



For **all** support staff

Welcome to the summer 2008 edition of NAPTA News. We hope that you and your support staff are making full use of your NAPTA membership. Read the testimonials overleaf to find out how schools are benefiting.

The NAPTA programme is currently undergoing a rigorous update for launch in September – the cost of membership will increase so, if you would like to renew your membership now at current prices but receive your membership pack in September, just call us on 01223 224930 or email maura@napta.org.uk for more details.



Possible funding available Leadership and management of support staff

We are pleased to announce that a leadership and management grant may be available for schools in some areas. Coupled to NAPTA subsidies, this can cover the full cost of NAPTA membership. For more information please contact Jacquie Cox via jacquie@napta.org.uk.

Skills for Life

We are now in a position to organise fully-funded literacy and numeracy training for your support staff in certain regions right across central England. For more information please contact Vicky Shipton on 01223 224938 or via vicky@pearson.co.uk.

Development Resources

Take the time to look through your school's copy of the *Development Resources* discs as they offer a huge bank of ready-to-use materials. The three discs include the following resources:

- » *Disc 1 Meeting Individual Needs* – 40+ fully resourced training sessions to run with support staff.
- » *Disc 2 Institutional Guidance* – Detailed resources to help save leadership team time, eg *CPD Portfolio Builder* and support staff competence checklists.
- » *Disc 3 Curriculum Support* – SEN Reference, Marking guide, etc.

If you have any queries, do call us on 01223 224930 or email info@napta.org.uk.

NAPTA logo

As a NAPTA member, your school can use the NAPTA staff development logo on its letterhead, compliment slips and newsletter. Contact us via info@napta.org.uk for digital copies of the logo.



*committed to
inclusive staff
development*

Find out how schools benefit from NAPTA membership

How is NAPTA membership helping schools across the country?

We are keen to find out about your experience with NAPTA. If you would like to write a brief testimonial, please send it to us via maura@napta.org.uk.

Testimonial from John Evans, Assistant Headteacher at Archway School, Stroud

“ We were introduced to NAPTA via our local authority and all our support staff have had the process explained to them, undertaken the survey and received their feedback and portfolios, which are professionally-produced documents. I am sure that this has had a beneficial effect on all the support staff teams and has given them useful feedback and also indicated training needs. As Assistant Head responsible for Staff Development it has been an essential tool in putting the support staff performance management on a level footing with that of the teaching staff. The training package received is superb and planning is already in place to utilise it in the near future. I am really impressed with the whole package. ”

Testimonial from Anne Kotek, Personnel Officer at Robert Pattinson School, Lincoln

“ All support staff in this school have undertaken the online support staff survey which has been used as a starting point for our performance management appraisal scheme. Our staff have found it useful in allowing them to identify their own competencies and skills and to recognise the areas in which they would benefit from professional development. The profiling and resources produced by NAPTA are extensive and very useful. NAPTA staff are always extremely supportive and informative, answering queries and requests for resources and information promptly. ”

Testimonial from Maggie Butler, Deputy Headteacher at Middle Park Primary School, Eltham, London

“ NAPTA has provided a valuable self-evaluation for our support staff. The fact that they identify their own skills has given them confidence in their abilities and shown their importance as part of the school team. The information the reports give forms the basis of their individual performance reviews. ”

Testimonial from Chris Atkinson, Head of Learning Support at Wyebriidge Sports College, Hereford

“ At Wyebriidge Sports College we take the professional development of our learning support workers very seriously. This commitment has been recognised by NAPTA who awarded us with a certificate as a Centre of Good Practice in Managing and Developing Teaching Assistants and Support Staff.

To gain this recognition, me and my team of 15 learning support workers, undertook self-appraisals regarding our skills within the school context. This appraisal was linked further to the school's improvement plan and the National Workload Agreement.

Further training and development of teaching assistants have been priorities for the school. LSW roles have diversified and become more specialised to suit the strengths of the individuals.

By working with NAPTA, we have been able to identify and focus specific support to areas that have the highest need. This year, support and training has been allocated to EAL pupils, whose numbers are growing greatly. ”

New to NAPTA or unsure as to what is happening in your school?

If you are new to the NAPTA process and are not sure what it can offer, please contact us on 01223 224930. We can update you on where your school is in the membership cycle, and what you can do to move forward.

Find out more about NAPTA by visiting www.napta.org.uk