**Sector Update – March 2017**

**Tes**

**'If Primary Rocks is about one thing, it's about asking yourself if there's a better way to teach something'**

Primary classroom teachers will come together at the #PrimaryRocks event in Manchester this weekend to share best practice – and enjoy a few laughs

[Find out more](https://www.tes.com/news/school-news/breaking-views/if-primary-rocks-about-one-thing-its-about-asking-yourself-if-theres)

**Exam results are prioritized over pupil wellbeing**

Charity YoungMinds says there is a mental health crisis in the classroom.

[Find out more](https://www.tes.com/news/school-news/breaking-news/exam-results-are-prioritised-over-pupil-wellbeing-teachers-say)

# ‘The EEF Toolkit has revealed the academic secret garden to teachers'

The author of the Sutton Trust-Education Endowment Foundation Teaching and Learning Toolkit responds to academics' criticism of his work

[Find out more](https://www.tes.com/news/school-news/breaking-views/eef-toolkit-has-revealed-academic-secret-garden-teachers)

# Malala tells heads they must help pupils believe in themselves

Nobel peace prize winner Malala Yousafzai addresses heads at ASCL conference. Malala Yousafzai, the youngest winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in history, urged teachers today to support young people to believe in themselves.

[Find out more](https://www.tes.com/news/school-news/breaking-news/malala-tells-heads-they-must-help-pupils-believe-themselves)

**Sec-Ed**

# Teaching practice: Small group work

The next article in our teaching practice series focuses on small group teaching and how we can motivate students to learn.

[Find out more](http://www.sec-ed.co.uk/best-practice/teaching-practice-small-group-work/)

**Literacy: The role of communication skills**

Communication and language skills are key to literacy, but many children can struggle. Liz Wood and Mary Hartshorne offer some practical strategies to help

[Read more](http://www.sec-ed.co.uk/best-practice/literacy-the-role-of-communication-skills/)

# The gap between school work and ‘real work’

Research released this week has raised concern at the ‘disconnect’ between what young people learn at school and what skills employers would like to see. Emma Lee-Potter reports

[Find out more](http://www.sec-ed.co.uk/news/the-gap-between-school-work-and-real-work/)

**Institute for Outdoor Learning**

**Kids are spending less time outdoors and it’s causing short-sightedness**

If you want to help children avoid having vision issues later in life they should get outside more — that's the message from researchers looking into an expected increase in the worldwide rate of short-sightedness.

[Read more here](http://www.outdoor-learning.org/Default.aspx?tabid=118&Id=822)

**Scouts and Guides grow up to have better mental health at age 50**

Being a member of the Scouts or Guides during childhood is linked to a lower risk of mental illness in middle-age according to a study by Chris Dibben at the University of Edinburgh and his colleagues

[Read about it here:](http://www.outdoor-learning.org/Default.aspx?tabid=118&Id=812)

**BBC News**

# Exercise levels decline 'long before adolescence'

Adolescence is thought to be the time when children go off exercise - but [a study in The British Journal of Sports Medicine](http://bjsm.bmj.com/lookup/doi/10.1136/bjsports-2016-096933) suggests it happens much earlier, around the age of seven.

[Read more here](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-39255005)