

Curriculum Conference 2020

Session Outlines

With a renewed focus on curriculum, largely due to the changes to the Ofsted Inspection Framework emphasising 'quality of education', curriculum is a hot topic.

This timely event will encourage you to reflect on the intent, implementation and impact of your school's curriculum. See below for what to expect at the conference.

More sessions to be announced.

KEYNOTE: New thinking from old tools: why knowledge matters in shaping a curriculum and improving teaching

Christine Counsell, Curriculum Expert and Consultant

Christine will examine the role of knowledge in tackling literacy and inclusion, especially for the disadvantaged. She will also develop a definition of knowledge, showing its expansive meaning and emancipatory role when considered in terms of subjects. She will outline the importance of Ofsted's four principles for quality in a subject curriculum - scope, rigour, coherence and sequencing. The session will give examples of effective sequencing, showing the importance of ensuring pupils are secure in forward-projecting foundational content. Christine will emphasise the vital role of teachers' own subject knowledge and the need for teachers to be in subject communities, renewing and testing curriculum content and structure.

KEYNOTE: Developing Intent, Implementation and Impact through a More Localized Curriculum

David Leat, Professor of Curriculum Innovation, Newcastle University

The new Ofsted inspection framework has raised the profile of curriculum again and put subjects, concepts and learning back in the spotlight. This presentation will outline a few basics about curriculum development but will go on to argue that **well planned** projects using community resources (such as people, issues, places and data) can bring deep subject learning, engagement and strong community ties while addressing Gatsby Benchmark and other aspects of personal development. A more localized curriculum provides young people with the chance not only to learn about their local area but also to provide service to it. I will also outline key factors in existing successful work in the region and elsewhere and plans for taking this approach to scale.

PLENARY SESSION: Tackling the challenges of secondary curriculum design

Amy Tweddle, Ambition Institute

Pedagogy, rather than curriculum, has been the main driver of educational change in recent educational policy leading to a lack of confidence in the sector around curriculum development. This workshop looks at the persistent problems that can occur when designing curriculum in schools and supports senior leaders to think about what barriers and misconceptions their middle leaders are likely to face when designing curriculum for their subject area and how best to tackle these using the latest research and evidence.

PRIMARY SESSIONS

Primary Curriculum Design – Principles and practice, a model to consider

Colin Lofthouse, CEO, SMART Multi Academy Trust

This session aims to give space for leaders to consider how to approach curriculum redesign and hopefully give them confidence to move forward. Using a model founded on values and ethos, community and context, research and pedagogy. The session will draw on examples from Colin's last headship at Rickleton Primary School in Sunderland where he was Head Teacher until his recent move to the Smart Multi-academy Trust. The session will also link to the Education Inspection Framework requirements for curriculum through his experience as a lead inspector for Ofsted.

Learning Through and In the Arts

Miles Wallis-Clarke, Head teacher, Hotspur Primary School

This session will cover:

- the arts as a dynamo and mirror for the whole curriculum
- working with cultural organisations to maximise impact
- whole school projects in vertical groupings
- laying the foundations for life-long cultural engagement
- the role of arts in mental health and wellbeing

Redevelopment of science curriculum

Matthew Allison, Year 6 Teacher/STEM subject leader, Benedict Biscop CE Academy

SECONDARY SESSIONS

A Common Sense Curriculum

Joanne Maw, Head Teacher, Sandhill View Academy

In this session, Joanne will discuss how Sandhill View Academy created a curriculum to meet the needs of their students.

Leading curriculum change: how do we ensure curriculum design is successful for students and teachers?

Claudia Parkes, Principal Design Lead for English Mastery, Ark Online

The 2019 Education Inspection Framework has helped schools think deeply about their curriculum offer for students and teachers. What is the best curriculum for teachers and students? And how can we lead this change in schools to bring all stakeholders along with us?

In this session, Claudia will reflect on the work of English Mastery over the past 5 years. She will look at recent research into curriculum design and outline practical steps for how curriculum change can be successfully implemented in schools.

Curriculum Mapping and Assessment for Secondary MFL

Louise Reay, Benfield School

From attending this session, delegates will have an understanding of the transition from KS2 - KS3 and see how the curriculum at KS3 is shaped and assessed to support the teaching and learning of all students.

Curriculum as CPD – Leading from the middle

Ros McMullen, RMC Education Ltd