CSC Advisory Team



Consortiwm Canolbarth y De
Central South Consortium

Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment



Bethan Truby
Adviser for Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment

Role

Bethan is an Adviser for Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment and leads regional professional learning and curriculum support aligned with local, regional, and national priorities. She collaborates with schools, local authorities and partners to support all aspects of curriculum, teaching, and assessment (3–16), delivering tailored support to meet improvement needs. Her work empowers practitioners to raise aspirations, build capacity, and share effective practice across schools.

History

Bethan has over 20 years' experience as a Head of History and has also worked as a Humanities AoLE Lead in a large Cardiff comprehensive school. She led curriculum design and assessment development and supported colleagues to strengthen pedagogy and raise standards.



Claire Davies
Adviser for Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment

Role

Claire is an Adviser for Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment and leads professional learning and curriculum support for ages 3–19. She collaborates with schools, local authorities, and partners to build practitioner confidence, share innovative practice, and align learning with national priorities, ensuring all support reflects the regional vision and promotes high aspirations in teaching and learning.

History

Claire has dedicated nearly 30 years to teaching within Foundation Learning, developing substantial expertise in supporting learners across a broad range of abilities. She has contributed to highly effective teams and held several key leadership roles, including Assistant Head. Claire also served as a Lead Practitioner and was seconded to Central South Consortium (CSC) for five years, providing specialist support for Foundation Learning across the region.



Emma Lloyd
Adviser for Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment

Role

Emma is an Adviser for Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment, leading professional learning and curriculum support for ages 3–19. She collaborates with schools, local authorities, and partners to build practitioner confidence, sharing innovative practice, and aligning learning with national priorities. All support reflects the regional vision and promotes high aspirations in teaching and learning.

History

Emma has over two decades of experience teaching Physical Education in a large Cardiff secondary school, and from 2006 to 2021, was Head of Sixth Form. She served as a Lead Moderator and Examiner for A level PE with OCR and WJEC. In 2021, Emma was appointed as Area Lead for 14–19 Education at Central South Consortium. She is currently completing a National MA in Educational Leadership.



Huw Darch
Adviser for Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment

Role

Huw is an Adviser for Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment at CSC and leads regional professional learning and curriculum support aligned with local, regional, and national priorities. He collaborates with schools, local authorities and partners to support all aspects of curriculum, teaching, and assessment (3–16), delivering tailored support to meet improvement needs. His work empowers practitioners to raise aspirations, build capacity, and share effective practice across schools.

History

Huw is an experienced school leader with extensive senior leadership experience, including serving as a Deputy Headteacher and leading a school under an Executive Headteacher. He is a Welsh speaker and has led key areas including Curriculum, Teaching and Learning and Assessment across the 3-11 age range. Huw has led whole-school improvement successfully in schools across Cardiff and Caerphilly. He has gained significant experience in supporting the schools to secure positive outcomes, including moving out of Estyn category and striving for excellence.

Languages, Literacy and Communication



Andy Lillford
Adviser for English and Literacy

Role

Andy provides guidance for schools and settings in support of effective leadership of literacy, high quality literacy provision, and learner progression in reading, writing and oracy. The role includes the design and delivery of evidence-informed, high quality professional learning and bespoke support for individual schools and settings, clusters and groups of schools.

History

From 2022 to 2025, Andy held the role of Area Lead for LLC at Central South Consortium, with responsibility for Literacy, Cymraeg and International Languages. Prior to that he was Head of Faculty for English, Literacy and Media Studies for 7 years at St Cyres Comprehensive, having previously been Head of English at Pencoed Comprehensive. Andy moved to Wales after 10 years' teaching in Bristol, where he was Head of Year at Cotham School.



Emma Jackson-Phillips
Adviser for English and Literacy

Role

Emma is an accredited English and Literacy Adviser and school improvement professional, working with clusters, primaries, secondaries, alternative provision and special schools. She supports the leadership of literacy, teaching and learning, cross-curricular approaches, self-evaluation, and curriculum design. Emma develops and delivers regional literacy professional learning aligned to research, national priorities, Curriculum for Wales, and qualifications. She is intermediate Welsh language proficiency.

History

Formerly, Emma was a whole-school Teaching, Learning and Quality Assurance Lead. Emma is a published contributor to The Wales Journal of Education with a Master's in Education (Distinction). She is starting the National EdD (Wales) Doctor of Education in 2026. Emma is a member of the Education Workforce Council's Research and Engagement Group. Emma holds a First Class Honours Degree in English Literature from Cardiff University. Emma received accreditation from The Association of Education Advisers (AoEA) in 2024.



