

Whole Education

2nd Annual
Conference
Tuesday 6th Dec

How well are we preparing young people for life and work in the 21st century?



What knowledge, skills and personal qualities do employers seek in graduates, school leavers and apprentices?



What is Finland doing to its education system to prepare their young people for life and work?



What does the 21st century hold for us and what are the implications for schools and education systems?



What is one of the top chains of schools in America doing to make sure every student leaves school “college ready”?

How are we developing schools, curriculum and our education system to better prepare our young people for life and work in the 21st century?

Both challenges and opportunities are arising from the radical changes being introduced to the English education system. With young people entering an increasingly uncertain future, this conference brings together leading education and business figures from across the world to explore some of the key issues English schools and the education system need to confront to prepare young people for life and work.

Kings Place, London

Tuesday 6th December 2011

Why attend?

Why now?

After the many reforms of the Labour government, we are in another period of significant change in education. The coalition government's key theme of greater freedom for schools, allied to an increased focus on school to school support, provides both opportunities and challenges.

However, this is being introduced against a backdrop of a reduction in real terms funding, and increased accountability and expectation. An important debate is taking place on what is valued in education. This debate includes issues such as social mobility, structural diversity, knowledge and skills, the English Baccalaureate and the breadth of the curriculum.

All these changes in education policy mirror a time of significant change in the world, where there is a shift in global power and the future of our economy and society is becoming increasingly uncertain. The mix of skills and knowledge required by employers may be changing. As the recent riots and NEET figures show, too many young people are disengaged.

A slimmed down National Curriculum will create a space for schools and colleges to plan their own curriculum creatively. Schools and colleges rightly try to ensure that young people are literate, numerate and gain academic qualifications. But they often find it difficult to balance the pressure of testing and examinations against the development of other skills and qualities just as vital in today's world.

The big questions we will explore:



What kind of world will the children at school today graduate into?



If the country's education system is to serve the national interest, what are the skills, qualities and knowledge that we require our young people to develop? And what are the implications for learning outcomes, curriculum, pedagogy and assessment?



What are the leadership and CPD implications for schools – and the wider system – in providing young people with a 21st century education?



What opportunities and threats does current education policy present?



What role can schools play in developing stronger local communities?

Who will be attending?



Primary and Secondary school leaders



Employers



Policymakers



Researchers



LA education staff

“It is an overused term, 21st century education. The question is, how well are we preparing our young people for the increasingly uncertain world they are entering”

Agenda

- 08.30am *Registration and Coffee*
- 09.30am **Welcome and Introduction (Dr. John Dunford)**
John will introduce the current education context, highlighting both the threats and opportunities for those concerned with education, and a call to arms to do something about it.
- 09.40am **What does our learning future look like? (Professor Keri Facer)**
Keri will help us to look into the future, the world young people will be entering and the skills and qualities they will need to thrive. She will consider the implications for schools and our education system.
- 10.20am **How is Finland responding to the 21st century imperative? (Kristiina Kumpulainen)**
Kristiina will share how Finland is responding to its own emerging challenges and what they are doing to develop an education system that better prepares young Finnish people for the 21st century.
- 11.00am *Break*
- 11.20pm **What are employers looking for? (Caroline Waters)**
Caroline, Head of People and Policy at BT, will provide an employer's view on what skills, qualities and knowledge young people will need for the future, from the perspective of her own organisation.
- 11.40pm **Panel Q&A, with questions from the floor**
- 12.00pm **Breakout Session 1**
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|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Transforming Education Systems | 21st Century Curriculum and Assessment | Schools and Communities in the 21st Century | Leadership, Pedagogy and CPD Implications | Open Discussion Groups |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|-------------------------------|
- 1.10pm *Lunch*
- 2.00pm **Breakout Session 2**
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| Transforming Education Systems | 21st Century Curriculum and Assessment | Schools and Communities in the 21st Century | Leadership, Pedagogy and CPD Implications | Open Discussion Groups |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|-------------------------------|
- 3.10pm *Break*
- 3.25pm **High Tech High: A truly 21st century education? (Larry Rosenstock)**
Larry, CEO of High Tech High in San Diego, will share with us HTH's unique approach to helping to prepare all their students to be college ready – and in doing so helping to prepare them for the 21st century, whether they choose to go to college or not. And don't be fooled by the name – it doesn't involve technology!
- 4.05pm **Panel Q&A, with questions from floor followed by chair's closing comments**
- 4.30pm **Close**

