

SEC PRIMARY SUBJECT CLUSTERS

2024 - 2025

The successful primary subject clusters, led by expert subject practitioners from across both primary and secondary phases in Cornwall, will continue in the academic year 2024-2025 for art, geography, history and languages.

The clusters seek to create a sustainable model of continuous improvement for both effective subject leadership and curriculum development, through the establishment of networked learning communities focused on foundation curriculum subjects.

Evidence-based research tells us that a teacher's subject knowledge is one of the most powerful levers we have in securing the best possible outcomes for all learners. Our ambition is that these learning communities will provide an opportunity to:

- reflect on current practice within subjects.
- build confidence and expertise in subject specific content knowledge and pedagogy.
- and collaboratively develop strategies for improvement that have the best chances of sustained impact.

The cluster meetings have been very enjoyable and well organised. A real sense of community and support has been created and the cluster leaders have done a great job in helping to share good practice and ideas for subject development (Subject lead 2024)

Aimed, primarily, at primary subject leaders, these free and easily accessible networked learning communities will meet termly. Meeting content will be organised around the unique needs of each subject cluster and actions will be identified as an outcome of each meeting so that schools can then engage in collaborative work, but also share and develop a knowledge base in their own settings and across settings. To further enhance the development of networked learning communities around each subject cluster, each has its own online forum, using padlet where resources and information can be shared.

The meetings, to be held on the **dates and times below**, will be online via teams for the autumn and summer term but will be face to face in the spring term 2.00-4.30pm venues to be confirmed.

Booking onto the Subject Clusters is done via [Cornwall Services for Schools](#) and you will be prompted to book onto all the sessions when you book. Reminders of meeting dates will be sent out at the beginning of each term with a link where you can sign up. An individual calendar teams invite link will be sent out prior to the meeting for those that have signed up. There will also be a teams link on service for schools for those that sign up late! Please contact business support schooleffectiveness@cornwall.gov.uk

Computing

For 2024/25, the council has partnered with the Computing Hub for Cornwall & Plymouth (STEM Learning) to deliver a combination of face-to-face and online meetings for primary subject leads. Meetings will be run by Giles Hill (Digital Learning Cornwall / Aspire) and Jacob Woolcock (Penpol Primary School).

The Computing Hub initiative will provide a number of additional aspects, including; an online forum of continuing collaboration, advice and resourcing for schools in Cornwall; physical Computing resources that can be borrowed by schools; a selection of relevant and easily accessible training (both online and face-to-face) throughout the year, including subsidies for attendance; school-based training opportunities by arrangement.

Ongoing Computing Hub courses for 2024/25: [Teach Computing](#)

Primary Computing Hub contact: giles.hill@DLCornwall.org

Info on Physical Computing Resources: [Resources](#)

All further info and enquiries: computinghub@penrice.org.uk

Overview of meeting dates for 2024-2025

Subject Cluster	Cluster Co-ordinator(s)	Autumn term 2024 via teams 4.00-5.30pm	Spring term 2025 face to face 2.00-4.30pm (venue tbc)	Summer term 2025 via teams 4.00-5.30pm
Primary Art and Design PSC ART	Cathy Palmer cpalmer@theroseland.co.uk Sophie Northam sophie.northam@whitstone.cornwall.sch.uk	Tuesday 5th November	Tuesday 4th March	Tuesday 10th June
Primary Geography PSC GEO	Rob Dempsey Rdempsey@st-marys-truro.cornwall.sch.uk Louise Stephenson lstepvenson@st-marys-truro.cornwall.sch.uk	Wednesday 6th November	Wednesday 5th March	Wednesday 11th June
Primary History PSC HIS	Dawn Aytoun dawn@lifelessons.co.uk Charlotte Landers landersc@Cambornescience.co.uk	Thursday 7th November	Monday 3rd March	Thursday 19th June
Primary Languages PSC LAN	Jason Trudgeon JTrudgeon@perran-ar-worthal.cornwall.sch.uk Sophie Lynch slynch@stm.celtrust.org	Tuesday 12th November	Tuesday 11th March	Tuesday 17th June



