





Saturday, 29th September, 2018 10.00-12:30 (Withington Girls's School)

The New GCSE - Update (Rhona Thomson (AQA))

We trust that everyone has had a good summer break and has come back refreshed to face the new term, albeit with all the work involved at this time of the year, and especially that involved in analysing exam results. Whether or not you taught classes to GCSE and A level last year, you will no doubt be eager to find out how the new examinations went in general and what lessons are to be learned from the first cohorts. We are therefore extremely fortunate to have been able to tempt Rhona Thomson, Curriculum Manager for Languages at the AQA, to come back to us this term in order to keep us very well informed. In fact, we are doubly fortunate, because Rhona will be coming back, not just once, but twice this term! Knowing that people would want as much information as possible and as early as possible, we were determined to try to cram in two sessions (one for GCSE and one for A level) this term, if possible; the marvellous Rhona was very willing to do just that. Hence the rather early start to our season with *The New GCSE - Update* in September. (The A Level event will take place on Saturday, 24th November; further information to follow in due course.)

This GCSE Level update will stress the main 'lessons learned' and draw on the Reports on the Examination and published Mark Schemes to discuss general performance in the 2018 exams; there will be particular emphasis on those areas that teachers should consider ahead of the 2019 examinations.

Please note that this session will not include any exemplar marked work; teachers should still register for one of the Feedback meetings put on by the AQA which will take place in November-December; these are all online for A level, and either online or face-to-face for GCSE.

Please note that all are welcome. Even if you do not teach these specifications at the moment, you may need to at some point. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity for the whole department to glean as much information as possible and ask questions. Rhona is a fount of knowledge, and her clear delivery is always very much appreciated by her audiences. The added bonus is, of course, the opportunity to discuss issues with other language colleagues.

We are very grateful to **Withington Girls' School** for providing the venue and equipment for this event:

Withington Girls' School, 100, Wellington Road, Fallowfield, Manchester, M14 6BL.

(Parking: on nearby roads or (if space) in the school's main car park on Victoria Road. Access to building by main entrance on Wellington Road.)

Contact mobile for the day: (Yorke Menzies) 07720 469 319

http://www.wgs.org

http://www.maps.google.co.uk

(The door will be manned from 9.30 a.m. onwards.)

Fees

ALL Members: £10 Non-members: £30

NQTs: £5

PGCE students (Non-members): £5

PGCE (Associate members) / FLAs: Free of charge

(Please make **cheques** payable to **ALL (Manchester Branch).** We regret that it is **not** possible to take payment by credit or debit card.)

It is important that we know in advance if you would like to attend. If you wish to do so, please contact Gina Hall, **preferably by email**: <u>turnerhall4952@aol.com</u> **or phone**: 0161 973 1599. **Please apply by Tuesday, 25**th **September**, if possible. By post: 20, Earlesfield Close, Sale, Cheshire, M33 4UR.

We shall need the following information from you:

Name (Surname; First name(s) in that order please):

Establishment:

Member* / Non-member* / NQT* / PGCE (Non-member)* / PGCE (Associate members)* / FLA*

Contact phone number (one at which you can be reached at short notice): Email:

Receipt required: Yes / No*

Main teaching sector(s): *Primary Languages / *Middle School / *Secondary 11 – 16 / *6th Form / *FE / *HE / *Adult (This is to give us some idea of the potential audience which helps us and the speaker.)

(*Please delete as appropriate)

We look forward to seeing you!