



## **Dyslexia SpLD Trust Professional Development Framework Project update:**

**June 2011**

New Project Researcher: Dr. Amelia Roberts

I am delighted to introduce myself in this exciting new role. The PDF is in an exciting stage of its development, almost ready to be rolled out in the Autumn to a selection of schools for evaluation 'in situ'. I have a strong interest in research, with a PhD from the Institute of Education in teacher professional development, based on teaching strategies for the diverse classroom, including multisensory and interactive teaching methods, Thinking Skills and Assessment for Learning. I worked intensively with 24 teachers over a two year period and remain humbled by the determination and effort that goes into the relentless pace of each school day. I've worked with Dyslexia Action since October 2010 on the Master's Level Teacher Certificate programme and spoke at the conference 'Dyslexia Matters' in February on teacher professional development.

I'm also a Trustee for B.E.L.S., a charity in South London which helps young people into work and am currently Chair of their Research Sub-committee. I do a number of whole-day teacher CPD events across the country with Akamas, which gives me the chance to see fabulous parts of the country such as Manchester, North Yorkshire and Northern Ireland. On a more 'hands-on' level, I have fifteen years of experience working with vulnerable children in primary and secondary schools focusing on children with social, emotional, behavioural and learning difficulties.

I am delighted to be part of the PDF project and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the next few months!

PDF Consultation Day: May 24<sup>th</sup> 2011

This whole day event was an exploratory meeting with individuals interested in using the framework in their areas, across a Local Authority or in a cluster of schools. This enabled us to brainstorm how we might work together to cascade the Framework implementation, building into the next academic year. We are taking these ideas forward in the following ways:

- 'Tweaking' the PDF over the Summer, updating the resources recommended for individual reports
- Deciding on appropriate CPD links with the PDF to promote a coherent approach to SEN professional development

- Identifying and working with appropriate partnerships to broaden the reach of the PDF
- Identifying and supporting schools to be part of the Autumn project launch
- Building specific implementation programmes with identified schools

Next steps:

We will be following up with those schools who participated in our consultation day. We are looking for additional partnership schools for the Autumn roll-out. We would be delighted if you would consider being a part of this. Expressions of interest are eagerly invited. A pro-forma has been attached for you to indicate your anticipated interest. Also, we are always open to your further reflections and ideas particularly on: resources, potential partnerships and ideas for widening participation.

Do please feel free to email me any information about your work and aspirations and ideas for participating in the project. In the meantime please access the PDF which is available as a free web tool by visiting the Trust website: <http://www.thedyslexia-spldtrust.org.uk/resources-professionaldevelopmentframework/>

We would be delighted to receive any feedback you may have on the framework once you have used it.

I look forward very much to working with you in the near future.

I can be reached on [amelia.roberts@thedyslexia-spldtrust.org.uk](mailto:amelia.roberts@thedyslexia-spldtrust.org.uk)

Many thanks!