



WARWICK TEACHER RESEARCHER NETWORK NEWS ISSUE 4: 6th June 2022

Welcome to the Warwick Teacher Researcher Network

The WTRN is aimed at colleagues who are interested in close-to-practice research in schools, drawing together both university and school-based colleagues to support and enhance research culture. We are delighted to have secured funding from Research England's Enhancing Research Culture fund to support the Research and Development People and Culture Strategy. The funding will support our drive to engage more people in research and provide access to research to our school partners. Burnaford, Fischer, and Hobson (2001) neatly summarise the essence of teacher-research, describing a personal as well as a professional quest, "a journey towards making sense of and finding satisfaction in one's teaching", emphasising the importance of seeing teaching and research as a joint enterprise.

Our aims:

- Improve access to and participation in research.
- Improve research leadership skills across all career stages.
- Create routes for collaboration and exchange with third sector organisations.
- Deliver new approaches to public dialogue and community led research. The end of project report to be submitted in July 2022 would focus on whether engagement with his project contributed to these areas.

Proudly introducing the 2022/23 Teacher Researchers, their Research Development Liaisons (in brackets), and Projects:

Iain Green (Kate Mawson) - *'Impact on culture of the development of a professional development strategy'*.

Grace Laszlo (Andy Hind) - *'What wellbeing strategies do ECTs learn across the two years of their course, and how do these help them manage workload and mental wellbeing effectively?'*

Alison Marsh (Rebecca Friesen) - *'Cross-curricular teachers as experts in teaching reading: improving classroom approaches for teaching of reading to close the Covid gap'*.

Helen Ward (Jen Rowan-Lancaster) - *'Boys Achievement Action Research Group'*.

Martyn Colliver (Will Haywood) - *'Linking Stem education to real-world industry for project-based learning – a case study around an energy from waste (eFw) plant'*.

Matt Hornsey (Kirsty Weeks) - *'Building solid foundations for Disadvantaged Pupils'*.

Katie Collins (Rachel Cooper) - *'Efficacy of school-based interventions to support the development of self-esteem in secondary school children to reduce suspension rates and negative behaviours'*.

Helen Cooke (Kate Mawson) - *'Instructional coaching using the Teaching WalkThrus'*.

James Luton (Alison Morgan) - *'Equality and Diversity'*.

Learn more about the rest of the 2022/23 WTRN and their projects via the community tab on the WTRN webpage: www.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/cte/professionaldevelopment/trn/community/

Opportunities for Schools

Located on our webpage (<https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/cte/professionaldevelopment/trn/>), the 'Opportunities for Schools' sub-page functions as an integral platform in which academics can promote exciting and innovative research projects and educational programs aimed at schools. Such projects and programs on our webpage include, for example:

Warwick Bright Stars



Our goal is to help schools inspire the scientists, artists, and teachers of tomorrow as well as provide teachers with the hook that will spark their pupils' curiosity. We want to give pupils the confidence to explore new subjects and discuss their ideas. We offer in-school modules and campus visits led by our friendly Warwick students.

If you would like our staff to come and visit your school to deliver an assembly or a half-day workshop, please email Brightstars@warwick.ac.uk indicating the subjects/topics you are interested in and the possible dates and times. Interested? Further information is available on the Bright Stars homepage where you can also have the opportunity to sign up to become a subscriber to the Bright Stars monthly newsletter:

www.warwick.ac.uk/study/outreach/whatweoffer/primary/

National Astronomy Meeting (NAM)



As part of the National Astronomy meeting Warwick University is offering an outreach program focusing on solar physics. Our highlight is SUN, a 7m inflatable sphere that is illuminated with real data from solar telescopes, showing the changing and dynamic surface of the SUN. Classes will then be assigned to one of two activity programs, both led and designed by solar physicists.

Date: 11th July – Thursday 14th July

Time: 10am – 12 noon

Location: Faculty of Arts Building, University of Warwick, CV4 7EQ

Cost: Free to attend

Program 1: SunSpaceArt - Dr. Helen Mason, University of Cambridge

The SunSpaceArt team of science educators and artists are excited to be running creative art-making activities alongside the Sun installation at the National Astronomy Meeting, NAM, University of Warwick. Funded by STFC (Science and Technology Facilities Council), we aim to educate and inspire children using the context of the Sun, Solar System, and space science. We invite you (primary school classes, Yrs 5 or 6) to join us for 8 classes (2 per day over the 4 days). All materials will be provided, with expert guidance from SunSpaceArt team members. We have been running STEAM (STEM + Arts) workshops in schools for the past five years, reaching over 150 schools, 8000 children and 1000 teachers throughout the UK.



Program 2: Warwick Solar Group – Dr Anne-Marie Broomhall, University of Warwick

This program is presented by Warwick researchers with an interest in solar physics. The activities will vary slightly from day to day but will include a selection of workshops from looking at our closest star the Sun to talking about how stars are born and what happens when they die. We will also look at how we find other planets outside our solar system as we search for other life in the universe! We will incorporate a range of hands-on activities from arts and crafts, where students can create your own Sun model, to simple experiments, where students can link the science ideas that they are familiar with and can experience on Earth to those that are also seen in the Sun and other stars.

Register here: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=vc-6Ce9HZUSSZTVG8ur2vAW6SMvFkGRGnOire-HltfZUMThJRkFDQZSR1BVWkdNRExzODBQMkpQRS4u>

If you require further information, contact Rebecca Nealon (rebecca.nealon@warwick.ac.uk)

Queries, eager to contribute, looking to advertise, or keen to recommend others to us?

Feel free to get in touch:

Email: warwicktrn@warwick.ac.uk

LinkedIn: [warwick-teacher-researcher-network](https://www.linkedin.com/company/warwick-teacher-researcher-network)

Twitter: [@WarwickTRN](https://twitter.com/WarwickTRN)