



Invitation to participate in a national project aimed at enhancing attainment and creativity in writing



What is the project about?

Arvon, the Open University, and the University of Exeter are working together on a project funded by EEF and the RSA, exploring how the opportunity for teachers to work with professional writers might change their understanding of being a writer, how they teach writing, and improve outcomes in writing and attitudes to writing for the children they teach. The effectiveness of the project will be evaluated by University College London and the Behavioural Insights Team. **This is a rare opportunity for deep, sustained professional development in the teaching of writing!**

The project is investigating the effect of a residential writing experience for teachers at Arvon, where teachers work with professional writers learning about writing and being a writer.

It is focused on primary teachers working with Year 5 classes. Teachers in intervention schools will participate in **two three-day residentials at Lumb Bank**, Arvon's writing centre in West Yorkshire. The 'teachers as writers' residentials provide space for writing workshops, one-to-one tutorials with writers, and time and space to write, as well as reflecting on classroom consequences.

Three free CPD days will support teachers in thinking through the implications of the residentials for their teaching, and explore classroom practices which will motivate children to write and strengthen their understanding of how to revise and evaluate their texts. Schools interested in participating in EEF projects are randomly allocated to either the intervention group, (who will receive the training), or a comparison group, who contribute to the data required for comparison. Your school could be in either group.

Why get involved?

This project (June 2018-July 2019) will be a rich opportunity to:

- attend 'teachers as writers' residentials led by professional writers at Arvon's Yorkshire centre;
- widen your experience and understanding of the craft of writing;
- enhance your teaching of writing through 3 CPD days to explore the pedagogical consequences of the residentials;
- collaborate with university partners and Year 5 teachers to enrich your practice in the teaching of writing;
- broaden your subject knowledge and practice in order to motivate young writers and improve their writing outcomes;
- become involved in a national research project, documenting the value of teachers working with professional writers to support children as writers.

www.arvon.org/thecraftofwriting

teresa.cremin@open.ac.uk / d.a.myhill@exeter.ac.uk

