WEEKLY BULLETIN

20 October 2026



BDSIP | HELPING STUDENTS SHINE

BDSIP SERVICE OFFER 2026/67

Explore Our Services & Secure Your Support

Our new Service Letter and Order Form for 2026/27 are now available. Discover the full range of BDSIP services designed to support your school next academic year.

👉 **Click here to view service offer 2026/27**

👉**Click here for order form**



Help Shape the BDSIP Bulletin

We want the bulletin to be useful, easy to read and relevant to your work in schools. We'd love to hear what you find helpful, what you'd like to see more of and how we could improve it.



Our short feedback form takes just a few minutes to complete. Your thoughts will help us shape future editions.

Click here to share your feedback.



BDSIP UPDATES

BDSIP SPOTLIGHT:INCLUSION CONFERENCE 2026
STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP OF SEND
FULLY FUNDED NPQS
RE CONFERENCE
STRATEGIC FINANCIAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME
TARGETED LITERACY INTERVENTIONS: IMPROVING READING OUTCOMES AND CONFIDENCE
FREE ONLINE TRAINING FROM THE VIRTUAL SCHOOL
INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP: LEADING FOR EQUITY, BELONGING, AND ACHIEVEMENT
CPD
CONTACT US

BDSIP SPOTLIGHT

BDSIP INCLUSION CONFERENCE 2026

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BDSIP.CO.UK

Inclusion from Vision to Impact

Our mission is to equip and inspire educational leaders to create and embed inclusive cultures where every young person can thrive. Through practical whole-school strategies, creative approaches and guidance on articulating inclusive practice, the conference will help schools strengthen belonging and support vulnerable learners. Together, we can ensure every child is seen, valued and supported to flourish.



BOOK NOW

Thursday 19th November 2026
9am - 4pm
Hyatt Regency London Stratford

Previous inclusion conferences...

"The conference gave me fresh ideas to support my leadership with regard to inclusion."

"The focus on networking, belonging and making connections through a strategic approach was really valuable."

"Meeting people who were willing to share their stories and experiences was a real highlight."

"It was a great opportunity to connect with like-minded people, hear different experiences and take time to reflect."

Average rating for BDSIP conferences

4.7/5



STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP OF SEND

FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY

LEADING INCLUSIVE TRANSITION

5 SESSIONS · 2027

26 Jan · 9 Feb · 24 Feb · TBC · 14 Jul

● In person ○ Online

FREE LBBD schools

30 places only

5/5 rated last year

BOOK NOW →

BDSIP HELPING STUDENTS SHINE

Strategic Leadership of SEND: From Primary to Secondary, Leading Inclusive Transition

Ready to move beyond "transition arrangements"? This free, LA-commissioned programme helps LBBD leaders build a strategic, inclusive approach to transition that connects data, neuroscience, curriculum and classroom practice, so every pupil can thrive from day one.

Across 5 sessions from 26 January 2027 (a mix of in person and online), led by Helena Brooks with Nicolle Rowson and Nicola Johns from LBBD. It's ideal for Heads, SLT, SENCOs, ARP Leads and Inclusion Leads.

Last year's programme was rated 5/5: "Great session, love the input from the other schools."

Places are limited to 30. Sign up here

RE Conference | Fresh Ideas and Practical Tools for Your Classroom



Join us for a day of learning and discussion, featuring a keynote from Deborah Weston OBE and practical workshops exploring texts and scholarship in RE, GCSE Religious Studies and powerful classroom questioning.

There will also be time to connect with colleagues and browse resources from Newham Bookshop.

[View the full programme and book your place here](#)

Strategic Financial Leadership Programme

Practical Finance & Resource Management for Headteachers,School Business Leaders and Governors

ISBL Institute of School Business Leadership | Department for Education

Free In-Person Training

BDSIP

A FREE, fully funded four-stage progressive programme designed to build the financial confidence, expertise and strategic capability of Headteachers, School Business Leaders and Governors, strengthening financial sustainability and creating greater organisational capacity.

