

Examples of professional development activities for teaching assistants other than external courses/conferences:

Observing good practitioners:

- observing other teaching assistants in action
- watching a colleague present an assembly
- observing a visiting expert
- shadowing a fellow teaching assistant or a teacher
- visiting and seeing other schools in action
- observing and working with an artist in residence

Extending professional experience:

- leading aspects of school-based INSET
- rotation of roles/jobs
- assuming the role of leader for an initiative in school
- working with teachers on extra-curricular activities
- taking part in staff conferences on individual pupils
- working with other professionals who work in the classroom
- sharing with a group of colleagues from other schools who do similar jobs
- contributing to a professional publication
- working with a line manager to redefine your job description
- participating in appraisal
- serving as a governor
- contributing to in-service courses
- working with another teaching assistant in a team
- collaborating with peripatetic teachers
- mentoring a newly appointed teaching assistant
- organising a display in collaboration with colleagues

Working with pupils:

- taking responsibility for group of pupils on an off-site visit
- supporting across a wide age and ability range
- reflecting on feedback from pupils
- working with pupils to present an assembly, play, musical performance etc

- evaluating work with pupils
- mentoring an individual pupil