



Educator Solutions – we know education

Welcome to our Easter newsletter.

Here at Educator Solutions our company values focus entirely on you the customer. We offer all educational establishments a vast range of services and products which support, guide and train your staff to ultimately provide the best education possible for your children. We value your feedback about the services we provide and the way we communicate with you so please feel free to contact us at any time with any comments or suggestions.

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Leaders and Governors

Services for Maintained Schools

Details of our governance annual advice and support package has been released to schools which they can view through the SLA online portal. Following feedback you will be pleased to hear that one in-school session is now included in our new offer. New for this year, every local authority maintained school will receive two copies of a brochure giving lots more detail about the services we can offer. These brochures will be in school by the end of March and at the same time we will upload the brochure to Governorhub.

Training for Governors and Trustees

We are busy finalising our training offer ready for the new 2017-2018 academic year. Our training schedule has been developed using the success of this year's sessions and your welcomed feedback. As in previous years we have tried to ensure that the venues we use are as conveniently located as can be. You will see several new courses, including two which relate to school exclusions and complaints. Brochures will be sent to school early in the summer term.

Staff Development

Staff CPD sorted for spring and summer 17

View all of our training courses with dates and locations in one timetable. [Click here](#) to download a printable version for the staff room. For further information on our training courses please contact us on 01603 307710.

Thinking in English

Educator Solutions are delighted to have brought together an exciting line-up of nationally and internationally-acclaimed speakers to explore the best ways to develop young people's thinking in English.

Our keynote speaker writer and broadcaster David Crystal inspires a love of grammar and the fun that can be had with the English language at the same time being on hand to answer any burning grammar questions, indispensable at a time when grammar is a key component of our primary English curriculum.

Whilst David Crystal covers grammar, other workshops explore further aspects and possibilities within teaching English. Rob Smith, known for being the creator of the spectacularly successful website and teaching-idea goldmine 'The Literacy shed', discusses how moving and still image can be used in the classroom to support the writing process. Jason Buckley, otherwise known as 'The philosophy Man' explores ways to help children to become curious and independent questioners through the use of effective dialogue. Continuing this theme, Michael Walsh from King's College London provides an opportunity to experience a Let's Think in English session, a

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programme which has successfully developed critical thought and reasoning in schools nationwide.

We look forward to seeing you on the 28th March.

For full course details and to book please [click here](#).

Teaching Spanish at GCSE

Educator Solutions, in association with the Lambeth Teaching Schools Alliance, are pleased to host CPD in preparation for the new Spanish GCSE syllabus.

The course is designed for recently qualified and experienced language teachers or returners who will be teaching Spanish at GCSE level.

There is no cost to schools and the training will be held at the Norwich Professional Development Centre.

For more information about the four day sessions please [click here](#) or they can be booked via www.ltsa.org.uk

Business Resources

HR

Improvements to Schools PeopleNet

Coming soon to all schools and academies that use our HR service and/or the NCC Health, Safety and Well-being service is a new and improved Schools PeopleNet. The new website will be called HR InfoSpace and it will allow main users to customise their own homepage with links and favourites. This will mean all your important documents, policies and guidance for HR and Health, Safety and Wellbeing are easily accessible whenever you need them. A fabulous news and updates section will also be a key part of the new website along with easier site navigation and proactive alerts when changes are made to model policies.

The new HR InfoSpace is due to be ready shortly after Easter. We will of course keep you informed when we launch and provide a virtual tour of the website so you can see exactly how it works for you and your school.

Business Resources

Finance

Direct Finance Support Service

The Finance and Business Services Team are able to provide qualified, dedicated staff to support educational establishments with their financial operations during

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periods of absence or reorganisation and increasingly instead of those establishments employing their own staff.

Our team are able to take the stress away from both the strategic and operational management of your establishment, by ensuring you have fully trained staff to provide cover when you need them the most. We can tailor the support to meet your individual needs, ensuring financial integrity during periods of vulnerability.

This flexible and responsive service can be delivered directly onsite or centrally using whichever system is employed by your establishment. Additionally, we can review your current procedures to support future aspirations to facilitate your establishment in meeting the ever-changing demands of the education sector.