Eastbrook School, Secondary Building, Dagenham Road, RM10 7UR

Morning Session: 10am - 12.30pm
Afternoon Session: 1.30pm - 4pm

12.30 - 1.30pm
All delegates attending either the morning or afternoon sessions are invited to stay for a networking lunch

15 October 2026 Understanding & Utilising Integrated Curriculum & Financial Planning (ICFP)	Book AM Session Book PM Session
26 November 2026 Leading Integrated Curriculum & Financial Planning (ICFP) Together	Book AM Session Book PM Session
28 January 2027 Financial Planning & Budget Assumptions	Book AM Session Book PM Session
11 March 2027 Strategic Planning & Operational Leadership	Book AM Session Book PM Session



Delivered by
Rebecca Beaver

- ISBL CEO award for Exceptional Contribution to School Business Leadership (2023)
- DfE School Resource Management Adviser (SRMA)
- Education Consultant
- Fellow of the Institute of School Business Leadership (FISBL)



Supported by
Claire Keefe

- Executive School Business Leader, Barking Abbey and Eastbrook Schools
- DfE School Resource Management Adviser (SRMA)
- Fellow of the Institute of School Business Leadership (FISBL)

Targeted Literacy Interventions: Improving Reading Outcomes and Confidence

📖We are pleased to share a new blog from Louise Harding reflecting on the impact of targeted literacy interventions delivered across secondary schools in Barking and Dagenham as part of the Making Friends with a Book research project.

💬The blog explores how carefully matched one-to-one and small-group literacy interventions have supported students to make progress in reading, build confidence, improve engagement and develop a more positive relationship with reading. This is exactly the thinking underpinning the Literacy Skills Courses and Talk Through Text programmes being delivered at BDSIP.

🎯The article also includes feedback from Barking Abbey School, highlighting the value of the programme in practice and the importance of building whole-school approaches to literacy.

🏫As schools begin planning support for the next academic year, this is a helpful read for those looking to strengthen reading intervention, support students below age-related expectations and improve reading confidence across the curriculum.
Read the full blog here.

For more information about the Literacy Skills Courses and Talk Through Text programmes, please contact Louise Harding at Louise.Harding@bdsip.co.uk.

Free Online Training from the Virtual School

LBBD schools can contact BDSIP to access free online training from the Virtual School, designed to support some of our most vulnerable children and young people.

The training is particularly focused on the needs of children with a social worker, and may also be useful for staff supporting pupils with SEMH, autism and SLCN.

The online units provide practical classroom strategies and are designed to be completed in around one hour.

Access is free for all LBBD schools — you just need a sign-in to get started.

📩 **Contact us at CPDEvents@bdsip.co.uk to request access or find out more.**

Teaching RE with Confidence | Free CPD for B&D Schools



RE Matters is offering four free twilight sessions to help primary teachers and secondary teachers who teach RE alongside another specialism strengthen their subject knowledge and classroom practice.

The sessions cover seven religions and belief systems, with practical teaching ideas and guidance on addressing misconceptions and encouraging respectful discussion.

📅 Online: 8 December 2026, 13 January and 24 February 2027, 4.00–5.15pm
📍 In person in Barking and Dagenham: 8 June 2027, 4.00–5.30pm, with an opportunity to meet representatives from different religions and beliefs.

Scan the QR code on the flyer here to book, or email Georgina Neil for further details.



Inclusive Leadership: Leading for Equity, Belonging, and Achievement; designed for teachers and school leaders. This programme integrates the SEND Code of Practice, Universal Design for Learning (UDL), and principles of race and social justice. It invites personal reflection, collaborative problem solving, and direct school-based observation to empower inclusive leadership.

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UPCOMING CPD

Click on the course titles to learn more and register

CPD	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri

w/c 19 October		School Workforce Census Overview		Primary Maths Professional Learning Network	
w/c 2 November				Governor Training: Exclusions and Suspensions	
w/c 9 November		Primary Religious Education Network Meeting --- Primary Computing Professional Learning Network		Arbor Admin: Guardian Consultations --- EYFS Coordinator Meeting	
w/c 16 November		Secondary Religious Education Conference --- Nursery meeting	Primary ECT Training in RE	BDSIP Inclusion Conference	
w/c 23 November			Arbor Admin: Clubs, Trips and Payments --- How formative assessment can be used to ensure accurate and consistent EYFS Profile data		
w/c 11 January			EDM Spring Census Workshop	Arbor Admin - Spring Census Support Workshop	
w/c 18 January		Making Sense of the IDSR: A Governor's Guide to Strategic Challenge and School Improvement	Primary English Subject Leader Network		
w/c 25 January		Strategic Leadership of SEND - From Primary to Secondary: Leading Inclusive Transition	Arbor Assessment – Arbor Report Cards		

This calendar shows the upcoming CPD for the term ahead, further dates can be found via our website