Breakout sessions

Transforming Education Systems

Curriculum and Assessment

Schools and Communities

Leadership, Pedagogy and CPD

Open Discussion Groups

Each breakout will be chaired, with 2-3 short presentations followed by panel Q&A discussing audience questions. Chairs, presenting schools and speakers to be announced – visit www.wholeeducation.org

Lessons from America: New York City and Nashville

Many of the challenges facing US schools and education systems are similar to our own. What can we learn from them and their attempts to transform their systems? We will hear from two examples: New York City's iZone programme and Nashville's transformation programme.

Subjects vs skills: the false dichotomy

This session will hear from primary and secondary schools that are successfully combining knowledge acquisition with development of a wider set of skills and attributes. We look at the implications for curriculum and assessment, and explore the implications for transition.

I (don't) predict a riot: schools and social cohesion

This session will ask, given the many complex and varied reasons behind the riots, what role can and do schools play in social cohesion? Predictable press stories focus on stricter behaviour. We'll look at deeper issues of well being, student and community engagement.

Is the role of a teacher changing?

If we are to help young people prepare for life and work in the 21st century, we need to help them develop a range of skills, qualities and knowledge. There are serious implications for pedagogy, school leadership and CPD: are your staff bought in - and equipped - to respond to this? If not, how can you help them?

What is the purpose of education?

The holy grail? Assessing 21st century skills

Social media and learning: what are you doing?

Primary to secondary transition and importance of relationships

Improving the English education system: are we on the right track?

The present government is continuing with many changes introduced by its predecessor. An expansion of chains of schools, significantly increasing academies, NLE's and help from outstanding to struggling schools. What've we learned so far?

The English Baccalaureate: a broad and balanced education?

The eBac has generated much debate and different responses from schools. Subjects such as Music, Art, D&T and RE were down over 10% across the country. It has opened up a number of issues. How did your school respond? We'll explore the implications.

Primary schools and engaging communities

Evidence continues to show that parental engagement in learning is a critical factor in student achievement. This session will look specifically at how Primary Schools are working to engage their communities in deep and genuinely meaningful ways.

Courageous leadership – now or never

Interesting times are emerging for school leaders. Increasing freedoms being promised are to be welcomed, but will be new to many. Signs from government suggest a bias towards particular aspects of education. Do we need courageous leaders now more than ever? Leaders share their views.

The new reality: schools as commissioners

Creativity and the curriculum... And beyond

An idea: Whole Education Towns and Villages?

Exploring subject specific skills

Keynote Speakers: Biographies

Professor Keri Facer



Keri is Professor of Education at the Education and Social Research Institute, Manchester Metropolitan University, specialising in social justice, digital technologies and educational futures. She has acted as an advisor to a wide range of organisations and has written several books and regularly contributes to the BBC and TES amongst others.

Keri is a well known International speaker who motivates her audience to think big, explore future possibilities and challenge assumptions. Her skill is to enable audiences to think beyond everyday obstacles to achieve a real engagement with the passion and purpose of education.

Kristiina Kumpulainen



Kristiina is Director of the Information and Evaluation Services Unit at the Finnish National Board of Education (FNBE). She specializes in formal and informal learning, learning environments, innovative schools and their pedagogies, teacher professional development and life-long learning policies and practices. Her responsibilities include national assessments of learning outcomes and student admissions.

