending on how things panned out with the dog related stuff! Unfortunately, in August I broke my wrist, which delayed my best laid plans! This did however give me a lot of thinking time and I made the very difficult decision to resign from my position as Head of TP and OD.

What made the decision very difficult was the thought of abandoning the 'ship', that ship being the Teaching Partnership, which I captained since late 2018, and became extremely fond of. Although, if you asked my friends and family they'd probably say it was more than a fondness and more like bordering on an obsession! I have never been so determined in my professional career to make something a success, and I do hope that in the almost 5 years that we all worked together, that I went some way to achieving that. I couldn't possibly list all the things that I'm proud of us for achieving, but a few things that spring to mind:

- 1. Continuing to grow and innovate despite diminishing government funding, made possible through an extraordinary amount of goodwill amongst partners and such a dedicated and hardworking central team*
- 2. Always being successful in our bids for extra funding, like the continuous improvement projects, and Step Up to Social Work*

Teaching Partnership Team Updates



3. Managing to consistently replenish the TP team with talented, motivated and passionate individuals when team members moved onto pastures new (most of them moved on to other roles within the Partnership!)
4. Finding ways to offer CPD and career development opportunities for experienced practitioners, for example through the Teaching Consultant role and Train the Trainer programmes
5. Improving communication, understanding and respect for each others roles within employer organisations and the university
6. Improving the pipeline of students from the university into partner employers through the internship scheme, better placement opportunities and careers fairs

But really what I'm most proud of is the remarkable commitment of all partner agencies and the support everyone offers to each other - including the support that was offered to me throughout my time with the TP from you all. I feel incredibly lucky to have been part of such a successful partnership with strong leadership and the sheer grit and determination from everyone involved. Not to mention a good dose of humour - despite everything, we haven't taken ourselves too seriously (well, apart from perhaps those first couple of strategic boards 😊) and I like to think we've always done what we needed to do yet had some fun and laughs along the way!"

We wish Libbi the very best of luck in her future endeavours, and thank her for all her hard work and dedication to making the Teaching Partnership a success over the years!

We welcome Charli Robson, who will be coming in to have temporary management oversight of the Teaching Partnership. She was instrumental in setting up the Teaching Partnership originally, and we look forward to working with her!

DfE Early Career Framework Early Adopters



The Department for Education are currently working with eight local authorities and trusts to co-design an early career framework (ECF) for social workers. Through the early adopter programme, they aim to:

- understand the support needs of early career child and family social workers
- test and gain insight to inform the design of the early career framework
- design a development programme for social workers

The following local authorities and trusts were successful in their application:

- Achieving for Children (led by Royal Borough of Kingston and London Borough of Richmond)
- Birmingham
- East Sussex
- Gloucestershire
- Plymouth
- Stockport
- Together for Children (Sunderland)
- Tower Hamlets

We as the Teaching Partnership team are working closely with Achieving for Children and are also involved in the DfE's early adopter programme. It has been an interesting and eye opening experience to work with the DfE on the framework, and co-designing a piece of work so early on in its development!



Research in Practice is an organisation that brings together academic research, practice expertise and the experiences of people accessing services. We have been working with them to collate some of their open-access resources, which do not require membership to access!

Resources

- [Maximising impact: Our year in review](#)
- [A CPD conversation with Social Work England: Reflecting on learning](#)

Articles & videos

- [Infant removals: Working with families to prevent recurrent proceedings](#)
- [Research in Practice to lead a partnership supporting Department for Education reforms to the social worker workforce](#)
- [Liberty Protection Safeguards: What are the implications of the delay?](#)
- [The Big Listen: Research and findings](#)

[Recording CPD with Social Work England](#)

This session will explore what an effective CPD record looks like, support you to reflect on your CPD, and give you practical advice and guidance on recording CPD using Research in Practice resources. There will be an opportunity to take part in reflective writing for your CPD record as part of this session.



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Thank you for reading!

If you have any good news stories, examples of excellent practice, or helpful resources that you'd like to share, please send these through to us at: admin@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk

We would also be grateful to receive comments or suggestions on the newsletter, including any topics you'd like to see covered in future editions.