

Creating a Thinking School

National Thinking Schools Network Conference 2012

19th & 20th March 2012

Holiday Inn Birmingham Airport

The focus of this conference will be Personal and Social Philosophy

The two days will be led by Roger Sutcliffe, the leading figure in P4C (Philosophy for Children/communities) in the UK, with an outstanding record of teaching at primary, secondary and tertiary level: a key thinker and writer in the field of 'concept-led learning'; also, author of the Handbook on Enquiry-based Learning, published by the Helen Hamlyn Trust.

Monday 19th March

Roger will explore how (PSP) would fit within existing timetables (most obviously as an upgrade of PSE) but at the same time would offer both more coherence and more challenge to thinking and learning across the curriculum.

Roger will introduce Personal and Social Philosophy (PSP) as a way of highlighting and developing good thinking in and across the curriculum, building on the work that schools have already undertaken in PSE, P4C and SEAL.

- make sense of apparently disparate elements of the curriculum by relating them to cross-curricular concepts (big ideas)
- provide a natural forum for thinking and developing thinking skills and strategies

Outcomes for the day

- new ways of thinking about a 'thinking curriculum'.
- understanding and applying the notion of 'concept-led learning'.
- deeper understanding of what is meant by thinking (skills and strategies)
- further practice in some skills and strategies

(Continue overleaf for day 2)



Creating a Thinking School

National Thinking Schools Network Conference 2012

19th & 20th March 2012

Holiday Inn Birmingham Airport

Tuesday 20th March

Roger will look more closely at how young people can be encouraged to note and nurture personal qualities, especially Habits of Mind, linking these with the vision of PSP as the development of a healthy personal philosophy (for learning and for life).

He will propose that curiosity – the will to enquire – is the most important of such qualities and he will spend some time looking at how it can best be nurtured. He will suggest that this and most other personal qualities are best developed in a social context, and with regard to social concerns. He will conduct a 'community of enquiry' as a model for such development at any age and in any subject.

Outcomes for the day

- new ways of thinking about the underlying aims of education
- understanding and applying frameworks for achieving these aims
- experience and appreciation of learning in a 'community of enquiry'.
- a sense of how to develop independent learning and enquiry in students

Please note that attendance will qualify as the first day of the Sapere Level 1 course.

Cost: £295

To book do so online at: www.thinkingschool.co.uk

Email: admin@thinkingschool.co.uk **Tel:** 01793 771506