Kristiina works with the Finnish Ministry of Education, national and international universities and research institutions. She participates in collaboration and development projects of the Nordic Council of Ministers, the EU, the Council of Europe, UNESCO, and OECD.

Caroline Waters



Caroline is Director of People & Policy for BT, one of the world's leading communications services companies, serving the needs of customers in the UK and around the world. BT employs over 100,000 people in over 170 countries around the world.

Caroline's role focuses on creating tomorrow's customers and employees: revenue generation through empowered people, BT's inclusivity strategy, human resources process design and re-engineering for employment, strategic skills and equality and diversity. She regularly provides advice and guidance to government and industry.

Larry Rosenstock



Larry is CEO and founding principal of High Tech High, a network of eleven K-12 public charter schools in California. He is also Dean of the High Tech High Graduate School of Education. Larry was a teacher then principal of two schools in Boston before becoming a member of the Massachusetts and U.S. Supreme Court Bars. He served as an attorney at the Harvard Center for Law and Education and lectured at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Larry and his work have been featured on Oprah, and in Newsweek and Forbes. He is a winner of the Ford Foundation Innovations in State and Local Government Award, is an Ashoka Fellow, and won the McGraw Prize in Education. High Tech High International was among the top 3 schools in America in the Race to the Top High School Challenge.

Booking and Information

Event Costs

£125 Schools

£195 Local Authorities/Charities

£295 Full Price

Discount Codes

Schools who are members of the Whole Education Network receive 20% discount (QUOTE: WE_Network)

Book before **04/11/2011** and receive 10% discount (QUOTE: WE_earlybird)

Book online at www.wholeedconf.eventbrite.com /email jo@wholeeducation.org or call **0207 250 8053**

Venue

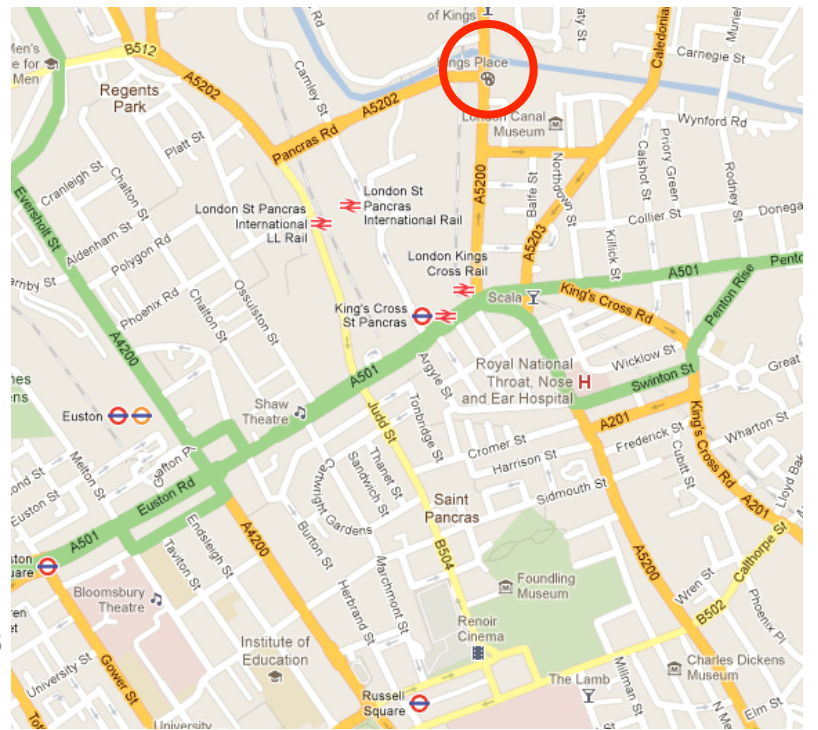
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Nearest train station:

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If you would like more information about Whole Education or would like to speak to a member of the Whole Education team contact Jo at jo@wholeeducation.org or on 0207 250 8053

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