Gordon Bell
Adviser for English and Literacy

Role

In his role as Adviser for English and Literacy, Gordon is responsible for supporting schools to develop their literacy provision and teaching. Gordon is an experienced and committed English and literacy adviser, providing high-quality professional learning and in-school support through innovative strategies, proven classroom techniques and evidence-informed approaches.

History

Gordon began teaching in 1993, working across the primary phase in schools in Cardiff and leading literacy in his school. He later became an advisory teacher and, in 2012, was appointed to his current role as an English and literacy adviser with Central South Consortium. In 2020, he achieved ILM Level 4 and 5 Diplomas in Leadership and Management for Education Professionals and became an Associate of the Association of Education Advisers in 2022.



Karen Beeby
Adviser for English and Literacy

Role

Karen provides professional learning and support for schools and teachers seeking to develop their knowledge and skills of evidence-informed approaches to the teaching of English and literacy. As well as contributing to the CSC professional learning offer, Karen provides bespoke support for schools and works alongside school leaders and teachers to support the planning, teaching and evaluation of English and literacy.

History

Karen has extensive teaching experience across a wide range of age groups, with particular expertise in the primary phase. She has been a member of the senior leadership team in a large primary school and has substantial experience of leading LLC and ALN. She has previously worked in advisory roles as an LLC Teacher Adviser on secondment to the EAS consortium, and as a Development Officer with CSC.



Helen Roberts

Adviser for Welsh and Literacy in Welsh-Medium Schools

Role

Helen's role is to provide support for elements of professional learning for Welsh medium schools that want to develop and strengthen their understanding of effective learning and teaching. Helen provides opportunities to expand upon the CSC Professional Learning offer, ensuring direct training for schools and facilitating confident and exciting collaborations. Helen offers support to teachers in planning, teaching, refining and evaluating effectively within LLC.

History

Helen has wide experience within the education system, as she started as a NNEB in the primary sector. She has trained as a HLTA and class teacher and has taught a variety of different ages. She has been a key member of the Senior Leadership Team in school, and was a temporary Deputy Head for a period of one year. She worked as Language, Literacy and Communication Leader for over 9 years. Historically, she has supported NQTs as an External Verifier and Senior Mentor working closely with CSC.



Emma Dermody
Adviser for Cymraeg in English-Medium Schools

Role

Emma is responsible for developing, providing and evaluating professional learning and curriculum support opportunities, and provides bespoke support to schools to support the development of Cymraeg in English medium schools.

History

Emma has 30 years of experience in education. She began her career working as a classroom teacher in Welsh medium primary schools before accepting a position as an Athrawes Fro in Gwent, supporting English medium primary schools to teach Cymraeg. She went on to work as an Athrawes Fro at the Vale of Glamorgan Education Authority before joining Central South Consortium as a Welsh Language Education Officer in 2012.



Mathias Maurer
Adviser for Cymraeg in English-Medium Schools

Role

Mathias collaborates with schools, local authorities and other stakeholders to support the development of professional learning and support for all aspects of pedagogy, curriculum design and assessment for Welsh in English-medium schools.

He supports the Lead Adviser for Curriculum Skills to develop, deliver and evaluate professional learning and curriculum support, leading aspects of delivery plans and providing bespoke support for schools.

History

Mathias began working for the CSC in 2021, first as lead practitioner for French in Primary schools, and since January 2023 as Adviser for Welsh in English medium schools. Prior to that, he taught in St Athan Primary School in the Vale of Glamorgan.

As a CSC adviser, Mathias has led the development and the publication of the CSC Continuum of Welsh Language Patterns and associated resources, and he has supported many schools in the region with embedding effective planning and pedagogy for the teaching of Welsh. He has developed and facilitated a wide variety of professional development activities to share effective practice and facilitated a range of opportunities for networking and collaboration on creating resources for the teaching of Welsh in English medium schools.



Marina Sáez Lecue
Adviser for International Languages

Role

Marina supports schools with their provision for international languages, British Sign Language and plurilingualism. As part her role, she provides schools with bespoke support in French, Spanish, German, Italian and BSL, and related pedagogy. She is responsible for designing and delivering professional learning programmes to upskill practitioners according to national priorities, and identifying existing expertise in schools to effectively contribute to school-to-school support. As a partner in Global Futures, she is the link between the language institutes and regional schools.

