CA Teaching Awards 2021

ANDREW CHRISTIE, Streatham and Clapham High School:
Winner of the 2021 Award for Making Classics more inclusive

“Andrew Christie is a champion of improving access to Classics in state schools. He has used his position as a school leader to create opportunities for children across South London to learn Latin and Classical Civilisation. He introduced Latin and Greek to local primary schools: Christ Church Streatham CofE Primary (120 Year 5 pupils in the last four years), Streatham Wells Primary (80 Year 6 pupils in the last three years).

Following on from the success of these projects, in order to encourage more primary schools to consider teaching Latin, he ran a Roman Day for 210 pupils, from Year 3 to 6, in June 2019, which included pupils from Christ Church and Streatham Wells as well as pupils from Henry Cavendish Primary, Forest Academy and Epsom Primary, where Latin is not currently taught. Five teachers attended the optional session on the day about how to introduce Latin at Key Stage 2, delivered by ‘Classics for All’.

Andrew is committed to collaborating and sharing best practice: he delivered a paper at the 2018 Classical Association conference entitled ‘Promoting Classics through Independent/State School Partnerships’, in November 2019 he delivered a talk at a Schools Together Group meeting on the theme of cross-phase collaborations on primary Latin projects and in January 2019 he gave a talk at the GDST (Girls’ Day School Trust) Classics Subject Day to 14 Classics HoDs.

He has been particularly inspired by the Advocating Classics Education (ACE) project, which campaigns for all pupils in secondary schools to have access to the study of Classical Civilisation. He gave a talk to 12 GDST partnership and outreach coordinators at the GDST Partnerships Hub on this. Leading by example, he established an after-school programme for 100 pupils from five local secondary schools in the last two years so that they can study for a GCSE in Classical Civilisation and gain access to the rich cultural legacy of the classical world. First results from 2020 were very positive. Andrew is an innovator for inclusion in Classics education and thoroughly deserves this reward. Instead of talking, he acts.”

FRANCESCA GRILLI, Runshaw College:
Winner of the 2021 Award for Outstanding State Sector Initiative

“I am nominating Francesca because of her amazing contribution to classics teaching this past year. Francesca has created an incredible suite of resources for OCR Classical Civilisation GCSE, which she has made available to everyone via the Warwick Classics Network (WCN) resource site https://warwick.ac.uk/wcn/stoa/classciv/alevel/greekart and through her own Runshaw YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCewxZNUJxo4Iy0G8KRIumw/videos.

These videos cover every piece of art in the OCR Greek Art A-level syllabus and thus form an exhaustive and reliable resource for both teachers and students alike. In a recent WCN teachers’ day, many of those assembled (including the university lecturer) admitted using
these marvellous resources and giving them to their students as revision. Quite aside from her excellent teaching and involvement more widely in the Classics community, I think this contribution to online resources, especially in these difficult times where home schooling has become an important and necessary activity, ought to be recognised by the CA and I can think of no one more worthy to receive an award for her work in promoting classics widely.”

**STEPHEN JENKIN, The Classics Library website:**
Winner of the 2021 Award for Lifetime Achievement

“There cannot be any Classics teacher out there who has not used the Classics Library in at least one of the following ways: to communicate with other teachers, as a focal point for sharing ideas and resources, as a constant source of information re. jobs/events/book sales etc. The website has an incredible array of classical material and has encouraged teachers from every possible kind of school to share rather than hoard their resources.

Stephen is clearly a dedicated classicist and the messages that he posts are always encouraging of individuals and validating of the subject. I think that he is definitely deserving of one of these awards, particularly as the Classics Library has the added benefit of moving with the times: when a syllabus changes, it is updated on the site, so that teachers will always find something that complements their teaching.”

**LAWRENCE MCNALLY, Impington Village College:**
Winner of the 2021 Award for Outstanding New Teacher

“Lawrence completed the PGCE in 2020 and in his first year of teaching he has made positive contributions to Classics teaching both locally and nationally.

He teaches at a non-selective state-maintained school in Cambridgeshire. In addition to enthusing students at Latin breakfast club, he uses technology in innovative ways in timetabled lessons. An avid user of twitter, Lawrence shares his pedagogical tips daily with the Classics teaching community @lfmcnally.

He has made two significant contributions to the field. Firstly, he co-authored a blog for the New Classicists blog ‘To PGCE or not to PGCE’ ([https://www.newclassicists.com/post/to-pgce-or-not-to-pgce](https://www.newclassicists.com/post/to-pgce-or-not-to-pgce)), reflecting on his teacher training experiences. I regularly field questions from final year students asking exactly this question, so Lawrence has used his personal and professional experience to support fellow students/prospective teachers.

Secondly, and perhaps most impressively, he has made syllabus-linked student workbooks for A Level Classical Civilisation and GCSE Latin which he hosts, for free, on his personal website. These are high quality resources which make a real difference to students and teachers alike. They are particularly valuable for teachers of other subjects who are introducing Classics.

Lawrence radiates the generous spirit of the Classics teaching community and deserves to be recognised for his significant achievements – all within his first year of teaching!”
GEMMA WILLIAMS, Allerton Grange School: 
Winner of the 2021 Award for Promoting the study of Classics in schools/FE

“History teacher Gemma introduced Classical Civilisation to her comprehensive school in Leeds with support from the ACE project and the University of Leeds. Her school has 1500 students with a high percentage of students eligible for the pupil premium. The school prides itself on being inclusive and celebrates the diversity of its intake (school vision and values). No Classics provision existed at all in 2017. The first cohort sat GCSE in 2020 (including Disadvantaged, EAL and SEND students), some of whom will sit A Level in 2022. Gemma’s enthusiasm for the subject and dedication to making it successful has been so powerful that from 2021, students in Key Stage 3 will study Classical Civilisation *on timetable*. This is an outstanding achievement. Allerton Grange is currently the only state-maintained school in Leeds committed to offering Classical Civilisation to students in all key stages.

Gemma offers support to others who are keen to pursue a similar path. She presented as part of the ACE panel at the CA/FIEC panel in 2019 ‘Classics in the comprehensive classroom: getting Classics started from scratch’, wrote a blog for the project website and maintains an active digital presence sharing tips for success online. Gemma is the living, breathing embodiment of a teacher who is working tirelessly every day to make Classics more inclusive.”