



News, Events and Contacts

NAPE National Office
[PO Box 1679,](#)
[Northampton,](#)
[NN2 1JW](#)

Telephone: 01604 647646
Email: nationaloffice@nape.org.uk
Website: <https://nape.org.uk/>

Officers: Chair: Mike Aylen: MikeAylen@aol.com
Vice Chair: Mark Taylor: taylormc@mac.com
General Secretary: Robert Young: rmyoung1942@yahoo.co.uk
Treasurer: Angelo Pinto: angpinto@gmail.com
Information Officer: Peter Cansell: petercansell@gmail.com
Podcast: <https://www.educationonfire.com/national-association-for-primary-education>
YouTube: [NAPE Primary](#)
Blue Sky: [napeprimary.bsky.social](#)

Welcome to this Spring edition of NAPE News. I hope you have had a restful Easter break and feel refreshed, ready for the term ahead.

The big event this term was this year's **NAPE conference, *CURRICULUM AT THE CROSSROADS: TIME FOR AN IMAGINATIVE LEAP?*** held at Leeds Trinity University on Wednesday 12 March. The conference theme was selected as a response to the current Curriculum and Assessment Review initiated by the new government. There were three key inputs, two from members of the University team and the third was given by Prof. Mick Waters, our recently appointed NAPE President and former QCA Director of Curriculum.

Professor Leigh Hoath explored how the curriculum can be developed and implemented so that children are equipped with the skills and knowledge to address environmental concerns and take climate action.

Dr Aimee Quickfall shared some insights from her experience and research on using philosophical inquiry in Primary and Early Years, with a focus on how philosophising can both enhance and underpin the curriculum and help to foster a love of learning as a community.

NAPE President, Professor Mick Waters drew on his exceptional experience of the primary sector to address the conference

theme, sharing some visual images of education at its most challenging and imaginative and reflecting on future directions for the primary curriculum.

All three provided that touch of inspiration which is so crucial in professional development and is at the heart of primary education at its best. The video links of these presentations are available to members at the reduced rate of £5, please contact the office for details.

The National Council met online on 11th January and **The National Executive** met online on 5th March, minutes are available to members via the website on request.

We continue to be part of the **More Than a Score coalition**, who will be intensifying activities over the next month as we move into the delightful season of SATs.

You may have seen that the Curriculum and Assessment Review has published its interim report. Unfortunately, very little space in the report is given to primary assessment other than to praise the so-called "strengths" of the current system and to note "some concerns" about the SATs SPAG paper and writing assessment.

More Than a Score have launched a new action whereby supporters can email the Secretary of State and Becky Francis, chair of the C.A.R with their views.

Our Podcast continues to attract high quality interviewees and can be accessed through the address above or here:

<https://www.educationonfire.com/national-association-for-primary-education/>

A new initiative has been started by NAPE's Vice Chair, Mark Taylor who will be chairing a series of Live streamed discussions on the site. The next will be on Tuesday 28th April at 8:30pm, a conversation with The Oxford School of Thought about their [radical proposal for separate inspections for primary schools](#).

You should have recently received the latest edition of our journal **Primary First**, however, for reasons

beyond our control this has been delayed and will be issued as soon as possible. This will be a special edition dedicated to a founding father of NAPE, John Coe.

Archived editions of the journal can be accessed on the [website](#) membership publications tab. We are always happy to receive contributions from our members, so please get in touch with editor Robert Morgan if you'd like to write something.

We continue to facilitate the **Primary Umbrella Group**, which brings together all of the various subject associations who have an interest in Primary Education. At the online meeting on 3rd March we were addressed by Mark Baker, Chief Executive of the Controlled Schools Support Council of Northern Ireland: with a Presentation on Developments on the Primary Education scene there.

We receive details of a number of initiatives by the BBC Teach team, who continue to produce programmes which are welcome in many classrooms. We are pleased to flag these up for you on our website which is also home to many other excellent resources including a link to an excellent video on our Youtube channel making us aware of National Children's day [National Childrens Day 2025](#)

As an antidote to ensuing season of SATs and shallow fruitlessness approaches, here is an inspiring offering from our friends at Independent Thinking:

[Play Matters: Why Play Matters in Early Childhood](#)

Which should remind us all of the most important delights of childhood.