

Agenda – Ashdown A English Network Meeting

Date: May 20th 2021

Present: Becca Hare (St Mary's), Vicky Lewis (East Hoathly), Luke Sibson (Alfriston), Debbie Stephen (Ashdown)

1. Introductions	
2. Share feedback on online training module gap task - 'Developing Stronger Writing' and 'Rich Texts'.	<p>Becca and Vicky has done some 'top tips' from both of the training and added to the Ashdown Google Drive.</p> <p>All at the meeting found the games and active tasks a really good idea and will be utilised well in their classes. They are energising and can be extended into a whole lesson easily and adaptable to any year group.</p> <p>The checklist for what makes a rich text is a useful reference point for guiding teachers to find good texts to read as a class or as teaching tool. These can be used as another tool for planning and teaching ideas – plenty of other modules in there, particularly the one for English Leads. These can be set as CPD training modules for individual staff.</p> <p>This is particularly useful at the moment as staff meetings with whole teams can be difficult but these modules can be completed as a team virtually and then share the top tips.</p> <p>An option to print off sections of the training would be really useful.</p>
3. Developing oracy and vocabulary: top tips/resources	<p>Vocabulary progression maps for each subject – particularly science, geography and history – to ensure that they are immersed and revisiting vocab from stories or video clips in all subjects.</p> <p>Thesaurus thinking – a word on the board (e.g. sad), above you write words that mean more than sad and then below you write the other way. A good way to introduce them to words they've never come across. This also helps tackle oracy and the subtiles between words.</p>
4. Filling in reading / writing gaps from Lockdown: top tips/resources	<p>Discussed the benefits of Literacy Shed+ and using film and audio to help inspire writing. Use of VIPERS for designing comprehension style activities is working brilliantly.</p> <p>Huge slippage across the board, in general. Even the ones who engaged well have found the shift in expectations difficult.</p> <p>The design of the English curriculum is such that aspects of it are revisited regularly so not specific gaps to plug.</p>
5. Focus for next year in schools?	<p>Coherence – quality</p> <p>Separating for Reading and Writing as subject lead can allow for a deeper focus on individual strands of the English curriculum.</p> <p>Phonics – a thorough programme and understanding of phonics throughout the whole school. BH and VL to look into inviting somebody to talk about phonics throughout the school – esp in KS2.</p>
6. AOB - questions	