

Funded by



Department  
for Education

**English Hubs**

Wensum English Hub

## Newsletter | October 2025

We can hardly believe how quickly the first half term is flying by!

It's been a busy start, with the first sessions of our DfE-approved programmes already underway. We still have a limited number of free spaces available on our **Reading for Pleasure**, **Early Language**, and **SEND CPD** programmes, see below for more details.

You may have seen that the new **Writing Framework** was released in July. We're VERY excited to share that we'll be delivering a range of **free writing CPD** throughout this academic year. Full details can be found in this newsletter.

This year also marks the launch of our **Secondary Pilot**. We were delighted by the number of schools who attended our briefings and applied for support and funding. Schools can still self-refer for support, and we'll also be holding additional Support and Funding Briefings for Infant, Primary, and SEND schools. Dates and sign-up details are included below.

### Statistics from 2024-25

We are honoured to be one of only 34 English Hubs in the country, it truly is a privilege for our team to support schools. Our work goes beyond funding and free CPD; we also provide intensive support, professional dialogue, and coaching for staff to ensure maximum impact for the children in their care.

Last year was one of our busiest yet! We completed **75 reading reviews** across Infant and Primary schools in Norfolk and Suffolk, delivered **229 Literacy Specialist days**, awarded over £188,000 in **funding** to schools for reading and early language resources and training, and welcomed more than **300 schools** to our free CPD events.

And the best part? Everything we do for schools is **free or funded**. We would warmly welcome conversations with school leader, even those who have previously accessed funding, to explore how we can continue to support you with funding and training in 2025–26.

### STATISTICS

Show that partner  
schools outperformed  
schools nationally  
in the PSC by

**7.5%**

## Partner/Graduate Schools

### Important Dates

Please see below for upcoming important dates for Autumn 2025:

**7<sup>th</sup> October** – [Partner School Data Briefing](#)

**16<sup>th</sup> October** – [Read, Write, Inc](#)

[Partner/Graduate School training: Tutoring](#)

**23<sup>rd</sup> October** – Partner Schools **SSP Data** for YR-Y2 to be submitted

**4<sup>th</sup> November** – [ELS Partner/Graduate School training: Phonics for KS2](#)

**12<sup>th</sup> November** – [Bug Club Partner/Graduate School training: Phonics and SEND](#)

**28<sup>th</sup> November** – Partner Schools **PSC Mock Data** to be submitted

**9<sup>th</sup> December** – [Read, Write, Inc](#)  
[Partner/Graduate School training: Leadership Build an Expert Team](#)

**11<sup>th</sup> December** – [ELS Partner/Graduate School training: Making phonics Count](#)

## Primary Briefings

As part of our Primary support offer, we are able to support and fund primary schools across Norfolk and Suffolk. Join us on our FREE 30-minute briefing to hear how your school could claim up to £6000 in funding. We are pleased to announce we have been allocated funding for a small number of additional Partner Schools for this year- contact us for more information

Join us on one of the dates below to find out more:

**8<sup>th</sup> October** - 3.30pm

**22<sup>nd</sup> October** - 10.30am

**17<sup>th</sup> November** - 3.30pm

[Click here](#) to book your free space.

## Wensum English Hub



All of our events are FREE to attend

**7<sup>th</sup> October** – [Transforming your Schools](#)

[Reading Culture: Session 1](#)

