



What can S7 do for you?

Pursuing excellence through collaboration

www.s7colleges.com

S7 NEWSLETTER ISSUE 2

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A Note from the Chair

There was a moment in a rainy week in October in 2004 when development programmes that extremely well-run by Anna consortia and peer review Loveday, our Consortium development groups were all the Manager, and her ultra-efficient sidekick, Sharon Kemp, this year groups of colleges to get together to manage quality and share good practice. Collaboration was the new zeitgeist. That particular fad, increasingly closely with Sussex like many other New Labour sixth form colleges. And although initiatives, fell by the wayside. we are a long way from being S9 However, S7 has continued to thrive and rather like Cuba in a world in which markets and capitalism dominate, remains a beacon of best practice in working together for the common good.

In addition to the well-established meetings, network groups, and

authorities having an increasingly marginal role, it is indeed pleasing that S7 has made a virtue of working together to share the best ideas and practices to give students the best possible education in Surrey sixth form colleges.

David Adelman, Chair of S7



- Do you have any news or a forthcoming event which would be of interest to S7 colleagues? Contact Sharon Kemp at s7enquiries@gmail.com and we will add it to the next newsletter and the S7 website.
- The S7 newsletter will be published twice a year, in February and October.

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S7 Courses for 2012/13

The following courses will be organised by S7 in 2012/13. Courses may be added throughout the year so keep an eye on www.s7colleges.com which is regularly updated.

Date	Activity	Venue
28 th September	Senior Leadership Programme Day 3	Gorse Hill
30 th January	Senior Leadership Programme Day 6	Gorse Hill
4 th October	Teachers' Toolkit Day 1	Esher
9 th November	Teachers' Toolkit Day 2	Woking
21 st January	Teachers' Toolkit Day 3	Reigate
6 th March	Teachers' Toolkit Day 4	Godalming
23 rd April	Teachers' Toolkit Day 5	Strode's
26 th November	Employment Law Training	Woking
28 th November	New Heads of Department ½ Day	Woking
5 th December	New Heads of Department ½ Day	Godalming
29 th November	Learning Facilitators' Training Day	Esher
23 rd January	Aspiring HoDs Training	Woking
15 th May	Support Staff Leadership Programme	Gorse Hill
22 nd May	Senior Managers' Day	Gorse Hill
28 th Feb/1 st Mar	Leadership Programme Days 1 and 2	Gorse Hill
26 th March	Leadership Programme Day 3	Gorse Hill
24 th April	Leadership Programme Day 4	Gorse Hill
20 th June	Leadership Programme Day 5	Gorse Hill
4 th June	S7 Teaching and Learning Conference	TBC
6 th and 7 th June	Senior Leadership Programme Days 1 & 2	Gorse Hill



Senior Leadership Programme

The Senior Leadership Programme is now well under way with 9 delegates. They have spent two days on a residential course at Gorse Hill conference venue in Woking during the summer term and then a further day in September working with an ex Principal, a Vice Principal, an Assistant Principal and the S7 Manager. This training is completely bespoke to sixth form college education and invaluable in further developing their understanding of the skills and processes involved in the leadership and management of a sixth form college.

The delegates will now be work shadowing a Vice Principal or Assistant Principal in a college other than their own for 2 days in the second half of the autumn term, before coming back together at Gorse Hill for a final day in January.

If you are interested in applying for this course for the next academic year please get in touch with Anna Loveday on s7colleges@gmail.com.



Free Training

In these days of funding cuts S7 are always searching for new ways to train staff economically. This year we have been very successful in gaining free training in Employment Law for college Senior Managers and Personnel and from WJEC, OCR and AQA exam boards.

Support Staff Conference July 2012

Each year S7 organises a conference for the staff of the colleges and in July it was the turn of the Support Staff. The day was held at Godalming College and contained presentations, workshops and networking opportunities. It was extremely well received by the staff of all the colleges and some of the networks wish to continue to contact each other throughout the year, even if just by email.

There will be an S7 Teaching and Learning Conference for all teaching staff on June 4th 2013.



Visits and Exchanges

Don't forget that we can organise your visit to a similar department in another S7 College. Visits between the Colleges have been taking place for many years and we receive very positive feedback.

If you would like to visit your colleagues in one of the other S7 Colleges please send details of your subject area/department and any specific request that you may have to Sharon Kemp (s7enquiries@gmail.com).



Student Council Day July 2012

In the summer term the Student Councils from each college came together for a day at Godalming College in which they had presentations on the workings of S7 for students, 'What does it mean to be a student council?', 'Peace One Day' and 'The Nuts and Bolts of Organising an Event'. They also participated in a Top Tips Swap Shop between themselves and were able to discuss on an informal basis, their ideas and processes.

We have run this event for several years, but this year in particular, the day was extremely successful and the councils found the experience very interesting and stimulating.



Babcock Training for new teachers

Another excellent example of why working as a consortium has its benefits, is that S7 has secured the training and accreditation from Babcock for new teachers for all 5 colleges, for less than half the price of the normal rate. This is because we are respected as professional enough to moderate each others' processes rather than having a third party intervene, and because we have such successful in-house training for our staff.

S7 Surrey's Got Talent Nov 2013

We are working towards the final of Surrey's Got Talent on November 22nd, with all the S7 colleges putting on heats this term to find the group or individual who will represent their college in the S7 head to head. This is a biennial event and two years ago saw a superb range of different acts of a very high standard, from stand up comedians to singers, bands and dance groups. The atmosphere was wonderful and the acts had a huge amount of support from their colleges.

The final will be held at Reigate College this year and we hope to have some high profile judges for the event.

