

Birmingham HAF School Readiness Bulletin

4th May 2021 Issue 1

Welcome to the Birmingham HAF School Readiness Bulletin!

We know HAF providers wish to work hard to ensure that any experience that is developed and offered has the greatest impact possible on “**school-readiness**”, a vital aspect of the HAF programme.

Achievement for All, over the past decade, has worked with over 10,000 schools across England and Wales to support the achievement and attainment of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people in society. Through the HAF Alliance, we aim to:

- Give your partnerships **ideas and suggestions** to enhance planned provision
- Promote **wonderful opportunities** offered by other partner organisations that can be seamlessly blended with existing provision
- Support HAF partnerships with **advice, guidance and professional development opportunities** so that, in this and subsequent years, your offer just gets better and better! And spread effective practice quickly and directly!

Here is a short taster of things to come*.

The Birmingham Holiday Activities website is your first port of call.

Please get in touch:

<https://www.bhap.co.uk/>

Email: holidayactivities@birmingham.gov.uk

CONTENTS

- 2 HAF Alliance Core Strength offer
- 3 Making this summer “The Summer of Literacy”
- 4 Take 10 to Read Challenge 10th May 2021
- 5 Summer Reading Challenge
- 6 Achievement for All Song Writing Competition
- 7 Joffre White and Wonder Words

* This document is organised so that individual pages of ideas and suggestions can be printed and distributed. If viewed on a smartphone tablet or computer embedded hyperlinks to more information and suggestions should work.

HAF Alliance Core Strength offer

Core Strength is defined as the confidence and ability to learn, develop and participate in society. The framework has been developed by Achievement for All and is freely available to any HAF partnership.

Here are links to a presentation made at the inaugural HAF Alliance conference.

Achieving readiness for learning through HAF provision

Delivered by Marius Frank (Achievement for All), Derek People (Director, Leading People)

[Download PDF of workshop](#) [Download](#)



https://youtu.be/5XlGBF-BT_Y

Explanations, resources and advice and guidance are available here:

Core Strength Landing Page ("What is Core Strength?") <https://res.afa3as.org.uk/CoreStrength/AFACoreStrength/index.html>

Core Strength for Parents https://res.afa3as.org.uk/CoreStrength/CS_Parents/index.html

Core Strength for Schools https://res.afa3as.org.uk/CoreStrength/CS_Schools/index.html

Core Strength for Primaries http://res.afa3as.org.uk/CoreStrength/CS_Primary/index.html

Link to Primary resource hub https://res.afa3as.org.uk/CoreStrength/CS_Resources/index.html

Contact Marius Frank to commission training sessions for your teams *now!*

Contact Marius Frank (marius.frank@afaeducation.org) for more information



Take 10 to read challenge 10 May 2021

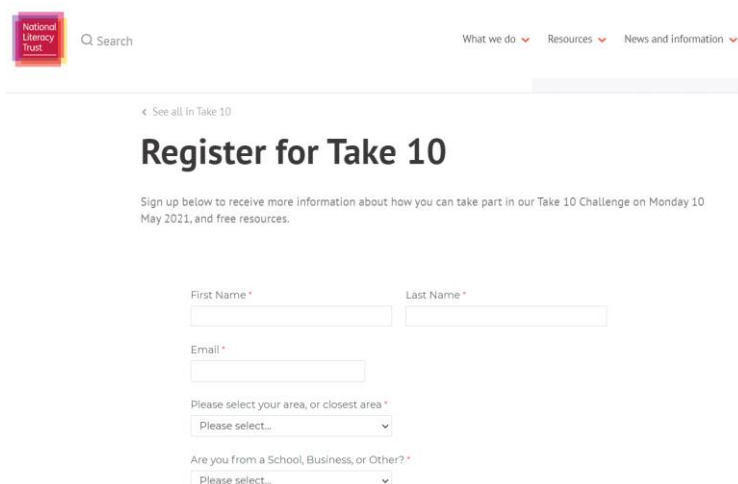
A fabulous opportunity to kick-start the summer of literacy with this opportunity devised by the National Literacy Trust.

Schools, authors, businesses and community partners across the country are invited to 'drop everything and read' at 10am on 10th May to promote reading for wellbeing.

Research shows that reading can help make you feel calmer, reduce stress and improve concentration.

By getting involved in the Take 10 challenge, you will help us promote the positive effects that taking just ten minutes a day to read can have on our mental health and wellbeing.

Sign up here! <https://literacytrust.org.uk/communities/connecting-stories/take-10/register-for-take-10/>



National Literacy Trust

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What we do Resources News and Information

< See all in Take 10

Register for Take 10

Sign up below to receive more information about how you can take part in our Take 10 Challenge on Monday 10 May 2021, and free resources.

First Name*

Last Name*

Email*

Please select your area, or closest area*

Are you from a School, Business, or Other?*



Summer Reading Challenge

The annual Summer Reading Challenge, which reaches over 700,000 children across the UK each year, will return in June/July 2021.

The popular challenge encourages reading for pleasure over the summer holidays, building reading skills and confidence and helping to prevent the 'dip' in reading skills while children are out of school. By providing fun reading activities this summer the Challenge will also play a key role in supporting reading catch-up after a difficult year. Children can take part through their local library and there is a digital platform available to continue the fun at home.

This year's Summer Reading Challenge theme is 'Wild World Heroes'. To deliver it The Reading Agency has teamed up with WWF to encourage children across the country to engage in fun reading activity focused on environmental issues.

The Challenge will launch on the 19th June in Scotland/ Northern Ireland and the 10th July in England and Wales. Further information on launch events, resource packs and summer activity will be announced early June.

For more information: [The Reading Agency partners with WWF for nature-focused Summer Reading Challenge | Reading Agency.](#)

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>



Achievement for All Song Writing Competition

Another brilliant opportunity to make every word (spoken or sung!) count is the Achievement for All Song Writing competition!

This competition is open to all 11-19 year olds resident in the UK.

We welcome all genres of music and our judges will come from a diverse range of experience within the industry.

Anything from opera to rap and beyond, we want it all and are excited to see the diversity and breadth of your imagination and talents.

Please send this on to Music Teachers (schools and private) in your area, youth clubs and other arts provision. Thank you!

For more information: <https://www.afamusic.org/>

Wonder Words



Wonder Words Prize for Young Writers 2021

Writing down words to express your feelings, thoughts and ideas is a magical thing to do that anyone can enjoy. Everyone has the special power of imagination – that’s all you need. Seeing the idea in your mind and setting the words free, and watching them come alive on paper is an exciting journey, and anyone can be a writer, you’re never too young and you’re never too old.

As long as you have something to write with and write on, you can do it anywhere! You’ll be surprised what fantastic adventures and wonderful words are waiting to be released from your head.

It doesn’t matter if you’ve never written anything down before, have a go, and let us see your ‘Wonder Words’.

Good luck Joffre White

More information: <https://afaeducation.org/wonder-words/wonder-words/welcome/>

LOOK OUT FOR SCHOOL-READINESS BULLETIN 2, COMING SHORTLY, TO SUPPORT YOU AND YOUR PARTNERS WITH MAKING THIS SUMMER THE BEST IT CAN BE!

Contact Marius Frank (marius.frank@afaeducation.org) for more information