**10<sup>th</sup> October** – [Reading Ambition for All: Session 1](#)

**13<sup>th</sup> October** – [Reading Fluency: The Bridge to Comprehension: Session 1 \(SOLD OUT!\)](#)

**14<sup>th</sup> October** – [Supporting Early Language Development: Session 1](#)

**20<sup>th</sup> October** [Ready for Reading \(NEW\)](#)

**23<sup>rd</sup> October** [The Writing Framework – Explained \(New\)](#)

**13<sup>th</sup> November** – [How to be Wise about Words: Session 2 \(SOLD OUT!\)](#)

**20<sup>th</sup> November** – [Talk Through Stories:](#)

**25<sup>th</sup> November** – [Supporting Early Language Development: Session 2](#)

**28<sup>th</sup> November** – [Reading Ambition for All: Session 2](#)

**2<sup>nd</sup> December** – [Transforming your Schools Reading Culture: Session 2](#)

**12<sup>th</sup> January** – [Reading Fluency: The Bridge to Comprehension: Session 2 \(SOLD OUT!\)](#)

**15<sup>th</sup> January** – [Ready to Write: Reception's Building Blocks for Success \(NEW\)](#)

**20<sup>th</sup> January** – [Transforming your Schools Reading Culture: Session 2](#)

**21<sup>st</sup> January** – [How to be Wise about Words: Session 3 \(SOLD OUT!\)](#)

**23<sup>rd</sup> January** – [Being the Perfect Play Partner \(NEW – designed for Tas, ECTs and Support Staff\)](#)

**27<sup>th</sup> January** – [Transcription Mastery: Building Handwriting and Spelling Foundations. \(NEW\)](#)

**27<sup>th</sup> January** – [Supporting Early Language Development: Session 3](#)

**23<sup>rd</sup> February** – [Composition Toolkit: Practical Strategies for Every Classroom \(NEW\)](#)

**3<sup>rd</sup> March** – [From Single to Multi-clause: Mastering Sentence construction](#)

## NORWICH BOOK FESTIVAL



We are delighted to be returning to The Forum, Norfolk to celebrate Norwich Book Festival. Come and visit our amazing team at our stand on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October – Yes! In half term, we really are dedicated.

Please share the dates with friends, family and school communities, we have LOTS of exciting crafts and activities planned and would love to see lots of familiar faces.

## Social Media



We are on **Facebook** – make sure you are following up to keep up to date on all the latest news and advice.

You can also find us on the following social media platforms:

**Instagram** (@Wensumenglish\_hub)

**LinkedIn**(@WensumEnglish-Hub)

**X** (@Wensumenghub)

## National Year of Reading 2026



The National Year of Reading 2026 is a campaign that will engage new audiences in reading, encourage reading for pleasure and change the nation's reading culture for good. The Department for Education and National Literacy Trust join forces to launch a National Year of Reading, starting in **January 2026** to kick start a reading revolution.

Click on the links below for more information:

[National Year of Reading](#)

We will, of course, be supporting the campaign and will be providing free CPD throughout the year, including our Transforming your Schools Reading Culture Programme. All of our CPD can be found on our websites and on our social media platforms.

## Recommended Read

Pandora Books recommend....

***The Taming of the Cat*** by Helen Cooper  
Recommended for confident readers aged 8–9



Funded by



Department  
for Education

**English Hubs**

Wensum English Hub

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CPD IN 25/26

**Reading Ambition for All: Teaching children who need the most support, including those with SEND** - This DfE funded programme explores the appropriate teaching, support, and provision for the lowest-attaining children in reading, with a particular focus on those with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

**Supporting Early Language Development** - The Supporting Early Language Development programme is research based and focused on ensuring the very best outcomes in early language development.

**Transforming Schools Reading Culture** - During the course of the programme, participants will engage deeply with reading for pleasure pedagogy and leadership theory to transform their school's reading culture.

**How to be Wise About Words** - you will learn how to confidently deliver active and immersive techniques to effectively develop children's early language and oracy skills.

**NEW FOR 2025! - Fluency Project** - We are excited to launch our new DfE approved programme - designed by the experts at HfL Education from September 2025. Similar to our core CPD offers, the Fluency Project will be made up of 5 half day sessions and will focus on research and advice on how to develop the fluency of children in KS2. More information on the structure of the course and areas covered will be shared soon!

All of our CPD events are free to attend



To find out  
more and  
register your  
interest click  
here



Hub School

Heather Avenue  
Infant School

We are part of...

**WENSUM TRUST**

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

For more information, future events, or to book a place  
email: [englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk](mailto:englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk)

### **DfE Approved CPD: Autumn 2025**

We have now opened our Expression of Interest for our DfE approved core CPD Programmes

Transforming your Schools Reading Culture

Supporting Early Language Development

Reading Ambition for All

How to be Wise about Words – SOLD OUT

\*NEW\* Fluency – SOLD OUT

**Expression of Interest Form**

<https://forms.gle/oQBdHPPrXPMfqYUdb7>

Funded by



Department  
for Education

**English Hubs**

Wensum English Hub

## Support and Funding Briefing

Would you like to find out how to claim funding and literacy support for your school?

