



Primary Hubs



**INSPIRING TEACHERS
CHANGING LIVES**

January 2026

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Empower

Empower and enable schools to strengthen subject provision and leadership.

Encourage

Encourage teachers to introduce all pupils, regardless of background or ability, to challenging and enriching activities and materials.

Develop

Develop teachers' subject knowledge and impact through academic talks, resources and discussion, and the sharing of best practice.

Motivate

Motivate teachers to consider how to develop engagement, enjoyment, curiosity and intellectual independence within and beyond the curriculum.

www.ptieducation.org/what-we-do

What is a Primary Hub?

Primary Hubs exist to help increase collaboration between local schools and strengthen subject teaching and subject leadership across the national network. Primary Hubs consist of a group of schools (up to 30) who join The PTI under a joint membership.

The PTI provides three bespoke subject-focused professional development days for members of the Hub, delivered locally. The days include expert speakers, teacher leader workshops, and the opportunity to consider how to bring these learnings back to school.





The Hub Lead

The Hub Lead (usually the Headteacher who establishes the Hub) recruits local schools, acts as the spokesperson for the Hub Members and is the point of contact with The PTI.

We invite the Hub Lead to chair each of their bespoke CPD days and to represent the Hub at The PTI's annual Leadership Symposium.

The Hub Members

Hub Members decide together which subjects are priorities for the bespoke CPD days and whether there are any overarching themes / areas for development which could be considered.

The PTI

The PTI designs the content of the days ensuring each includes:

- Subject enrichment
- Subject pedagogy
- Creative collaboration workshops to produce resources to take back to school

How does it work?

The PTI delivers the CPD days in a venue provided by the Hub which eliminates extensive travel for members. Materials and resources are shared with hub members following the events.

Each school in the Hub is invited to create a Curriculum Case Study outlining the impact of being part of the Hub. Submission of this document in the spring term makes the school eligible to receive The PTI Primary Hub Mark.

All Schools who receive a Primary Hub Mark are also considered for The PTI Primary Impact Award. In the summer term, Hubs submit renewal forms including dates and topics for the new academic year.



Benefits

- Three bespoke CPD days, including speakers and materials
- The National Virtual Hub – live online courses throughout the year
- PTI resources, recorded lectures and online courses
- Eligibility to apply for the Primary Hub Mark for each school in the hub
- Opportunity to achieve the Primary Impact Award
- Two complimentary places on the Leadership Programme (for Headteachers)
- One complimentary place at The PTI Primary Leadership Symposium, plus one bursary place (for Headteachers)
- Eligibility to apply for places on our online Primary ECT Certificate course (for ECT1, ECT2 and teachers in their third year of teaching)

EMMAUS Hub, History with Keisha Thompson



A typical Hub day

Hosted by the Hub Lead

Led by The PTI Teacher Leader

Shaped by the keynote speaker

Brought to life by the participants in the room

The three phases

1 Subject knowledge

The first part of the day is always an inspiration. Our keynote speakers inject both subject knowledge and passion into proceedings either through an academic talk or lively workshop.

2 Subject pedagogy

Since all PTI events are delivered by teachers for teachers, the whole day is designed and overseen by an experienced PTI delivery partner – the Teacher Leader.

Teacher Leaders are current practitioners and as such are able to marry together the deep subject knowledge from the speaker with the reality of the classroom, sharing examples of best practice, exploring approaches to curriculum and guiding conversations around progression during their workshop. They involve participants as the experts of the particular contexts within the Hub, developing a springboard for place-based change.



3 Sustained impact

Hubs work collaboratively and with support to ensure all children, regardless of background or ability, receive both a challenging and enriching educational experience, delivered by passionate and expert teachers who are recognised and celebrated as professionals.

We know participants will have an excellent and enjoyable time on a Hub day, but it really is just the beginning.

Each day includes a creative collaboration workshop in the afternoon. Participants work with the Teacher Leader and the speaker to develop a resource to use back in school, design or amend curriculum maps, plan for progression across phases, or design Hub projects.

Image: South Lakes Hub, Geography with Emma Brigg, Field Studies Council

Case studies



Wigan: Design and Technology

Aims

- To incorporate an engineering theme into each year group
- To develop thinking and habits of an engineer
- To consider enrichment for engineering and inclusion

Wigan Primary Hub | Design and Technology

Schedule

0845 – 0900	Registration Participants arrive and refreshments available
0900 – 0915	Welcome and introductions Primary Hub Centre Lead
0915 – 1000	Lecture <i>What is D&T and why is it important?</i> Ben Sedman, Manchester Metropolitan University
1000 – 1100	Workshop <i>Design skills focusing on CAD</i> Ben Sedman, Manchester Metropolitan University
1100 – 1115	Break
1115 – 1200	Workshop <i>Mechanical Systems – Exploring a Practical Project</i> Alec Laing, Stewards Academy
1200 – 1230	Lunch
1230 – 1345	Workshop <i>Structures – Exploring a Practical Project</i> Alec Laing, Stewards Academy
1345 – 1445	Creative Collaboration <i>What can you take back? What has been useful?</i> Alec Laing, Stewards Academy
1445 – 1500	Evaluations and depart

“I would like to thank both speakers for the level of detail and resources they provided. It has provided clear ideas and areas for us to focus on as a school and given food for thought about how to make our provision the best it can be.”