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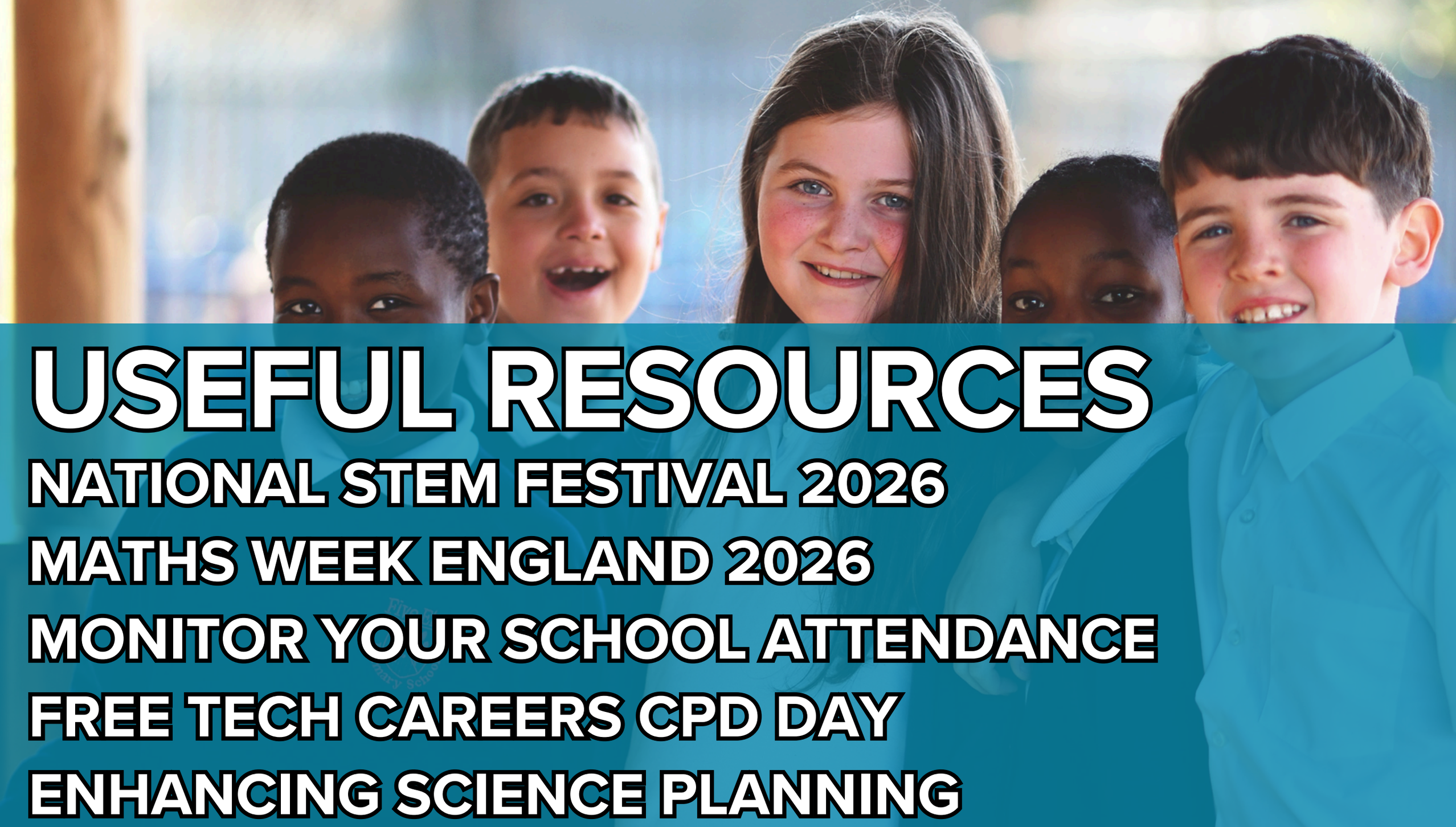
CONTACT US

All feedback and questions are welcome. If you have any queries about any aspects of this briefing or any wider issues, please use the contacts below:

Lee Boyce, Chief Executive – Lee.Boyce@bdsip.co.uk
Paul Claydon, Deputy Chief Executive – Paul.Claydon@bdsip.co.uk

General enquiries – info@bdsip.co.uk
CPD enquiries – cpdevents@bdsip.co.uk

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USEFUL RESOURCES

NATIONAL STEM FESTIVAL 2026

MATHS WEEK ENGLAND 2026

MONITOR YOUR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

FREE TECH CAREERS CPD DAY

ENHANCING SCIENCE PLANNING

Maths Week England 2026

Maths on the Move

Maths Week England (Sunday 15th to Saturday 21st November 2026) is a nationwide celebration of mathematics, bringing people together to discover the creativity, excitement and possibilities of maths.

