

Ealing Teaching School Alliance Guidance for Sharing Good Practice

School Visits, Showcases and School-to-School Support

2014-15

Gathering Examples of Good Practice

- Use data to identify areas of strength
- Volunteers
- Evidence from Learning Reviews/ other reviews

Promoting Examples of Good Practice

- Use of data to identify areas of need
- Directory available on the ETSA website
- Direction from the school improvement team

Before a School Visit

Both parties should be clear as to the exact focus and purpose of the visit. To maximise the impact of the visit, arrange to visit with another colleague from your own school or from within the alliance.

Host

- Read the pre-visit form
- Clarify any points to ensure focus of the visit is clear and can be met
- Communicate necessary practical information

Visitors

- Complete pre-visit form
- Prepare for visit by researching a little about the school/dept
- Be very clear about what you hope to gain

During a School Visit

Both parties should have a copy of the pre-visit form with them.

Host

- Plan a focused experience which might include:
An introduction to the school/project/practice
Examples – observations in lessons, student work or interviews, input from other colleagues
A task for the visitor (this might work better for small groups of visitors)
Plenary – to return to pre-visit form and allow time for reflection
- Prepare something for the visitor to take away with them if appropriate

Visitors

- Keep in mind your focus but be open to what else you might learn
- Ask questions
- Make notes – come prepared to do so

After a School Visit

This will vary depending on the nature of the visit.

Host

- Follow-up with an email to see how the learning from the visit has impacted on practice
- Arrange a follow-up visit if appropriate
- Arrange a reciprocal visit if appropriate

Visitors

- Complete both parts of the reflection form
- Trial/implement/change practice as a result
- Feedback results of visit to host school
- Arrange a follow-up visit if appropriate
- Arrange a reciprocal visit if appropriate for the host school to see the impact
- Share your findings with colleagues in your setting

Other Models for Sharing Good Practice

Successful departments, teams and teachers might find it more effective and efficient to hold open mornings or afternoons. This could be requested by the ETSA and school improvement team to address an issue affecting more than one school.