

CHRYSALIS SCITT

MID-YEAR UPDATE



Welcome to our mid-year update for Chrysalis SCITT.

It has been an exciting start to our launch year, welcoming seven trainees from across the Chrysalis Trust. Since September, trainees have developed their practice through hands-on classroom experience, ITAPs, conference mornings, subject seminars, development reviews and strong mentoring support.

This newsletter highlights some of the excellent work and achievements so far. If you are interested in joining Chrysalis SCITT for 2026/27, we would love to hear from you.

Alex Lipman

Chrysalis SCITT Course Lead

TOMORROW'S TEACHERS

Chrysalis SCITT launched in September 2025, welcoming seven trainees across the Chrysalis Trust: five in secondary subjects (Maths, English, Biology and Chemistry) and two in primary education. The one-year, school-centred programme combines hands-on classroom experience with expert-led training, leading to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE).

Trainees began the year with an Intensive Training and Practice (ITAP) phase, including seminars on teaching and learning, child development and professional wellbeing, alongside structured school observations and reflective practice. Central to the programme is a strong focus on deliberate practice and instructional coaching, delivered through close mentoring and regular professional dialogue.

Reflecting on the start of the programme, one trainee shared, "I'm looking forward to practising and improving my skills to become a great teacher," while another described the course as "a big change, but an exciting opportunity." Trainees also spoke passionately about their subjects, from the problem-solving nature of Maths to the importance of Science and the creativity of English.



CONFERENCE MORNING 1

Conference Morning 1 took place in the Autumn term, focusing on building positive working relationships and shaping effective classroom behaviour. Trainees explored how clear expectations, consistent routines and strong relationships underpin a calm, purposeful learning environment. The session supported trainees in developing practical strategies to promote positive behaviour and establish their classroom presence with confidence.



Chrysalis SCITT
Conference morning 1

CONFERENCE MORNING 2

Conference Morning 2 focused on the role of scaffolding and modelling in effective teaching. Trainees explored how breaking learning into manageable steps and modelling high-quality responses supports pupil understanding and independence. The session emphasised practical strategies trainees could apply immediately in the classroom to improve clarity and learning outcomes. The session was particularly effective in linking theory to practice, with trainees reflecting on classroom examples and identifying strategies they could apply immediately to strengthen their teaching.



Conference Morning 2: How scaffolding and modelling support learning

INTENSIVE TRAINING AND PRACTICE (ITAP) 2

ITAP 2 took place in January, providing trainees with a week of intensive training and practice focused on effective questioning. Trainees engaged in a structured cycle of seminars, lesson observations, classroom enactment and reflection, exploring how high-quality questioning can elicit deep thinking, identify gaps in learning and check for understanding. During the week, trainees visited both Claremont High School and Sudbury Primary School, observing a range of expert teachers across KS2, Secondary Geography, MFL and Religious Education. The ITAP offered valuable insight into how questioning can both support and challenge learners, and we look forward to seeing trainees implement these strategies in their classrooms going forward.



BROADER SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

Between 12th January and 13th February, trainees took part in their Broader School Experience (BSE) placements. This element of the Chrysalis SCITT programme is designed to provide a contrasting and wider curriculum and school experience, helping trainees broaden their professional understanding and adaptability.

We are extremely grateful to our BSE partner schools and mentors: *Barnhill Community School, Avanti House Secondary School, Avanti House Primary School, Mount Stewart Junior School and Preston Manor School*. During their placements, trainees were supported by subject mentors and departmental teams, and were formally observed by their lead mentor.

It has been fantastic to see the progress trainees have made within these new settings.

MOUNT STEWART FEDERATION

We are delighted to welcome the Mount Stewart Federation as a delivery partner school from September 2026. The expertise within the federation will strengthen our provision and support the development of more Primary and Early Primary SCITT trainees. *If you are interested in joining us as a delivery partner, we would be delighted to hear from you.*



Our curriculum partner, *Teach First*, plays a key role in the delivery of the Chrysalis SCITT programme. Through expert-designed training materials, research-informed content and structured development cycles, Teach First supports trainees in developing strong pedagogical knowledge and reflective classroom practice. This partnership ensures our curriculum is rigorous, current and closely aligned with the demands of effective teaching across a range of school contexts.