For schools, Maths Week is an opportunity to bring maths to life beyond the usual classroom routine. It encourages creative approaches to teaching and learning, provides opportunities for collaboration and discussion, and helps pupils see how maths connects to their interests and the wider world.

Register via the Maths Week England website to get access to new resources.



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National STEM Festival 2026

The Future Shows Up Early

Applications for the National STEM Festival are now open for students aged 13-17, with the deadline for entries on 22 November 2026.

Up to 40 National STEM Champions from across the UK will be selected to showcase their projects from 5-10 May 2027, at various London locations. Travel and accommodation will be fully funded for every Champion. Champions will have the opportunity to share their ideas with scientists, engineers and leaders from industry, government and education.

Students need to complete an online application, including written project information, a project PDF of up to three pages and a video of up to two minutes explaining their work. Projects should address one of four themes:

- **Building and Infrastructure**
- **Health and Human Potential**
- **Technology, AI and Digital Futures**
- **Food, Planet and Sustainability**



Find out more about the National STEM Festival
Apply by 22 November 2026
Read the full rules and eligibility guidelines

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Monitor your School Attendance

Introduction and Refresher Webinar from DfE

The DfE are holding a webinar on Tuesday 10 November for schools that are new to the Monitor your school attendance tool, or want a refresher. This session is for schools, academy trusts and local authorities. You don't need any previous experience of the tool to join, and if you already use it, it's a chance to check you're making the most of it.

Tuesday 10 November
11:00am - 11:45am
Register via Eventbrite



The presenters will walk through the tool from the start, showing you:

- **how to access it through View your education data (VYED)**
- **what the main reports show and how to read them**
- **how to use your similar schools comparison report to see how your attendance compares with schools like yours**
- **how to use attendance workflows to identify pupils and cohorts who may need support**
- **how to use Explore your attendance patterns to spot trends across the year**
- **where to find guidance and help if you get stuck**

The recording will be added to the DfE Attendance YouTube channel.

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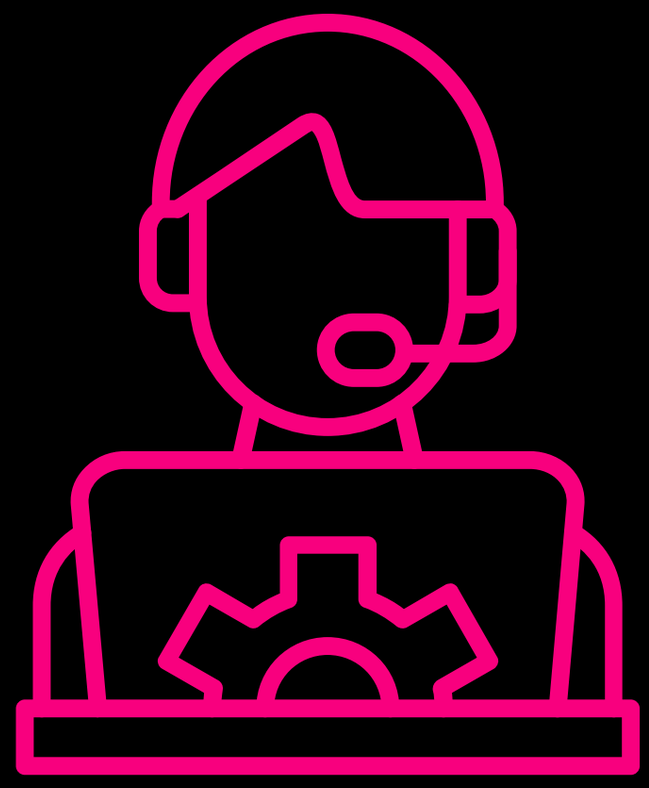
Free Tech Careers CPD Day

Tech She Can

Tech She Can are holding free, in-person Tech Careers CPD days for teachers and careers advisers looking for new ways to help students explore the wide range of careers in tech.