Wensum English Hub is fully funded by the DfE to support schools with phonics and early reading – schools in an EIA may be eligible to receive up to £9,000!

We help schools achieve excellent teaching through developing early language, closing the word gap, approaching early reading through systematic synthetic phonics, and promoting a love of reading.

If you think your school would benefit from funding and bespoke support, join us for a 30 minutes online briefing led by our English Hub Lead.

Dates available:

- 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025 – 1.15pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025 – 3.30pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025 – 10.30am
- 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – 3.30pm



[Register your place here](#)



Hub School

Heather Avenue  
Infant School

We are part of...

**WENSUMTRUST**

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

For more information, future events, or to book a place  
email: [englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk](mailto:englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk)

**Primary Support and Funding Briefing: Various dates**

**Sign up here:**

<https://forms.gle/5ydfbsZYpnKYtAEH9>

Funded by



Department  
for Education

**English Hubs**

Wensum English Hub

## Ready for Reading

With an emphasis on high expectations in Phonics outcomes in our schools, it is more important than ever that our youngest children are well prepared at the preschool stage.

Join, former Ofsted inspector, Emma Spiers for this FREE one-day training course.

### What you'll learn

- What comes before Phonics and why
- Where visual discrimination and visual memory fit into the wider phonics picture
- How to help children achieve essential attention and listening skills
- How to teach rhyme and rhythm effectively, and how this supports phonics later on
- What phonemic awareness is and how to teach it
- When to introduce pre-phonics skills through a carefully constructed
- 

### This CPD will be perfect for you if you:

- EY practitioners
- A manager, leader or practitioner working in a PVI setting
- Teacher in Nursery/Preschool
- Are an ECT in Nursery or Reception
- Work in Special School or alternative provision and need ideas for adapting your provision
- Support children in Reception who have pre-phonics gaps



Date: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Time: 9am – 3pm

Location: Hethel Engineering Centre, Wymondham, NR14 8FB

Cost: FREE – with lunch included!

[Click here to register your interest](#)



For more information

email: [englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk](mailto:englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk)

**Ready for Reading: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/4gaVfce2n1KT6wDPA>

Funded by



Department  
for Education

**English Hubs**

Wensum English Hub

## Talk Through Stories

*Join Nick Cannon for this one-day course which is designed to help enhance children's spoken vocabulary and love of reading, using the finest children's literature!*

This training is designed to:

- Extend and deepen children's vocabulary
- Build a love of stories
- Learn stories off by heart
- Help children get to know stories well

Talk Through Stories has been designed by Ruth Miskin Training to be compatible with any phonics programme, delegates will leave this session with an action plan to help develop storytime and vocabulary skills within their setting.

This event is **free** to attend with lunch and a **free** gift of a book included!

Places are limited – book now to avoid disappointment!

Session is aimed at:  
Early Years, KS1 teachers, Tas and SLT



**Date 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

**Time: 10am - 4pm**

**Location: Dunston Hall,  
Norfolk**

**Cost: FREE**

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to register your place.



For more information

email: [englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk](mailto:englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk)

**Talk Through Stories: Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

**Sign up here:**

<https://forms.gle/VLhDMuD6KrHNFA3e8>

Funded by



Department  
for Education

**English Hubs**

Wensum English Hub

## Being the Perfect Play Partner

Wensum English Hub are delighted to present, The Learning Lady, for this one-day training session aimed at developing early language skills for Teaching Assistants and support staff.

Developing communication and language through effective and timely interactions is critical in the EYFS; it impacts on success in all areas of learning. But moving communication and language on through play isn't easy. Join us for this practical, principled, training and learn what it takes to be the perfect play partner.

### What you'll learn:

- The role of EYFS partners in play and how this impacts on learning
- What sustained shared thinking actually is, and how to achieve it
- How the learning environment impacts on playful interactions
- Simple effective strategies for developing vocabulary through daily playful encounters

This is the perfect training for you if you are....