Autumn term dates and teams link

Subject Cluster	Cluster Co-ordinator(s)	Meeting date and time	Teams meeting
<p>Primary Art and Design</p> <p>PSC ART</p>	<p>Cathy Palmer cpalmer@theroseland.co.uk</p> <p>Sophie Northam sophie.northam@whitstone.cornwall.sch.uk</p>	<p>Tuesday 5th November 1600-17.30</p>	<p>Microsoft Teams Need help? Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 398 258 156 066 Passcode: sB5cm8</p>
<p>Primary Geography</p> <p>PSC GEO</p>	<p>Rob Dempsey Rdempsey@st-marys-truro.cornwall.sch.uk</p> <p>Louise Stephenson lstephenson@st-marys-truro.cornwall.sch.uk</p>	<p>Wednesday 6th November 1600-17.30</p>	<p>Microsoft Teams Need help? Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 343 238 374 701 Passcode: eXYkTH</p>
<p>Primary History</p> <p>PSC HIS</p>	<p>Dawn Aytoun dawn@lifelessons.co.uk</p> <p>Charlotte Landers landersc@cambornescience.co.uk</p>	<p>Thursday 7th November 1600-17.30</p>	<p>Microsoft Teams Need help? Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 321 489 273 330 Passcode: iAocGe</p>
<p>Primary Languages</p> <p>PSC LAN</p>	<p>Jason Trudgeon JTrudgeon@perran-ar-worthal.cornwall.sch.uk</p> <p>Sophie Lynch slynch@stm.celtrust.org</p>	<p>Tuesday 12th November 1600-17.30</p>	<p>Microsoft Teams Need help? Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 374 295 864 558 Passcode: Hmvmjr</p>



Subject Cluster Bios

Name and school / employer	Experience
Art	
<p>Cathy Palmer Roseland Academy Art and Design and is the Teaching Team lead for Design, Performance and Technology.</p>	<p>I have over 25 years' experience in teaching and leading art and design across a range of education settings in Devon and Cornwall. This has included being an Advanced Skills Teacher and leading Art initial teacher training. Cathy is an artist who works in a variety of media including ceramics, jewellery, and textiles-based work.</p>
<p>Sophie Northam Whitstone Community Primary School UKS2 Teacher, Art & Design Lead</p>	<p>As current lead of art and design in my own setting, I have been able to apply my experience of training and working within the art industry to develop and tailor a creative curriculum, which our students love. I am looking forward to sharing expertise with colleagues, whilst ensuring our Art cluster is a collaborative space to support and guide teachers and leaders into confidence.</p>
Geography	
<p>Louise Stevenson</p>	<p>I am an experienced teacher and currently Head at St Mary's Primary in Truro, co-leading geography with Rob Dempsey. I am passionate about supporting schools in developing subject-specific pedagogy and empowering educators to integrate fieldwork, emphasizing hands-on learning and geography's role in real-world issues.</p>
<p>Rob Dempsey</p>	<p>I am currently geography lead at St Mary's Truro. I am an experienced primary teacher who has supported geography development across different primary settings in Somerset and now Cornwall.</p>
History	
<p>Dawn Aytoun Product and Programme Manager for Life Lessons.</p>	<p>I have over 15 years of leadership experience, including building and managing multiple curriculums (passionately Humanities and Pastoral), advising on SEN practice, building and delivering Primary SCITT programmes and coaching educational leaders. I am passionate that History helps children understand the people around them, building empathy and curiosity.</p>



<p>Charlotte Landers Camborne Science and International Academy. History teacher</p>	<p>I have been working as a history teacher in Cornwall since 2005. I love teaching History. I enjoy the process of developing curriculum to include recent research, diversity, and local history. I am looking forward to working in a collaborative team to develop the History curriculum.</p>
<p>Languages</p>	
<p>Jason Trudgeon Perran Ar Worthal CP School Year 5 teacher Languages lead</p>	<p>Hola, I am a year 5 teacher and subject lead for Spanish, geography, computing and design technology. I have been fortunate to be at my current school for 5 years where I have had the privilege to experiment with my subject and pedagogy. I am particularly passionate about languages as they are a gateway to cultural experiences, future job advantages, and pure pleasure. I strongly advocate for language learning in Primary school because the pupils benefit from experiences outside of their bubble; opportunities to create links with other communities as well as make the pupils aware that English isn't prominent everywhere.</p>
<p>Sophie Lynch St Mewan Community Primary MFL Co-ordinator French Teacher</p>	<p>I have 13 years of MFL teaching experience across KS1 and KS2. My experience includes -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating schemes of work, progression, and assessment documents across KS1 and 2. • Implementing a phonics programme for French. • Publishing research on using actions for memorisation in MFL. • Training NQT's and upskilling class teachers in language knowledge. • Supporting other MFL teachers in improving best practice.