Loughborough Coalville: Geography

Aims

- To secure a working knowledge of the National Curriculum and Ofsted Geography fieldwork requirements
- To develop an understanding of the practicalities of Geography fieldwork in terms of planning, delivery and situating this successfully within learning and teaching
- To assess the local environment for a diverse range of fieldwork opportunities

Loughborough and Coalville Primary Hub Geography |

Fieldwork skills

Schedule

0945 – 1000	Registration Participants arrive and refreshments available
1000 – 1015	Welcome and introductions Jon Bishop, Primary Hub Centre Lead
1015 – 1115	Lecture <i>Fieldwork: navigating the national curriculum / integrating fieldwork into the 3 I's</i> John Wilkinson, St Edward's College
1115 – 1130	Discussion <i>How can we bring these ideas into the classroom?</i>
1130 – 1145	Break
1145 – 1230	Teacher-led workshop <i>The practicalities of delivering awe and wonder through fieldwork</i> John Wilkinson, St Edward's College
1230 – 1300	Lunch
1300 – 1330	Teacher-led workshop continued <i>Fieldwork... in and around the local environ concepts and case studies in real time</i> John Wilkinson, St Edward's College
1330 – 1445	Creative Collaboration <i>Creation of resources description</i>
1445 – 1500	Evaluations and depart

“Inspired presentation with loads of practical and useful advice guidance and real shared experiences. John had got the tone, content and structure of the day absolutely right.”



National Virtual Hubs

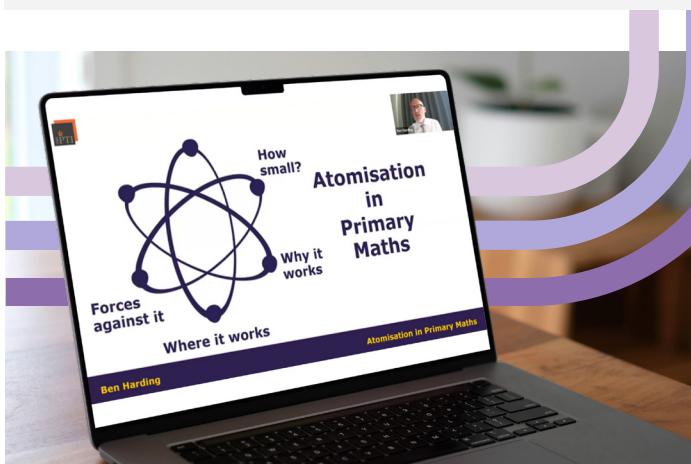
All Hub members are invited to join our National Virtual Primary Hub events. All Virtual Primary Hub events are designed and hosted by The Primary Academic Working Group – a group of Headteachers and Hub Leads. It is an opportunity to hear from experts in the field and connect with colleagues across the whole country. Events start at 15:45 and last for 90 minutes. You can send a representative from your school or you can use this event as a whole staff meeting so everyone can get involved.

Virtual Hub events include

History, Art, Core (English, Maths), 'Hot Topics' e.g. RSE and Computing.

Previous speakers include

- Christine Counsell
- Dr Yasemin Allsop MBE
- Charlotte MacKechnie
- Ben Harding



Primary Hub Mark

To be eligible to achieve The PTI Primary Hub Mark, all schools should:

- Send a representative to each of their Hub days
- Complete and submit the Curriculum Case Study

Tees Valley Education Hub, DT participants



The Curriculum Case Study is a document articulating the impact of having been part of a Primary Hub. It is written by the Headteacher of the school or a Hub day attendee and signed off by the Headteacher. It should focus on curriculum development:

Rationale – what did you hope to achieve?

Substance – what is the precise subject content at the heart of the development work you have carried out?

Impact – what is the impact on pupils and teachers?

In your case studies we would love to hear about precise subject content and its effects on pupils' growing subject knowledge, skills or other attributes. Please be specific and share any supporting materials such as pupil voice, photographs of work, or case studies.

Primary Impact Award

The PTI Primary Impact Award recognises a school and the subject area which has had the most positive impact on their teachers and pupils as a result of attending Primary Hub days. The winner receives a trophy and £5,000 for their school.