- A TA supporting learning in the EYFS
- An ECT or Teacher new to EYFS
- Support staff



The  
Learning  
Lady

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026

Time: 9.00am – 3.00pm

Lunch is provided

Venue: Hethel Engineering  
Centre, NR14 8FB

[Click here to register](#)



For more information

email: [englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk](mailto:englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk)

**Being the Perfect Play Partner: Friday 23rd January 2026**

Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/af2yc2Tspg9VjPkz5>

Funded by



Department  
for Education

## English Hubs

Wensum English Hub

### Building Writers Step by Step: A Strategic Overview of the DfE Writing Framework

Ready to unlock the power of the DfE Writing Framework? Join Emma Adcock, VNET and Education Consultant, for this two-hour session, which will leave you equip with everything you need to champion writing development across school.

Discover how the framework creates a clear, strategic pathway from building transcription skills and oral composition in EYFS right through to the polished, sustained writing expected by Year 6.

Aimed at: School Leaders, EYFS Leads, English Leads and teachers



Date 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

Time: 3.30 – 5.30pm

Online: Zoom

Cost: FREE

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to register your place.



For more information email: [englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk](mailto:englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk)



## VNET EDUCATION CIC

**Building Writers Step by Step: A Strategic Overview of the DfE Writing Framework: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025**

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/cNGLqyLMJip54DM1A>

Funded by



Department  
for Education

## English Hubs

Wensum English Hub

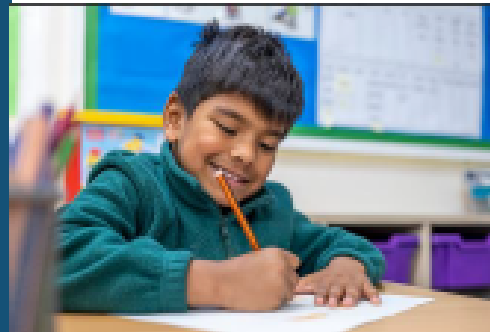
### Ready to Write: Reception's Building Blocks for Success

Join VNET Consultant, and writing expert – Emma Adcock – for this practical session which will cut through the confusion about early writing expectations. Learn exactly what the guidance says about the effective teaching of writing looks like in EYFS looks and why quality trumps quantity every time.

Delegates will:

- Discover how to establish systematic handwriting instruction from the start of Reception
- Leave with strategies to support daily routines and approaches that build strong foundations
- Learn practical strategies for supporting different needs, including fine motor development and left-handed writers

Aimed at: School Leaders, EYFS teachers



Date 15<sup>th</sup> January or 21<sup>st</sup>  
April 2026

Time: 13.45 – 16.30pm

Venue: Hethel Centre,  
Norwich, NR14 8FB

Cost: FREE – refreshments  
included

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code  
to register your place.



For more information email:  
[englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk](mailto:englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk)



## VNET EDUCATION CIC

Ready to Write: Reception's Building Blocks to Success: 15<sup>th</sup> January or 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/y82HwxGEjEGLumsx5>

Funded by



Department  
for Education

**English Hubs**

Wensum English Hub

## Transcription Mastery: Building Handwriting and Spelling Foundations

Join VNET Consultant, Emma Adcock for Transcription Mastery! This course will support you to evaluate and refine your approach to teaching Transcription using the DfE Writing Framework's clear guidance.

Delegates will:

- Learn how to implement systematic handwriting and spelling instruction across KS1 and KS2,
- Learn how to apply morphology practically in spelling teaching using morpheme matrices, word families and etymology to help pupils understand word construction and improve spelling accuracy
- Walk away with ready-to-implement progression frameworks and intervention strategies that ensure no child falls behind.

Aimed at English Leaders, KS1 and KS2 teachers.  
Senior Leaders



**Date 27<sup>th</sup> January or 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**Time: 13.45 – 16.30pm**

**Venue: The Nest / Hethel Centre, Norwich**

**Cost: FREE – refreshments included**

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to register your place.



For more information email:  
[englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk](mailto:englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk)



**VNET EDUCATION CIC**

**Transcription Mastery: Building Handwriting and Spelling Foundations: 27<sup>th</sup> January or 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/s9kSUjAHAgV9RiDo9>

Funded by



Department  
for Education

## English Hubs

Wensum English Hub

### Composition Toolkit: Practical Strategies for Every Classroom.

Join VNET Consultant, Emma Adcock for free half-day course to help you evaluate and refine your composition teaching using the DfE Writing Framework's clear guidance.