For further details, please contact paul.harker@educatorsolutions.org.uk or martin.oswick@educatorsolutions.org.uk

New Addition to the service

We have partnered up with Pupil Asset enabling our Direct Support Staff to deliver additional support with your schools management information system, in order to fully support the administrative operations of your educational setting.

If you require any level of support service for a period of time, our team can help. For enquiries please contact Heidi Acteson on 01603 224457 or Heidi.acteson@educatorsolutions.org.uk

Choosing the right Academy sponsor

We are pleased to be able to offer a package that will support you in analysing the credentials of an academy sponsor.

Choosing the right academy sponsor is crucial in achieving the long term goals for your school. This package can help you understand your finances as a prospective academy and ensure due diligence is undertaken when determining the various levels a sponsor can offer as part of their centralised support and the costs associated with these.

Please contact Martin Oswick to understand more about the support we are able to offer. Martin.oswick@educatorsolutions.org.uk.

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Learners

News and events from our education centres.

Whitlingham

Easter Holiday Adventures

Don't be bored this Easter holiday! Take advantage of our huge range of outdoor adventure courses available at Whitlingham Outdoor Education Centre, something for all the family to take part in!

Adventure Festival Day ... it's going to be epic!

Sunday the 2nd April we are offering a fun-packed Adventure Festival with taster sessions of sailing, archery, climbing and stand-up paddle-boarding. Just £10 per person per session available 10:30 – 16:30.

Easter Holiday Courses

We are offering 2 full weeks of courses for you to choose from commencing Monday 3rd April including sailing starter sessions, canoe and kayak, archery and survival, climb and archery and plenty more!

Craft Hire

Available April to October including weekends and school holidays.

New for 2017

Join our 'Wildlings Club' giving you the option of flexible drop-off and pick-up times designed for busy parents and carers. Let us look after your children before and after courses, available 8:30 – 17:30.

Full details and online booking for all activities is available online:

www.whitlinghamoec.co.uk

Holt Hall

Open Gates and Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday 9 April 10:00am – 3:00pm.

Explore the woods and find the clues that will lead you to the Easter eggs - £2.50 per child.

Homemade cakes and biscuits will be available in the Courtyard Café. Enjoy exploring over acres of beautiful grounds including ancient woodland, formal lawns and the Victorian walled garden.

www.holthall.org.uk

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Children's University

Norfolk Children's University were delighted to see over 200 children graduate at ceremonies across the county in February. Children between the ages of 5 and 12 had collected stamps in their Passport to Learning by completing learning activities at many of the 230 public learning destinations before attending one of the ceremonies. There were graduations at the College of West Anglia, Dragon Hall and Great Yarmouth College. Some children collected their very first certificate for 30 hours and one child had completing 730 hours of extra-curricular learning activities.



The ceremonies celebrate every child's success and achievements. By providing a wide variety of inspiring learning activities outside of the classroom Children's University introduces children to different ways of learning designed to help them develop a whole range of skills and interests.

Norfolk Music Service

Celebration of Young Strings

Young string players across Norfolk are invited to attend a series of workshops, which culminate in a large-scale performance at the Celebration of Young String Players' Concert at St Andrew's Hall, Norwich on Sunday 23 April 2017.

Players of Grade 1-3 standard are invited to the Fiddlesticks workshops, and players of Grade 3-6 standard are invited to Classic Strings. Closing date for applications is Friday 24th February and as places are limited they will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Applicants will be informed after this date only if you have not been accepted. Music for the workshops will be issued on receipt of the application.

In order to book a place please complete the relevant form downloadable from norfolkmusicshub.org.uk/celebration-of-young-strings/ and send it together with a cheque for £40.00 or £20.00 made payable to Norfolk County Council. Please note cheques are non-refundable except in exceptional circumstances.

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Steeping Stone to A-Level Music at East Norfolk Sixth Form College

East Norfolk Sixth Form are offering a FREE course of Steeping Stone to A-Level Music classes with specialist tutors from Norfolk Music Hub (provided by the Music Service). These classes will provide students with the opportunity to top-up their music qualifications so they are ready to take the next step on their musical journey.