The winner demonstrates work that advances the values of The PTI by:

- Empowering and enabling the school to strengthen its subject provision and leadership
- Encouraging teachers to introduce all pupils to challenging and enriching materials and activities
- Enriching and developing teachers' subject knowledge and impact through sharing of resources, discussion and the sharing of best practice (among teachers in the school and within the Hub)
- Motivating teachers to consider how to develop engagement, enjoyment, curiosity and intellectual independence within and beyond the curriculum



Judging Process

All of the Curriculum Case Study reports are collated and from these a shortlist of three schools are selected for a visit by our Awards Panel. Shortlisted schools are invited to our annual VIP Awards Dinner where the winner is announced.



VIP Dinner attendees

Previous Winners

2025

Belle Vue Primary School, Carlisle

2024/25

St Mary's CofE School, Kirkby Lonsdale

2024

Calstock Community Primary School, Cornwall



**Celebrating
achievements at our
awards evening**



Primary Impact Award: South West

Over 18 months, Headteacher Ben Towe embarked on a journey to innovate and improve the teaching of Geography across his two schools and beyond. Stimulated by his involvement with The PTI since 2016, he was empowered to lead a 'Critical Thinking and Outdoor Learning' series of CPD. This consisted of leading, organising and facilitating a curated package, linking together the leaders in their field (Dr Paula Owens and PTI Bernice McCabe Award winner, Jack Cockayne) with his love of critical thinking and global learning.

To achieve this, Ben initiated, delivered and field tested a redesigned 'critical thinking' Geography curriculum. He then organised and led two CPD events for the South West PTI Hub schools, building on previous PTI sessions and developing approaches to global learning, critical thinking and fieldwork.

The curriculum Ben designed and implemented is rooted in ambition and opportunity. He utilised resources and materials from expert organisations, including the Geographical Association and The Royal Geographical Society, to produce a high-quality curriculum for all.

Feedback from the LA curriculum team has been very positive, *"I do think your medium-term plans are some of the best that I have seen for primary"*. Nicky Hepworth (LA Curriculum Advisor – July 2023).

Image: Ben Towe, winner of The PTI Primary Impact Award

Primary ECT Certificate

Complementary to the ECT Framework, The PTI Primary ECT Certificate (PECT-C) supports new teachers to become energised, motivated, and influential by putting subject-centred teaching at the heart of learning.

The PECT-C takes place over 18 months and focuses on fostering a love of subject and the schemes of work around them. The programme consists of:

- An online launch meeting
- A series of subject-specific online events (National Virtual Hubs)
- The Learning Resource Assignment (LRA) – the design and delivery of three learning resources
- Final online assessment: evidence portfolio (Reflective Log and LRA) and peer review

Successful accreditation of the PECT-C places participants in an exceptionally strong place to begin to lead on key areas of the Primary Curriculum. This expert knowledge, matched with the strategic challenge and thought gained during the peer review process, will in turn lead to exceptional subject, curriculum and school leaders in the future.



Leadership with The PTI

For Headteachers, Executive Headteachers and MAT CEOs

Thought Leadership - leading the educational landscape to build a positive narrative about the future.



Primary Leadership Symposium

Two-day residential course (including all board and subsistence, course materials and recordings)

- Engage in talks and presentations from esteemed speakers
- Participate in seminars led by experienced education leaders
- Discuss and explore principled school leadership
- Build lasting connections with passionate headteachers

www.ptieducation.org/symposium



Online forums

Collaborate with experts and practitioners about the current challenges and opportunities in education

Leadership with The PTI

For Headteachers and Members of SLT

Whole School Leadership – Exceptional leadership of a school

The PTI Leadership Programme

Ongoing professional development designed to drive and support the improvement of education for all children regardless of background or ability. With the support of The PTI's Headteacher Development Partners:

- Determine the vision and values of your school
- Define educational success
- Lead with integrity and authenticity
- Collaborate with a national network

Three leadership CPD days – hear from experts and practitioners on topics around: Ethos, Curriculum, People and Inclusion