Delegates will learn how to:

- Implement the writing process systematically using planning strategies, modelled and shared writing techniques
- Teach grammar for meaning and effect through practical approaches that help pupils understand how grammatical choices impact their writing.
- Develop composition skills across the curriculum using scaffolding techniques that enable pupils to write purposefully in different subjects.

Aimed at English Leaders, KS1 and KS2 teachers, Senior Leaders



Date 23<sup>rd</sup> February or 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Time: 13.45 – 16.30pm

Venue: Hethel Centre/The Nest Norwich

Cost: FREE – refreshments included

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to register your place.



For more information email: [englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk](mailto:englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk)



## VNET EDUCATION CIC

Composition Toolkit: Practical Strategies for Every Classroom 23<sup>rd</sup> February or 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/fe7j1uoos6wTkue8>

Funded by



Department  
for Education

**English Hubs**

Wensum English Hub

## From Single to Multi-clause: Mastering Sentence Construction

Join VNET Consultant, Emma Adcock for free half-day course to help evaluate and refine your sentence teaching using the DfE Writing Framework's clear guidance on building composition through systematic sentence mastery.

Delegates will learn how to:

- Teach single-clause sentence and systematic approaches to building pupils' understanding of what makes a complete sentence
- Implement sentence construction activities that develop pupils' ability to move from simple to multi-clause sentences using conjunctions and grammatical structures
- Plan progression from oral to written sentence composition with practical strategies for sentence stems, visual prompts and scaffolding that supports pupils to master sentence patterns before moving to paragraph and text-level writing

Aimed at English Leaders, KS1 and KS2 teachers, Senior Leaders



Date 3<sup>rd</sup> March 4<sup>th</sup> June  
2026

Time: 13.45 – 16.30pm

Venue: Hethel Centre,  
Norwich NR14 8FB

Cost: FREE – refreshments  
included

Click [here](#) or scan the QR code  
to register your place.



For more information email:  
[englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk](mailto:englishhubadmin@wensumtrust.org.uk)



**VNET EDUCATION CIC**

From Single to Multi-clause: Mastering Sentence Construction: 3<sup>rd</sup> March or 4<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/KiBcLt9FKZ7ymtir5>

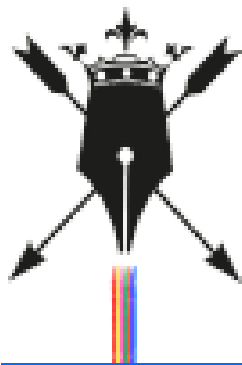


We're taking part in

# NORWICH BOOK FESTIVAL

**Norwich Book Festival:** 24<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> October 2025

Come and see us at The Forum, Norwich on the 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> October 10am—4pm!



# Bury St. Edmunds KIDS GO FREE Literature Festival **2025**

## EVENTS FOR BABIES, CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE!



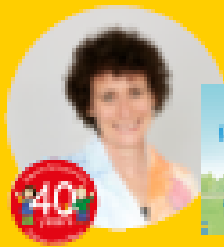
**STORYTELLING FOR PRESCHOOLERS**

WITH **GEORGE HOYLE**

**THAT'S NOT MY...**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 10am & 1pm

Waterstones Bury St Edmunds - The Arc



**STORYTELLING FOR KIDS 3-8**

WITH **LIZ FOST**

**POPPY & SAM**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October 10am & 11.45am

Bury St Edmunds Library

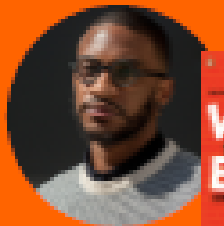


**PIA'S PET CLUB - KIDS 4-9**

**SERENA PATEL**

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 1pm

Bury St Edmunds Library



**WILD EAST - YOUNG PEOPLE 10-17**

**ASHLEY HICKSON-LOVENCE**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October 10.30am

Unitarian Meeting House

**FREE** for U18s, Accompanying adults £2.50 or **FREE** with book purchase!

Tickets must be booked in advance: [burylitfest.co.uk](http://burylitfest.co.uk)

With thanks to our partners:



Bury Lit Fest events are Children's University eligible activities.



CIO Charities 1209140 @burylitfest @burylitfest @BuryLitFest