

Hello! Thank you for signing up to receive this, the first of our e-newsletters aimed at practitioners interested in Next Practice in Communities for Learning. We hope you enjoy reading it.

In each edition we will share updates from our projects, and news from other practitioners. We'd like to hear your news, details of projects that are making a difference, and about resources you have developed or events you are holding. To contribute or nominate recipients [click here](#).

Next Practice



Next Practice is keenly aware of conventional good practice - its strengths and limitations - but sets out to move it to a new level. In some cases, Next Practice will disrupt, profoundly evolve or revolutionise good practice.

This is the third of the Next Practice projects, run by The Innovation Unit in partnership with the [Training and Development Agency for Schools](#) (TDA). We aim to develop and share practice which provides radical new approaches to creating Communities for Learning.

Communities for Learning



In this project, we look beyond workforce remodelling and begin to identify Next Practice ideas which consider new sources of support for children's learning - within and beyond the school. In particular, we are interested in:

- understanding how a remodelled workforce can further improve the quality of children's learning
- exploring the implications of these new ways of working for the professional role and responsibilities of teachers and the whole school workforce.

Our Field Trial Sites



We are working with [11 field trial sites](#) that are using new approaches to developing Communities for Learning. We have selected three strands or domains to structure this project, derived from approaches that have emerged from workforce remodelling and which have the potential to strengthen students' learning. In each case we will be asking what strategies, skills and expertise teachers will need in order to utilise this extended workforce.



1. Identifying, developing and maximising the skills of pupils and students to enhance learning

[Armathwaite School](#)
[Chalvedon School and Sixth Form College](#)
[Creative Partnerships in Sunderland](#)
[The Nowhere Foundation](#)
[The Young Foundation](#)



2. Identifying, developing and maximising the skills of support staff to enhance learning

[Eastfeast](#)
[The Halesowen Partnership](#)
[Wakefield](#)



3. Identifying, developing and maximising the skills available within the local community and beyond to enhance learning

[Ealing](#)
[St Paul's Way Community](#)
[The Durham Federation](#)

Other Communities for Learning News



In each e-newsletter, we will share stories from other practitioners working on Communities for Learning. If you have a project that you would like us to feature, please e-mail us. We would like to know about your successes and the things that you are finding challenging. We would particularly like to hear from students.

[Send us your news.](#)

Links and Resources



Delta 6 is our first project tool. Next Practice field trial sites use it to locate their proposals in the context of the many challenges that schools and localities are likely to face over the next few years. It is available to other schools who may be interested in using it to achieve coherent purpose amongst those contemplating innovative change. It has been used by leadership teams, governing bodies and teachers' groups to provoke and stimulate discussion and consensus on their competing priorities.

Find out more about [Delta 6](#).



Looking to Learn is another recently developed tool from The Innovation Unit. It is a guide to innovative and disciplined collaborative enquiry, and outlines an approach that combines peer observation and written accounts of practice. The booklet sets out the background and rationale to this approach and outlines an overview and step-by-step guide to undertaking Looking to Learn in schools and other organisations.

Find out more about [Looking to Learn](#).

Other resources and research that we have found helpful can be found on The Innovation Unit's website. If you know of any useful research or other resources that we can share with the community, please [e-mail](#) us.

Events



In June, the Next Practice in Communities for Learning [Launch Event](#) took place kicking off 9 months of collaborative working and knowledge sharing between field trial sites. Consultants have been allocated to each of the sites, and they have been meeting with their sites to agree immediate priorities and begin to build working relationships.



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