Dear Colleague,

Schools Challenge Cymru (SCC) from September 2014

We understand that, as one of 40 Pathways to Success Schools from September 2014, you are currently submitting your development plan to your Challenge Adviser including identified support needs for next year. In doing so, you may well want to include the use of our services in your plan.

In the last two years Education London has been recruited by the Welsh Government and schools in Wales because of our track record as the London Challenge’s Sole Education Services Provider from 2007 – 2011. For example in 2009, 22 of the top 25 most improved schools in London at GCSE were supported by Education London’s English and Maths Project.

This year, as many of you know, EL worked with 40 secondary schools and all four consortia, to deliver the project which is in many ways the precursor of Schools Challenge Cymru – the highly successful Welsh Government GCSE English and Maths Phase III Project. The ‘Phase III’ Evaluation Report will be on the DfES website in the very near future and makes exceptionally positive reading.

EL has worked successfully with over 60 secondary schools in Wales as part of either the GCSE English and Maths Project or the Lead and Emerging Practitioner Schools Project to support sustainable improvement for schools and regions.

- Attached to this email are the outlines of the EL English and Mathematics Programmes which were a central part of our delivery in Phase III. As you can see, expert support to a target group of borderline C/D pupils in each subject is central to these Programmes, with a pattern of support as follows:

  (i) Preparation of pupils for (additional) mock examination.
  (ii) Marking of pupil scripts and detailed individual feedback to them.
  (iii) Based on the outcomes of this mock examination, preparation of pupils for a second (additional) mock examination with marking and feedback again.

This pattern of delivery was very much appreciated by the ‘Phase III’ Schools and was an important component in our partnership working with them to improve GCSE outcomes this summer. However, the pattern of delivery can be tailored to the needs of your school in 2014/15.

- EL can provide support for any other GCSE examination subject as well as subject leader mentoring and support.
- Education London’s work can be viewed at www.educationlondon.org.uk. Our most popular programmes for effective schools and groups of schools include:
  - The Teaching and Learning Coaching Programme
  - Effective subject leadership
  - Use of multi-level data for School Improvement
  - Inclusion and managing special educational needs entitlement.

If you would like to discuss how support from EL can be part of your SCC plan, please telephone one of our team on 01372 363630 or contact me on the email address below. Nevertheless, in view of some tight timescales, if you wish to include EL programmes in your plan, please do so and notify me afterwards. At this point we will work with you (and your Challenge Adviser if appropriate) to create a bespoke version and to give you costings.

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