- **Explore the future of tech careers and trends shaping the future of work, gaining insight into the huge range of opportunities available for your students**
- **Discover practical ways to embed digital skills into your lessons and inspire students to explore technology careers, whatever their background or interests**
- **Explore emerging technologies, including AR, robotics and AI**
- **Go behind the scenes at a working tech office and network with inspirational people working there**
- **Access useful resources to support your ongoing CPD**

Help your school meet Gatsby Benchmarks 2 and 4 while strengthening your own confidence to guide the next generation into the world of tech.



Two upcoming events:

Wednesday 11th November
10:00am - 3:30pm
WongDoody Office, Old Street, London

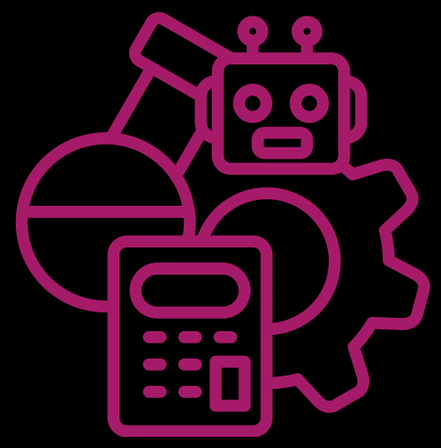
Wednesday 3rd February
10:00am - 3:30pm
Infosys Office, Upper Bank Street, London

Further details: Tech She Can Careers CPD Day
Register to attend: Careers CPD Day Application Form

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Enhancing Science Planning

Explorify



Explorify, from STEM Learning, has engaging, discussion-led activities that bring science to life in the primary classroom. And there's no charge to use the resources.

Explorify (STEM Learning account needed)

There is also a wealth of teacher support designed to help teachers plan with confidence and make their lessons even more meaningful and inclusive, including:

- **Top Tips guide - breaks down all 13 activity types, explaining when and how to use them.**
- **Explorify planning support - join a primary science expert in free, short, pre-recorded videos to find out about new activities and how these can support science teaching in the classroom.**
- **Tackle the tricky bits guide - every teacher has topics they find challenging to explain or areas where misconceptions often arise. The Tackle the Tricky Bits guides combine clear background science with practical teaching ideas.**
- **Explorify for inclusion - the Explorify for Inclusion hub shares strategies, and practical ideas, from expert teachers, showing how Explorify can be adapted to meet the needs of all learners, including those with SEND.**