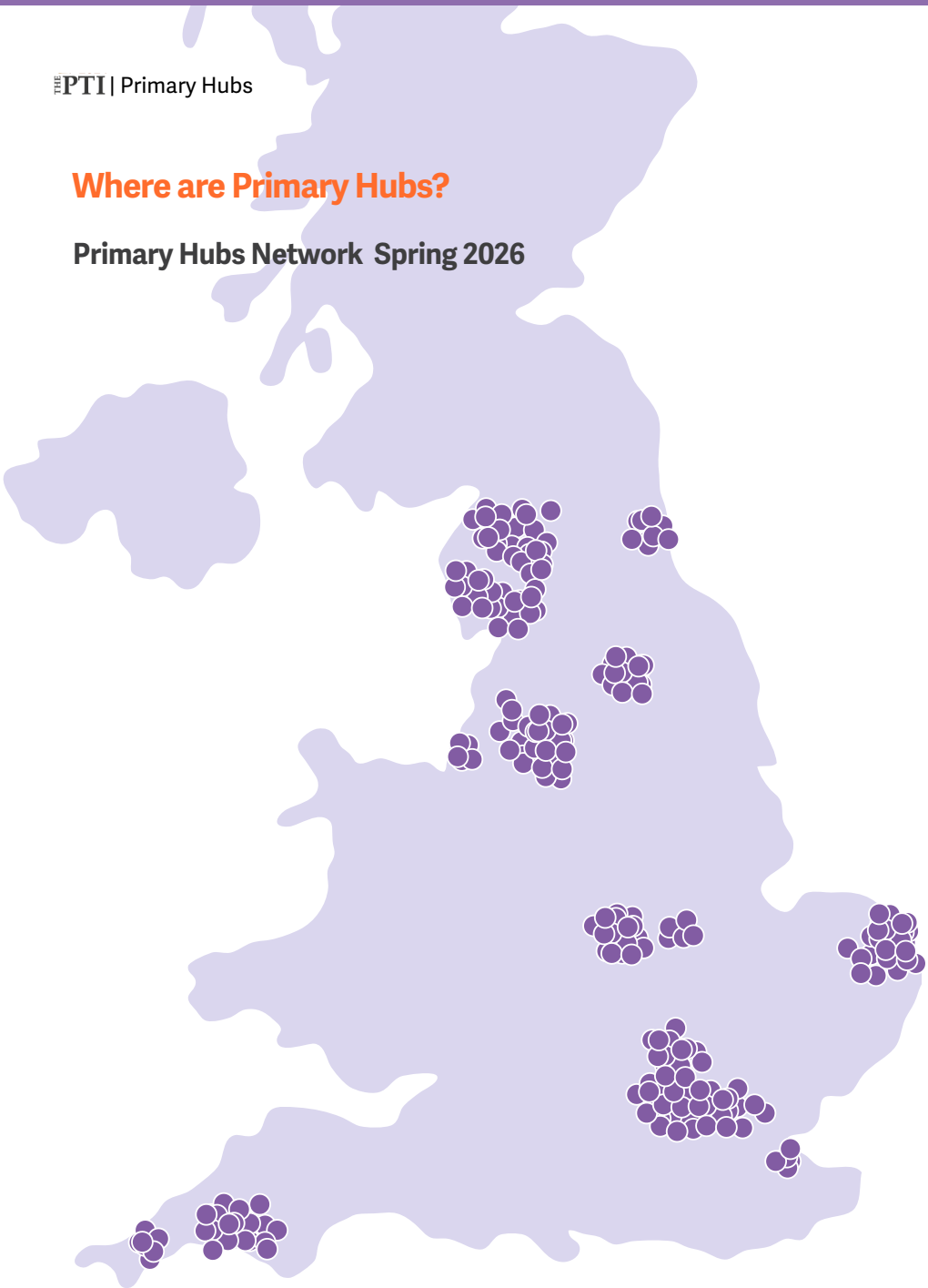
Three online activities – launch meeting, progress review and one to one meeting with your Headteacher Development Partner

Opportunity to achieve The PTI Leadership Mark by attending the days and completing a leadership project back in school

www.ptieducation.org/what-we-do/schools-leadership-programme

Where are Primary Hubs?

Primary Hubs Network Spring 2026



Case study

Impact Case Study: Milburn School

"Over the past two terms, I have seen the children's confidence grow across the board. They have become more familiar with musical terminology, enjoyed playing percussive instruments and been introduced to a variety of different genres of music. I have seen a spark of enthusiasm ignited in each and every child and this is something I hope we can continue to sustain and grow" - HLTA



“I am excited to go to Manchester to do Young Voices because it is out of my comfort zone.” Student, aged 9

“I really enjoy using technology to create music. Once I have learnt how to play the piano I would like to try drums or the harp.” Student, aged 7

“Music is really fun and I am getting better at it all. I am looking forward to learning an instrument next year. I really hope we learn either the flute or violin.” Student aged 7

Meet the team



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Online Staffroom

Resources, recorded lectures and online courses from The PTI

Following each Hub CPD day, you will have access to all materials used, including PowerPoints, handouts and any podcasts that might have been recorded.

In addition, all teachers in a Hub school will have access to our full and extensive online staffroom – a real treasure trove with over 7000 educational resources and podcasts.

www.ptieducation.org/staffroom





www.ptieducation.org

**For enquiries, please contact primaryhubs@ptieducation.org
or call us on 020 3174 0127**



The PTI

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