History

Marina has a BA in English Philology by University of Deusto (Spain) and a PGCE in Primary with MFL from the Institute of Education (London). She began her career in Southwark as a primary practitioner, helping integrate languages into the English Curriculum. She relocated to Wales in 2018, where she worked in a pioneer school for multilingual literacy, eventually becoming Spanish Lead Practitioner. She moved to a full-time advisory role in 2022. Her expertise lies in plurilingualism, interdisciplinary planning, and dynamic teaching using communicative approaches with strong musical and theatrical elements.

Mathematics and Numeracy



Louise Davies
Adviser for Mathematics and Numeracy

Role

Louise supports the Lead Adviser for Curriculum Skills to develop, deliver and evaluate professional learning and curriculum support opportunities for regional professional learning programmes and bespoke school support. Her role involves collaborating with schools, local authorities and other stakeholders to support the development of Mathematics and Numeracy and working with the advisory team and business support team with activities related to Mathematics and Numeracy.

History

Prior to joining CSC, Louise was a primary school teacher for 20 years in a Welsh Medium school in Penarth where she led Mathematics and Numeracy, Assessment and Data and Key Stage 2. Louise joined Central South Consortium in 2015 on a one-year secondment as Mathematics and Numeracy Development Officer. She rejoined CSC in 2019, becoming Mathematics and Numeracy Adviser in 2022. In 2024 she completed her MA Education (Wales) Leadership researching the five proficiencies.



Sarah Hall
Adviser for Mathematics and Numeracy

Role

Sarah supports primary and secondary schools to improve mathematics and numeracy outcomes through high-quality teaching, learning, assessment and feedback. She provides coaching and mentoring to practitioners and subject leaders, develops resources including digital materials, and promotes effective use of data and technology, working collaboratively with schools, Lead Practitioners and external partners to support Curriculum for Wales priorities.

History

Sarah has a background in secondary education, including leadership as a Head of Mathematics, with additional experience working in through schools. She brings expertise in teaching and learning, assessment, coaching and mentoring, digital innovation and data analysis. Sarah has worked closely with schools and external organisations, including Maths Support Programme Wales, to support mathematics development across phases.



James Lewis-Coll
Adviser for Mathematics and Numeracy

Role

James supports the Lead Adviser for Curriculum Skills to develop, deliver and evaluate professional learning and curriculum support for aspects of delivery plans; providing bespoke support for schools. His role involves collaborating with schools, local authorities and stakeholders to support the development of Mathematics and Numeracy and working with the advisory and business support teams with activities related to Mathematics and Numeracy.

History

James has worked in the Scottish, English and Welsh education systems. As an Assistant Director for ITT in a school, he wrote and ran a PGCE course for secondary mathematics and primary students. James has worked for CSC as a mathematics specialist for 10 years, supporting schools in aspects of the teaching and leadership of mathematics. He is a member of many mathematical associations and is an Associate Member of the Institute of Mathematics and Applications.

Digital



Sarah Summers
Adviser for Digital Learning

Role

Sarah is an Adviser for Digital Learning at CSC and leads the design and delivery of professional learning and curriculum support in digital learning. She collaborates with schools, local authorities, and external partners to strengthen digital leadership, enhance practitioner confidence, and share innovative practice. Her work supports the regional vision for high-quality professional learning and high aspirations for all aligned with local, regional, and national priorities.

History

Since 2022, Sarah has been Adviser for Digital Learning at CSC, following her role as Development Officer for Primary STEM. Previously, she was a senior leader in federated primary schools in Cardiff, with over 15 years' experience. She holds a Masters degree in Education: Leadership and Management, with research into digital media and mental health. Sarah is accredited as an Apple Professional Learning Specialist, Adobe Educator, and Associate of the Association of Education Advisers.

Expressive Arts



Amanda Jones
Adviser for Expressive Arts

Role

Amanda is the Adviser for Expressive Arts. She provides high-quality professional learning and support across the CSC region, developing strong relationships with schools and practitioners in art, dance, drama, film and digital media, and music. Through coaching, mentoring, and resource development, she supports delivery aligned with local and national priorities, helping schools offer rich, authentic expressive arts learning experiences.

