

Writing Bradford

Hosted by Appleton Academy, Summer 2015



This is a multi-school literacy and literature project, involving targeted work with professional writers, and engagement at all levels of the school community; KS3-4, A Level and teachers.

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Project Outline

This is a project aimed at raising the profile of writing and literature across schools, encouraging collaboration between teachers, and providing memorable experiences for our students. It covers three key areas which are outlined below. Schools are encouraged to participate in all three areas of the project, but for those without A Level provision, it will be possible to opt out of the A Level Conference Day.

1 Writing workshops and spoken word showcase:

Participating schools will receive an entire day with their allocated professional writer during the week of 6th-10th July. This time can be directed by the school to fit their needs, and will include writing workshops, performances and assemblies as required. Some portion of this time will be allotted to a select group of 8 students from Y7-10 (chosen by the school) who will take part in a performance of their work at the spoken word showcase at Appleton Academy on Wednesday 15th July.

2 A Level Conference Day

Participating schools will bring their A Level English students to Appleton Academy on Monday 13th July for a conference. Students will be given a university-style program of seminars on a range of different topics related to the study of English at A Level, and will have the autonomy to select which sessions they want to attend. These will include seminars run by professional writers on the author's craft, by literature specialists on wider reading and critical material, by university students on the study of English in HE and many more. Teachers will also be free to attend these sessions.

3 Teachmeet - 'Getting Kids to Write'

A teachmeet is a conference for teachers based on the principals of collaboration and sharing best practice. People attending can sign up for 3 or 5 minute slots to share an idea or resource which they have been using in the classroom, but this is optional - it is fine to just come and listen! There will be a key note address given by Adam Henze and Leslie Rowland, professors of English at Indiana State University based on the changing landscape of literacy, and giving practical strategies for teaching literacy in the classroom. A teachmeet is a brilliant opportunity for CPD and building links with colleagues in other schools. Our teachmeet will be on Saturday 11th July at Appleton Academy. The focus is on 'getting kids to write' and we welcome contributors and listeners from across all subject areas.

The Writers

Adam Henze and Leslie Rowland are Doctoral Fellows in the Literacy, Culture and Language Education Department at Indiana University. Adam is an internationally renowned Poetry Slam artist, and director of a number of youth writing projects in the USA. Leslie has authored a number of books on literacy and is a specialist in teaching literacy, academic writing and editing.

Depending on the number of schools expressing interest in the project, we will recruit other local writers; we have links with excellent, engaging and experienced writers and performers who will work beautifully with schools.

What's the cost?

This is a not-for-profit project. It is expensive to get writers in to schools, and this is a great way for schools to pool our resources and get more for our money than we usually would. The fee for involvement in the project is £700 per school. This covers:

- an entire day in your own school with a professional writer
- final preparation with your writer and the showcase evening on 15th July
- entrance to the A Level conference day for up to 30 A Level students and 2 staff (higher student numbers can be negotiated - please ask)
- the teachmeet is free of charge; any teachers can attend this event, regardless of whether their schools are part of the wider project

Any school which does not have an A Level cohort can pay a reduced fee of £500.

How do I get my school involved?

Sign up by emailing: jennifer.webb@appletonacademy.co.uk for an entry form, or to have any questions answered.

Commit to the project by returning the form by Friday 27th March

Pay the entry fee by Friday 1st May

Attend the teacher meeting in late May to discuss your school's priorities, what you want from the writers and timetable arrangements.