NATIONAL GUIDANCE

NEW POST-16 QUALIFICATIONS EXPLAINED

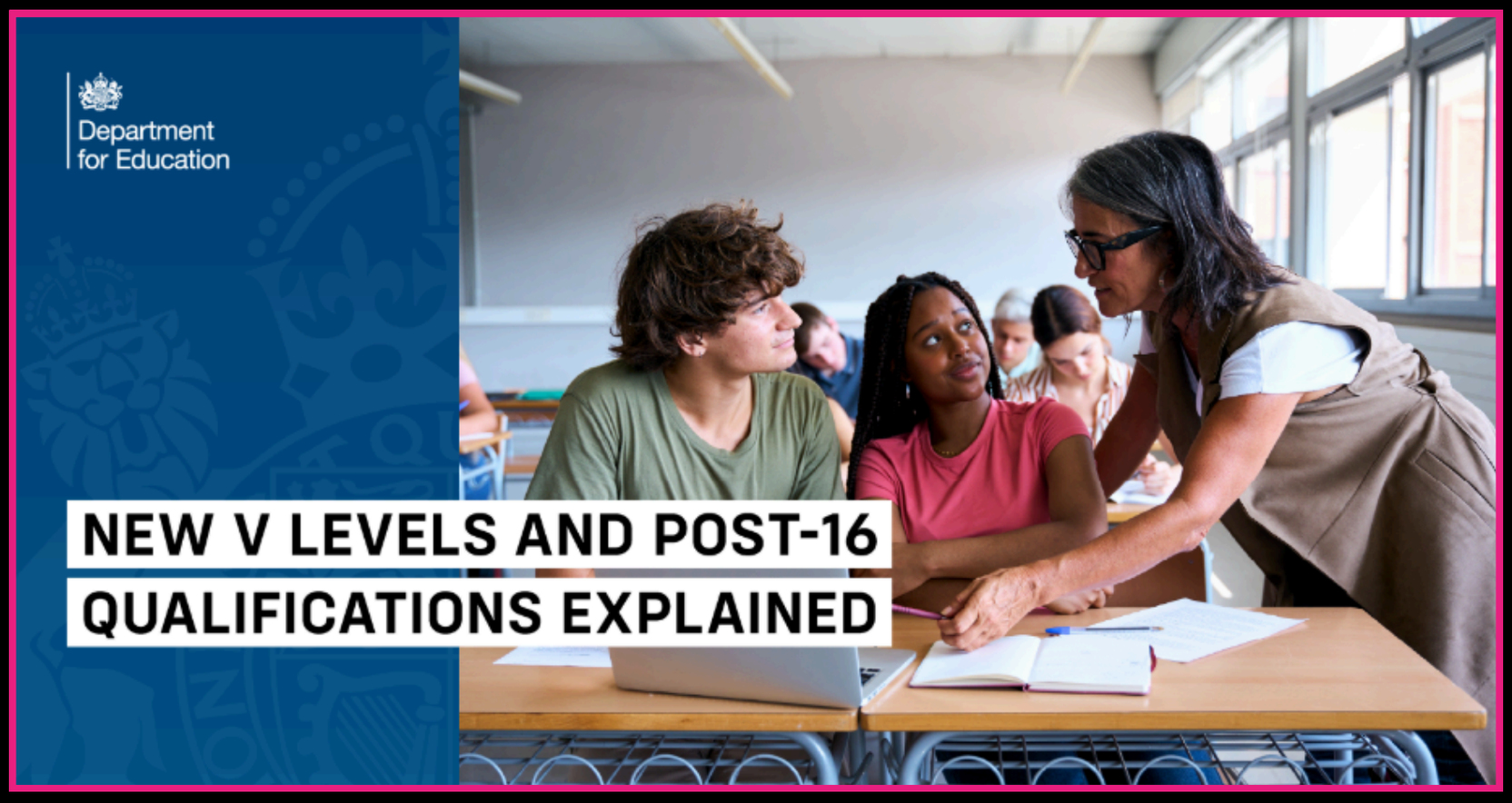
TEACHER RESOURCES FOR POST-16 CHOICES

PLANNING FOR POST-16 QUALIFICATION CHANGES

NEW VOCATIONAL GCSES ANNOUNCED

NEW TEACHER HUB

DFE: New Post-16 Qualifications Explained
Teacher Bulletin - 12 October 2026



Students choosing what to do after GCSEs will soon have more vocational options. The first V Levels, Foundation Certificates and Occupational Certificates are planned for September 2027, alongside existing A Levels and T Levels.

📚 What do they mean? V Levels are Level 3 qualifications for students interested in vocational subjects who may not yet want to specialise in one occupation. Foundation Certificates are intended to help students build towards further study, while Occupational Certificates offer a route towards skilled work or an apprenticeship. The explainer is a useful starting point for teachers discussing post-16 choices with pupils and parents.

Read more about the new qualifications. The Education Hub

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DFE: Teacher Resources for Post-16 Choices

Teacher guide and resource pack - 12 October 2026

With new qualifications on the way, pupils and parents may have questions about which route best suits their interests and ambitions. The DfE's two-page teacher guide includes an at-a-glance comparison to support conversations at options events, in careers lessons and with individual pupils.

📄 A wider pack includes posters, leaflets, FAQs, videos and animations that schools can use to explain the choices in more detail.



Teacher guide · Full Resource Pack

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DFE: Planning for Post-16 Qualification Changes
Implementation Plan - 12 October 2026

The DfE's implementation plan sets out which qualifications are changing and when. It covers the introduction of V Levels, Foundation Certificates and Occupational Certificates, as well as the transition from existing qualifications.

🗓️ School and college leaders can use the timeline to plan curriculum provision and careers education, and to check which options will be available to different year groups.

Read the implementation plan.

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DFE: New Vocational GCSEs Announced

Announcement - 12 October 2026

The government has announced plans for Vocational GCSEs that would give pupils a chance to study practical and technical subjects alongside academic GCSEs. The first qualifications could be available from September 2029, making the plans particularly relevant to pupils currently in Year 7 and below.



🔧 The qualifications are intended to let pupils explore vocational interests before deciding on a post-16 route. Further detail is still to be developed, and a consultation is planned.

Read the announcement.

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DFE: New Teacher Hub

Teacher Resource - 12 October 2026

Ofqual's Teacher Hub brings together information and practical guidance for teachers and other school and college staff preparing for exams and assessments.



📝 **It provides a place to find Ofqual's resources throughout the year, including information relevant to the changing qualifications landscape.**

Explore the Teacher Hub.

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