History

With over 25 years of experience across primary and secondary education, Amanda is currently Expressive Arts Adviser, a role she has held since 2022. Throughout her career, she has undertaken a range of leadership roles, including Assistant Headteacher, Associate Headteacher, and Head of Faculty for Expressive Arts and Humanities at a 3–19 school in RCT. Amanda is also a Principal Moderator for GCSE Art and Design with WJEC and holds AoEA accreditation.

Health and Well-being



Sonja Barnard
Adviser for Health and Well-being

Role

As Adviser for Health and Well-being, Sonja supports schools with professional learning and support. Her work focuses on physical health and activity, including food and nutrition, mental health, and social-emotional well-being. Guided by local and regional priorities, she also aligns her support with national strategies, including those from Public Health Wales, to drive holistic well-being across the education sector.

History

Before joining CSC in 2019, Sonja spent 18 years teaching in primary schools across Cardiff. Throughout her career, she has held a range of leadership roles and worked in diverse educational settings, supporting pupils with varying needs. She has completed a Masters in Education: Professional Practice, which sparked an ongoing interest in curriculum design, innovation, and translating policy into effective classroom practice. Sonja holds the Senior Associate accreditation from the Association of Education Advisers (AoEA).

Humanities



Liz Tiltman
Adviser for Humanities

Role

Liz supports the development of Humanities across primary, secondary, all-through and PRU/Special school settings. She provides tailored support to schools which includes bespoke professional learning and coaching and mentoring of AoLE leads. Liz works closely with practitioners to facilitate various networks and share good practice in Humanities across the region.

History

Liz has extensive experience in education in the region. She has held various leadership roles, including Head of Department and Head of Faculty for Humanities and Social Sciences in a 3-18 school. Liz was also a member of the Senior Leadership Team in an all-through school, where she was responsible for the strategic development of the Cross-Cutting Themes. From 2022 to 2024, Liz was an Associate Adviser for Humanities at CSC. Liz received accreditation from The Association of Education Advisers (AoEA) in 2026.



Donna Graves

Adviser: Religion, Values & Ethics and Support for SACRE/SAC

Role

Donna's role at CSC is to lead the strategic development, professional learning and support related to religious education (RE)/religion, values and ethics (RVE). She provides strategic support for the five SACREs/SACs of Bridgend, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf and the Vale of Glamorgan. She represents the five local authorities at the Standing Advisory Councils on Religion, Values and Ethics/Religious Education (WASCRE) and National Advisory Panel for RE (NAPfRE) meetings.

History

Donna studied a BA Honours degree in Religious Studies at Newcastle University and undertook her PGCE in Secondary Religious Studies at Homerton College, Cambridge University. She went on to teach RE at Brynteg School, Bridgend and was Head of Religious Studies at Howell's School, Cardiff, Bryntirion Comprehensive, Bridgend and Y Pant School, RCT. She joined Central South Consortium Joint Education Services – Associate Advisor for RE/RVE/RS and SACRE/SAC. Donna is the Vice-chair of NAPfRE and sits on the Executive Committee for WASACRE.

Science and Technology



Kate Wintle
Adviser for Science & Technology

Role

As Adviser for Science and Technology, Kate facilitates the development and delivery of professional learning, and provides tailored support to schools in the region. She collaborates with practitioners, schools, local authorities, and external stakeholders to enhance professional learning in Science and Technology to support an effective self-improving system.

History

Kate joined CSC in 2023 as an experienced science and technology lead and senior school leader from a school in Rhondda Cynon Taf, Kate now serves as Adviser for Science and Technology, supporting schools across the Central South region. Formerly a Hwb trainer and Development Officer for Digital Learning at CSC, she is committed to helping schools deliver innovative, inclusive, and high-quality science and technology education for learners across the 3-16 continuum.

Cymraeg



Bethan Davies
Adviser for Welsh Development

Role

Bethan's role is to provide strategic support to schools in developing the leadership of Welsh, supporting them to foster a strong Welsh ethos. She leads the implementation of Siarter Iaith across Central South Consortium (CSC) schools in alignment with the Cymraeg 2050: A Million Welsh Speakers strategy and supports all schools in progressing through the Siarter Iaith and Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus award frameworks, from bronze to gold. Bethan works in partnership with Welsh Government to co-develop and refine the national Siarter Iaith framework.

Bethan also plans, coordinates, and delivers high-quality professional learning opportunities and resources, assisting schools in increasing the use and visibility of informal Welsh across the school community and promoting collaboration and the sharing of best practice among schools.

