

AEO report for KCBA Committee Meeting April 2026

I attended the EBED webinar in January about Innovation but there was nothing to bring to our committee to take forward on this issue. The Webinar touched on WhatsApp groups usage for clubs, emailing Members, Payment solutions and using Meta (Facebook) for advertising classes.

A new Club teacher Essentials training course was held in January 2026 with the online sessions run by Clive Turner and the face to face by Stephen Pierce in Tunbridge Wells, using this new format which replaces the old 2-day face to face weekend TTC course.

Part 1. A half day Club Teacher Orientation run online to give potential teachers an overview of teaching materials available to them plus guidance on various useful topics.

Part 2. This is now a 1-day Face to Face course when they learn about bridge teaching techniques and how to assess student progress and evaluate their own lessons.

Part 3. A further half day online Teacher Progression follow up session to help teachers to plan and market their courses, discuss Classroom to Clubroom journey issues and planning for their future as a teacher.

This Teacher Training course, in January, was originally intended to be run in the early Autumn last year and I contacted the Education and Development Officer in July 2025 in my role as AEO to ask whether it would be possible to run a course in mid Kent rather than Tunbridge Wells so that more potential teachers could attend from around the county.

Unfortunately, I only found out on 21st January 2026 that this course was about to be run in Tunbridge Wells, giving me little opportunity to try to get Kent teachers involved although I did send off an immediate email to our teachers to promote this.

I contacted the course leader afterwards and there were six attendees from these areas

East Grinstead 2

Bath 2

Hertford 1

Maidstone 1

This was disappointing as the course was only 50% subscribed, with only one teacher from Kent and these courses are run infrequently.

There are, at present, only two proposed TTC showing on the EBU website. One in Horsham in West Sussex and another in Wetherby both scheduled to take place in June.

The role of Bridge Education and Development Officer is currently being advertised online on the EBU website

It is my intention to contact the new Education Officer, once they are appointed, to discuss the role of AEO in Kent and to try to arrange a further TTC to take place with our full involvement in the process.

Pat Welsh

AEO

23rd April 2026