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NAAS e-newsletter: Thursday 5 March 2020

This week's newsletter brings you an update on upcoming NAAS platform maintenance, Knowledge Hub and assessment centre availability.

Platform maintenance

The team will be conducting maintenance work on the NAAS platform from 10pm on **Thursday 5 March** to 9am on **Monday 9 March**. This means you will not be able to access the platform at all during this time. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. Please ensure this message is passed on to your NAAS users.

NAAS regional meetings

Thank you to everyone who has attended a regional meeting over the past few weeks. It's fantastic that so many of you were able to come together to share your progress and experiences.



We've taken away some valuable insight that will help us to improve the programme. For now, we want to share a few updates with you in response to your queries and feedback.

- **Scalar results:** Thank you for your feedback on the scalar section of our results

page, which we are working to improve. For now, this [results boundaries slide](#) sets out further explanations and an example to aid in understanding the scalars.

- **Platform updates:** We are currently working hard to make changes to the NAAS platform. These changes will give you access to:
 - a bespoke dashboard that will allow you to add candidates directly onto the platform
 - your candidates bookings and cancellations
 - aggregated results data (where candidates have consented to share their results).

We will be sharing these changes with you all at [the next Learning Day](#), we are also planning to run user testing sessions. If you would like to be involved in these session please contact: Jan.Nayeem@education.gov.uk.

- **Consent to share results:** We understand that there are still concerns around being able to support your social workers who have chosen not to consent to share their results.

While a number of sites have said that some candidates do not consent to share via the platform, they do share results via email or face-to-face, we recognise this isn't happening in all sites. You may find it helpful to remind social workers that once they have viewed their results online, they can amend their decision to share the result with you, should they wish to do so. They need just tick the consent box.

- **Next steps:** In our newsletter later this month, we will have more information to share about NAAS beyond the end of Phase 2 (March 2020).

Knowledge Hub: NAAS digital network

We are trialling a new way for NAAS sites to connect, gather insight and share learning. Knowledge Hub is a tool used for digital networking across the public sector. After a quick sign-up process, it allows members to host discussions, upload documents and much more, in a free, secure environment. Some of the latest materials available include the **DfE NAAS Benefits Maps and User Stories** and **Derby City's Handy NAAS Hints**.



[Sign up to Knowledge Hub](#) now and [join the NAAS Hub](#) to see our latest NAAS benefits work, forum conversations, and much more. [Read more about our aims and how to get started.](#)

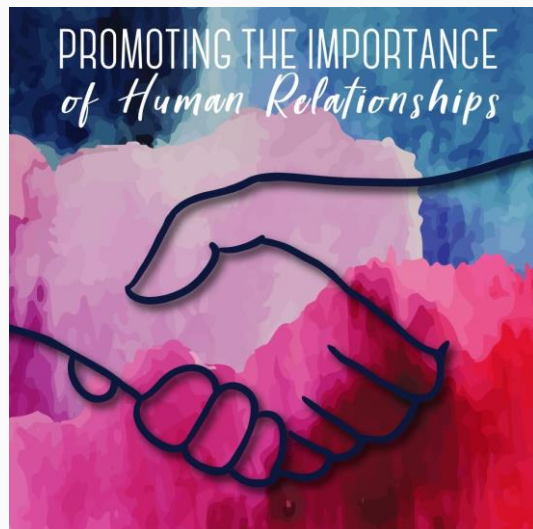
[1. Sign up to Knowledge Hub](#)

[2. Join the NAAS Hub](#)

World Social Work Day 2020

As part of World Social Work Day on Tuesday 17 March 2020, we want to raise awareness and celebrate the great work social workers do to support vulnerable children and families. [Can you spare 5 minutes to respond to a few questions?](#)

Your responses will be shared on our [Accredited Social Work Blog](#) as part of our celebration plans.



Upcoming events

Learning Day

We are now planning for the next Learning Day on **Tuesday 28 April**. The event will take place in **Birmingham City Centre at The Studio** (7 Cannon Street, [B2 5EP](#)), which is a 5 minute walk from Birmingham New Street train station. Please hold the date in your diary and [register to secure your ticket using Eventbrite](#).

We are excited to deliver a day based around your experiences and insights. If you have an idea for the day, we want to hear from you - [email us](#).

Accredited social workers blog



Treating social workers like your own clients

Loredana Grigore shares her approach to the NAAS and why putting social workers first, is the best course of action. [Read her blog now.](#)

Receive blogs direct to your inbox

Share our blog with your workforce and encourage them to [subscribe](#), so they can receive the latest advice on preparing for NAAS direct from social workers.

Assessment centre information

Planned assessment centres

Assessment centre dates for March and April are live on the platform and there continues to be availability. Please do encourage social workers to book on to their preferred choice as soon as possible. We recommend using a reserve list of endorsed social workers to cover any cancellations. Please speak with your endorsed social workers who are looking to book a place soon, to see if they can be contacted in case of cancellations.

If you need to fill a space in 3 days or less than the date of the assessment, you will need to call the Mott help desk to book. The helpline is open 9:00 – 17:30, Monday - Friday, and

available by [email](#) and phone 01223 463829.

Date	Location
Tuesday 24 March 2020	Plymouth
Friday 27 March 2020	Basingstoke
Friday 27 March 2020	Preston
Wednesday 8 April 2020	Birmingham
Wednesday 15 April 2020	Birmingham
Thursday 16 April 2020	Darlington
Thursday 16 April 2020	London
Friday 17 April 2020	Manchester
Wednesday 22 April 2020	Essex
Thursday 23 April 2020	Worcester
Tuesday 28 April 2020	Bradford
Wednesday 29 April 2020	Birmingham

And finally...

Last week, the DfE confirmed ministerial portfolios. [Vicky Ford](#) has been appointed as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families. Find out more on [GOV.UK](#).

As always, we welcome your comments and feedback on this newsletter. If you have any questions, please get in touch by [email](#) or head over to [GOV.UK](#) for information on NAAS.

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