Programme

09:00  Registration, refreshments served with exhibitors - your chance to meet and gain information and advice from suppliers to the sector

10:00  Chair’s welcome and introduction

   Dr Alison Birkinshaw OBE, President, Association of Colleges and Principal and Chief Executive, York College

10:10  Teaching and learning – Making the grade

   Neil Thomas, Vice Principal Curriculum and Standards, Dudley College

10:30  Using lesson observations to improve teaching and learner progress

   Bob Craig, Learning and Development Consultant and Sally Challis-Manning, Assistant Principal, Chichester College and one further college (TBC)

With some organisations experiencing profound change due to mergers, apprenticeship provision and changes to the curriculum offer, how can lesson observations be part of, or even spear-head a cohesive, forward-looking ‘learning organisation’ and in so doing support morale and enable outstanding practice.

This session will draw on the latest practice, thinking and research about lesson observations and explore issues such as:

- If lesson observations were having a positive impact in your college, what would they be doing?
- What would teachers say about them? How about observers, line managers, quality managers and SLT?
- What role do lesson observations have in terms of performance management?
- How can we make it more likely that lesson observations will contribute to college cultures based on things like experimentation, collaboration, managed risk taking and trust?
- What skills do observers need to best support teacher development and learner progress?

11:00  Questions to the speakers

11:15  Exhibition, networking and refreshments - your chance to meet and gain information and advice from suppliers to the sector
11:45 **Breakout session one**

Delegates should select to attend one of the following sessions

1. **JISC – Digital**
   
   
   (Invited)

2. **Embedding employability skills and linking with employers**
   
   Nigel Harrett, Deputy Principal and Deputy Chief Executive, Sunderland College and Iain Nixon - Executive Director Commercial Director, Sunderland College

3. **Whole college CPD programme to enhance teaching learning and assessment**
   
   Julie Sinclair, Head of Teaching Learning and Professional Development, Westminster Kingsway College part of the WKCIC Group
   
   - Embedding coaching
   - Developing positive models of CPD for teaching staff

4. **Embedding British values in the classroom**
   
   Assia Hussain, Curriculum Diversity and Operational Prevent Lead, Bradford College

12:45 **Lunch and networking** - your chance to meet and gain information and advice from suppliers to the sector

13:40 **Chairs welcome back**

   Dr Alison Birkshaw OBE, President, Association of Colleges and Principal and Chief Executive, York College

13:45 **Classroom strategies for supporting student success**

   Matt Bromley, Author, Trainer and AoC Create Workshop Facilitator
   
   - Common characteristics of effective learners and how to teach them
   - The importance of high expectations and what they look like in the classroom
   - How to create a learning environment in which students readily accept challenge and regard mistakes as an integral part of learning
   - The learning process – how do learners learn?
   - How to teach study skills and instil the importance of practice
   - Teaching to the top – engaging the disengaged

14:55 **Questions and answer sessions**

15:05 **Exhibition, networking and refreshments** - your chance to meet and gain information and advice from suppliers to the sector
15:30 Breakout session two
Delegates should select to attend one of the following sessions

2.1 Strategies for managing difficult behaviour in the classroom
*College (invited)*

2.2 How best to prepare students for the external assessment element of Applied General qualifications
*Pearson*

2.3 Effective use of Learning Support Assistants to improve maths and English
*Education and Training Foundation*

Our research suggests that learning support staff have a key role to play in supporting learners to improve their maths and English. The evidence suggests that providers would have the greatest impact if they adopted a coherent strategy within their organisation, focusing on developing shared understandings of the respective roles of teachers and LSAs, and ways the can work together. This session will explore the research carried out by the ETF, get delegates to reflect on their current ways of working and give a taster of the training ETF offers to improve practice.

2.4 Digital education strategy for improving teaching and learning
*Wendy Peskett, Google Experience Manager and Certified Google Trainer, West London College (Winner of the TES Outstanding use of Technology for Teaching, Learning and Assessment 2017)*

Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College have introduced a digital education strategy that has built on Google for Education technology to revitalise students’ attitude to work, both inside and outside the classroom. Staff training and communication are key to the success of the project, and a dedicated team of 25 people have been trained as “Google Innovators” to help other teachers to develop their use of technology. Wendy will use this breakout session to discuss how they developed and embedded this strategy.

16:30 Conference close

We would like to thank Smart Apprentices for sponsoring the conference. They look forward to meeting you.

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Sessions and timings are subject to change