A-level Music provides the opportunity for students to acquire advanced musical skills, knowledge and understanding through listening and analysis, composing and performing. It encourages students to build on the knowledge and experience gained at GCSE and in their musical activities outside the curriculum. The course will start from Tuesday 21st February, 4 - 5.30pm, at East Norfolk Sixth Form College and is aimed at students wishing to start an A-level Music course in September 2017 or 2018. For more information or to register, please contact Josh Rafé Coles, 01493 662234. <http://www.eastnorfolk.ac.uk/Students--Parents/Steeping-Stone-to-A-level-Music>

The Norfolk Music Hub Expo

A very successful and enjoyable Norfolk Music Hub Expo was held on Thursday 9 March at Dunston Hall organised and hosted by the Music Service. It was attended by 76 delegates made up of music specialists, teachers, and connected organisations, who participated in various workshops and a keynote presentation, delivered by ACM Gospel Choir and Mark De Lisser. An additional 31 people joining for the awards celebration and performances from various groups and soloists in the evening. There were 12 Norfolk Music Hub Award Winners and 4 schools were awarded a Norfolk Music Hub Silver Award.

Some feedback from delegates: Everything was so enthusiastic, lively and didn't feel like the usual teaching gathering.

- It was a brilliant day. So well planned and thought out. I have never attended such an enjoyable event linked with my job.
- Well worth all the time and energy needed to organise and participate
- It was really good to hear about other options, resources and instruments as well as talking to other music leaders in Norfolk.
- I really enjoyed the opportunity to experience instruments and resources we don't currently have at our school.

Have a look at our video round-up:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xsFvhSC16A0&feature=youtu.be>

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Norfolk ICT

Norfolk Teaching with Technology Event - 25th April 2017

The Space, Rowntree Way, Norwich

We have joined up with Microsoft, Google and Apple education teams to bring you an event on making the best use of technology in your classrooms to improve the learning experience.

Discover more about using Microsoft Office 365, G-Suite for Education and Apple for Education within your schools. Hear from schools using the tools on their journey with implementation and the improvements it has had on learning outcomes. Exhibition area demonstrating technology, products and teachers professional development. Our event is aimed at headteachers and IT leads and will give you access to leading professionals in primary and secondary education.

Join us as we delve into the role of technology in the classroom (and equally, outside of it) to help improve teacher-student interactions and learning. We will also look at how the collaboration between primary schools and high schools can develop effectively using cloud technologies.

It's an amazing opportunity to try out the latest technologies in the classroom, talk to specialists about CPD development for staff, and how students can get the benefit of certifications to become job or college ready once they leave secondary school.

The event is free to attend for Norfolk Schools and Academies with a limit of 2 people per school. To book online please [click here](#).

Events

Join us on 22 February 2018 at the new Eastern Education and Academies Show

Based in Newmarket Race course with **free entry, free lunch and free parking**.

As a key partner of the event Educator Solutions are issuing a warm invitation to you and your colleagues for an unmissable day of new ideas, best practice sharing and comprehensive exhibition of key education suppliers.

The UK's Leading Regional Education event arrives in Newmarket and will be a highly productive and informative day – with inspirational keynotes practical workshops on common challenges. This unique event is specifically designed to provide you with the ideal opportunity to meet with education providers face-to-face.

- One day conference and exhibition with over 70 key education suppliers.
- Aimed at headteachers, school business managers, governors, senior leadership team, SEND coordinators etc.
- Academies, state funded schools and private sector are welcome.

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- Solutions for infant, junior, primary, secondary, special, colleges and academies.
- Inspirational keynote speakers.
- Topical training and workshop sessions.

To find out more and to register for free <http://www.easterneducationshow.uk/>

Our customer survey, a polite reminder...

We are passionate about ensuring our services and products are meeting our customer's needs. Therefore if you have not already done so, we would be most grateful if you could complete our customer survey to help us further develop our service delivery and product offering.

The survey can be accessed [via this link](#).
Please note the closing date is **31st March 2017**.

All responses will be treated with the strictest confidence.
Thank you.

Finally

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. If you have any comments or feedback please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

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