

Educating for the Unknown



An International Professional Conference
in Leading Learning and Teaching for Understanding

Wednesday 23rd February 2011
Banqueting Hall, Council Offices,
Almada Street, Hamilton, ML3 0AA



REAL learning



“Good learning is learning from a richly experienced today with tomorrow in view.”

Professor David Perkins

Curriculum for Excellence is taking shape around the capacities we believe will enable children and young people to live adaptively in a changing culture and in an increasingly complex world. It provides an opportunity to focus on active and collaborative learning through engagement in rich, challenging and enjoyable projects. It promotes the progressive development of higher order critical and creative thinking alongside the dispositions and skills necessary for life, learning and the world of work.

An important quality in children and young people will be the ability to use what they know in new and unfamiliar contexts: to demonstrate their understanding reflexively as they respond to “the moving target of tomorrow”.

The Teaching for Understanding framework and approach provides an effective tool for designing, adapting and reflecting on classroom practices that nourish this kind of deep and connected understanding.

This international professional conference day will investigate how we can support learners in achieving genuine understanding and in applying their understanding in practical situations. It will also focus on how we develop leadership for learning that places understanding at the heart of the curriculum. In the afternoon Masterclass, Professor David Perkins, Harvard Graduate School of Education will help us think more deeply about the nature of understanding and its impact on leading for learning in the classroom.

relate engage adapt live

Biography

Professor David Perkins



David is the Carl H. Pforzheimer Jr., Professor of Teaching and Learning at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He is a member of the Senior Faculty. David is a founding member of Project Zero and now senior co-director. Project Zero investigates human intelligence, creativity, understanding, and learning at all levels. David conducts research on creativity in the arts and sciences, informal reasoning, problem solving, understanding, individual and organisational learning, and the teaching of thinking skills. He leads curriculum projects addressing

thinking, understanding, and learning around the world. He is actively involved in school change. He is the author of numerous publications, including *Smart Schools* (The Free Press, 1992), *Outsmarting IQ* (The Free Press, 1995) on intelligence and its cultivation, *The Eureka Effect* (Norton, 2001) about creative thinking and *King Arthur's Round Table* (Wiley, 2003) about organisational intelligence and learning and *Making Learning Whole* (Jossey-Bass, 2008) about organising learning around full meaningful endeavours.

Biography

Keir Bloomer



Keir is an independent education consultant. He is also Chair of the Tapestry Partnership, Vice-Convenor of Children in Scotland and Chair designate of Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh. He was a member of the review group which wrote 'A Curriculum for Excellence,' Scotland's national curriculum policy statement. He is chair of the Higher Order Skill Excellence Group and a member of the Cabinet Secretary's Stakeholder Group.

Keir has been an Executive Director of Education and Community Services and a local authority Chief Executive. He has been Vice-Chair of Learning and Teaching Scotland, Depute General Secretary of the Educational Institute of Scotland and a member of the General Teaching Council. He is well known in Scotland as a speaker and writer on a variety of educational topics.

Biography

Margaret Alcorn



Margaret has been National CPD Co-ordinator since May 2004. The CPD team aims to lead and support the development of world-class CPD for Scottish teachers. Currently her major area of interest within the team is in the development of leadership at all levels of our education system.

Before this, she was an English teacher for 28 years in a variety of posts, and also served as CPD Co-ordinator for City of Edinburgh Education Department.

Biography

Frank Crawford



Frank started his education career as a science teacher in St Mungo's Academy and St Andrew's Secondary in the East End of Glasgow. Frank had a period of secondment to Glasgow City Council in science education. He was appointed to the Inspectorate in 1985 from a senior management post in Holy Cross High School, South Lanarkshire. In 1992, Frank joined the new Audit Unit within HMIE. He led the teams which produced the first national Standards and Quality Report for Scottish Schools (the forerunner to 'Improving Scottish Education') and which created the first 'How good

is our school'? Frank became HM Chief Inspector, leading the Audit Unit through the target-setting initiative. Frank has enjoyed a range of remits within the Inspectorate, including involvement in international projects. He has been responsible for secondary and special school inspections, quality systems developments, educational futures and the highly influential and creative Journey to Excellence project. Now semi-retired from HMIE Frank continues to be a leading educator, speaker and innovator, and speaks today in an independent capacity.

programme:

Educating for the Unknown



Chair

Frank Crawford

09.00 – 09.30

Registration and Coffee

09.30 – 09.40

Music

Young people from South Lanarkshire

09.40 – 09.45

Welcome and Introduction

Larry Forde, Executive Director, Education Resources, South Lanarkshire Council

09.45 – 10.30

Leading Learning in the Classroom

Margaret Alcorn National CPD Co-ordinator

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee and Networking

11.00 – 12.00

Deep Learning through a REAL Context

Young people from South Lanarkshire

12.00 – 12.30

Reflections on the Morning

Chair

12.30 – 13.15

Lunch

13.15 – 14.20

Masterclass - Understanding in Action: Leading Learning in the Classroom

Professor David Perkins, Harvard Graduate School of Education

What is understanding? Why is it so hard to come by? How can we help pupils master knowledge with understanding? And how can we co-ordinate our teaching in ways that help learners toward a rich proactive use of knowledge in their personal, professional, and civic lives? These questions are fundamental to the educational enterprise. A model of Teaching for Understanding (TfU) developed in the early 1990s has assisted thousands of teachers all over the world with these challenges. TfU not only helps to shape instruction but serves as a shared language among teachers and school leaders, building community and coherence. A wealth of experience with TfU and its extensions adds up to a practical vision of how both academic and everyday knowledge can become more energetic and empowering presences in learners' lives.

14.20 – 15.00

Question and Answer Session

Professor David Perkins, Keir Bloomer, Frank Crawford and South Lanarkshire Leaders of Learning

15.00 – 15.30

Masterclass - Leading for Understanding: Leading Learning in the School

Professor David Perkins, Harvard Graduate School of Education

In a genuine culture of learning, everyone's a learner - not just the pupils. This has fundamental implications for instructional and administrative leadership in schools as well as other settings. The same teaching for understanding framework that guides classroom learning has been adapted to help support leadership and collaboration within faculties, emphasising inquiry-centred leadership, complementary and synergistic roles, group problem solving, and more.

15.30 – 15.40

The Way Forward

Chair



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For more information or if you want this information in a different format or language, please phone +44 (0) 1698 454297 or email Andrea.Reid@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Title:

Forename:

Surname:

Designation:

Establishment / School:

Mailing Address:

Local Authority:

Special Access Requirements:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

Event cost: £150 + 20% VAT (total: £180) per delegate including lunch.

Please return the above slip to: Stuart Andrew, Curriculum and Quality Improvement Service, South Lanarkshire Council, Floor 6, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton, ML3 0AA

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