Well done to our trainees on submitting their first summative PGCE assessment. The PGCE element of the Chrysalis SCITT programme is delivered in partnership with Sheffield Hallam University, with trainees attending online teaching days and accessing a wide range of academic resources and specialist support in preparation for submission. We now look forward to receiving the outcomes of this assessment.



**MOUNT STEWART
FEDERATION**

CONFERENCE MORNING 3

Conference Morning 3 focused on inclusive teaching and diversifying the curriculum, a vital area of practice for both beginning and experienced teachers. Trainees explored practical strategies to support inclusivity and considered small but meaningful steps to ensure that all pupils are seen and represented within the curriculum they deliver.

The seminars were underpinned by research-informed theory and strengthened by the work of organisations such as **Diverse Educators** and **Teach First**, supporting trainees to reflect critically on their practice and its impact in the classroom.



SCITT APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2026/27

Applications are now open for places on the Chrysalis SCITT Programme from September 2026. We are already receiving strong applications and are delighted to have appointed excellent trainees. If you, or someone you know, is interested in a future career in teaching, we would love to hear from you.

We are currently recruiting for:

Primary (ages 3–7), Primary (ages 5–11)

Secondary Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, English, Geography, Religious Education and Computing

Apply by visiting:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training>

and search for **CHRYSLIS MULTI ACADEMY TRUST** as the provider.

SCHOOL EXPERIENCE DAYS

Interested in experiencing life as a teacher?

We offer school experience days at our delivery partner schools, Claremont High School and Sudbury Primary School. If you would like to arrange a visit and gain a first-hand insight into the teaching profession, please get in touch.

Contact: admin@claremont-high.org.uk



MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY ITAP AT CLAREMONT HIGH SCHOOL

In October 2025, Claremont High School hosted trainee teachers from Middlesex University as part of their ITAP focused on establishing effective classroom routines. Throughout the morning, trainees engaged with expert input from experienced staff, including Ismail Khan (Head of Philosophy, Religious Education) who shared practical strategies for embedding positive routines.

Trainees observed lessons across KS3 and KS4 and took part in deliberate practice activities.

At Claremont, we are proud of our strong culture of teacher development and our commitment to supporting the next generation of teachers through high-quality training and expert practice.



CHRYSLIS SCITT TEAM

At the heart of Chrysalis SCITT is a highly committed and supportive team, working together to deliver exceptional training and strong outcomes for every trainee.



Nicki Hyde-Boughey
Executive Headteacher
Chrysalis Multi Academy Trust



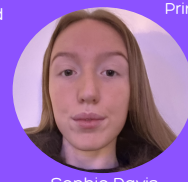
Alex Lipman
SCITT Course Lead and
Secondary Lead Mentor



Bianca Abrahams
Secondary Lead
Mentor



Davita Grafstein
Primary/Early Primary
Lead Mentor



Sophie Davis
Chrysalis SCITT
Administrator

TRAIN TO TEACH

CHRYSALIS SCITT 2026/27

Chrysalis Multi Academy Trust is working in partnership with **Teach First** to provide School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) where you will gain QTS and a PGCE. We aim to nurture exceptional talent within our Primary and Secondary schools, aligning training with the vision and values that define our Multi Academy Trust.

For more information:
www.chrysalismat.org.uk/train-to-teach

Accepting applications for SCITT courses in 2026/27:

- Primary age 3-7
- Primary age 5-11
- Secondary Geography
- Secondary Religious Education
- Secondary Business Studies
- Secondary Modern Foreign Languages
- Secondary Mathematics
- Secondary Biology/Chemistry/Physics
- Secondary English



SCAN ME

Apply for
Primary training



SCAN ME

Apply for
Secondary training



0208 204 4442



www.chrysalismat.org.uk
admin@claremont-high.org.uk