History

Bethan has worked at the Central South Consortium since 2017 as Siarter Iaith Officer and Associate Adviser for Welsh Development. Prior to this, Bethan worked at the Education Achievement Service (EAS) as Siarter Iaith Coordinator on a part-time secondment whilst working at Ysgol y Lawnt, Rhymney, where she had worked as a primary school teacher since 2005. During this time, Bethan also worked as a Welsh for Adults tutor for Dysgu Cymraeg Morgannwg. Bethan is an accredited AoEA Associate.

NQT Induction



Lucy Donovan
Early Careers and Induction Coordinator

Role

Lucy's role includes developing, implementing and evaluating the regional strategy for professional learning for NQTs, Induction Mentors and Induction Validators ensuring alignment to local authority, regional and national priorities, coordinating the work of regional short-term supply mentors, and working in partnership with the Appropriate Body, Welsh Government and other regional Induction Coordinators ensuring consistency of Induction across the region and Wales.

History

Having worked as a History teacher in a secondary school in the region for 15 years, undertaking roles including Head of Department, Senior Mentor for ITE, NQT Induction Mentor, Lead Practitioner for Teaching and Learning and Associate Assistant Head, Lucy joined CSC in 2023 leading regional and national professional learning and supporting NQTs, Induction Mentors and Induction Validators across the region.



Rebecca Roach
Adviser for Early Careers and Appropriate Body

Role

Rebecca undertakes the duties of the Appropriate Body (delegated by the local authorities) and manages recruitment, deployment and tracking/monitoring of the regional Induction Validators (IVs). She works in partnership with the Induction Coordinator and ITE Institutes, EWC and WG to ensure consistency of NQT Induction across the region and Wales. Rebecca contribute to the development, implementation and evaluation of the regional and national professional learning for NQTs, IMs and IVs. Rebecca also coordinates the work of Short Term Supply (STS) Mentors.

History

After 22 years as a Performing Arts Teacher in a Secondary School, including Head of Department, Head of Faculty and Associate Assistant Headteacher positions, Rebecca moved to CSC in 2020. She developed from Induction Co-ordinator to Lead for Early Careers and is now the Appropriate Body as part of her role as Adviser for Early Careers. Since joining CSC she has gained Level 7 Coaching and Mentoring Senior Leaders and achieved Associate accreditation with the Association of Education Advisers (AoEA).

Teaching Assistants



Emma Davies
Adviser for Early Careers and TALP

Role

Emma is Adviser for Early Careers and TALP at Central South Consortium. She leads the design and delivery of national and regional bilingual professional learning programmes, working closely with TALP coordinators. She manages the HLTA assessment process, oversees assessor training and quality assurance, as well as training facilitators to deliver impactful learning.

She facilitates professional learning for NQTs in Welsh-medium settings, supports regional moderation of NQT profiles, and represents the region in strategic TALP discussions with Welsh Government. Emma also leads TALP communications, including newsletters, bulletins, and social media.

History

Emma is an experienced education professional with nearly 25 years in roles including Welsh Development Officer, Advisory Teacher, and classroom teacher across both primary and secondary phases. She is passionate about bilingual education and professional learning.

In her previous role as Development Officer for Welsh Professional Learning at CSC, she contributed to national resource development, Welsh language initiatives, and workforce development through the Welsh Sabbatical programme and Siarter Iaith validation.

Outdoor Education



Dave Golding
Outdoor Education Adviser

Role

Dave's role as Outdoor Education Adviser is to ensure the legal responsibilities and powers of the LAs are fulfilled with regard to all types of off-site activity and educational visits. He provides expert advice on risk assessment and management on educational visits generally and on adventure activities, expeditions and overseas visits specifically. Dave monitors standards of Health and Safety management in off-site activity and educational visits, including observing activities and visits and the work of Educational Visits Coordinators (EVCs) in educational establishments to identify training needs and appropriate levels of delegation. Dave ensures that LA guidance on Health and Safety of pupils on educational visits is kept up to date with current best practice, including lessons learned from local or non-local incidents.

History

Dave's previous experience includes teaching, training and supporting the Key Stages 3 & 4 Pupil Referral Unit at the Amelia Trust Farm and the Youth Services of Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan with Outdoor Education and Health & Safety guidance. In addition to teaching he provided a wide range of services including being a Course Director for the Basic Expedition Leadership Award, Midas minibus training, Educational Visit Co-ordinator and Outdoor Learning Card training.