Effective Tools for Future Planning

Workshop Series 2008

Throughout 2008, the Division of Professional Learning at the Faculty of Education and Social Work, The University of Sydney, will be hosting a series of professional development workshops for teachers that will provide effective, strategic advice and skills to enhance future planning within schools. The program format of each day will include formal presentations and practical workshops with opportunities for discussion.

- Workshop 1: Postponed – Date TBA 9am – 4pm Analysis of Test Data for School Effectiveness
- Workshop 2: Friday 14 March 9am – 4pm Assessment FOR Learning in the A-E Reporting Environments within the NSW DET Quality Teaching Framework
- Workshop 3: Friday 4 April 9am – 4pm School Evaluation - Identifying Strategic Priorities and Evidence for School-based Improvement
- Workshop 4: Friday 1 August 9am – 4pm Writing Successful Funding Applications for your School
- Workshop 5: Friday 19 September 9am – 4pm Strategies for Dealing with the Overcrowded Curriculum
- Workshop 6: Friday 24 October 9am – 4pm Building Strong Teams in Schools

Workshop 1: Analysis of Test Data for School Effectiveness
Postponed – Date TBA
This workshop, run by experts in the analysis of NSW DET test data, will provide participants with skills in analysing and interpreting NAPLAN, BST, ELLA and SNAP test data towards planning for school-based improvement in teaching and learning. It will also provide the opportunity for considering strategies for school clusters to analyse data across primary and secondary schools with a view to developing across-school-based initiatives.

Academic Coordinator: Associate Professor David Smith

Workshop 2: Assessment FOR Learning in the A-E Reporting Environments within the NSW DET Quality Teaching Framework
Friday 14 March 9am – 4pm
Initially there will be a presentation on the key principles underpinning the use of assessment practices FOR learning. This will be followed by workshops providing opportunities to investigate and write student learning outcomes and quality learning criteria at five levels. This provides a school and region-based strategy that is consistent with the requirement for A to E levels of reporting. Participants are asked to bring examples of assessment tasks as a basis for discussion.

Academic Coordinator: Associate Professor David Smith

Workshop 3: School Evaluation - Identifying Strategic Priorities & Evidence for School-based Improvement
Friday 4 April 9am – 4pm
Within the current emerging contexts of system-required school self-appraisal, review and evaluation, this workshop will begin with a presentation outlining a rationale for, and principles that should underpin any effective school-based evaluation, based on international and Australian research. This will be followed by a presentation on the nature of evidence that can be used in any school review process and practical strategies for gathering and analysing such evidence. Participants will then be engaged in identifying:
- Strategic areas for a school evaluation of their own school contexts
- The questions that might be asked about these areas, and
- The types of evidence that would need to be gathered in any school-based evaluation.

Academic Coordinator: Associate Professor David Smith

Workshop 4: Writing Successful Funding Applications for Your School
Friday 1 August 9am – 4pm
This is a practical workshop designed to assist those teachers and schools who are engaged in writing applications for state (e.g., Quality Teaching) and national (e.g., Success for Boys; ASSISTM, etc) funding.

Initially there will be a presentation on the key factors underpinning successful funding applications based on extensive experience by the presenters who have both participated with schools and clusters in writing applications and acted as panelists in selecting successful applications. The main part of the day will be opportunities for teachers collectively to work on current funding applications and to gain advice on these from the workshop presenters.

Academic Coordinator: Associate Professor David Smith

Workshop 5: Strategies for Dealing with the Overcrowded Curriculum
Friday 19 September 9am – 4pm
One of the constant complaints by teachers in both primary and secondary schools stems from an overcrowded curriculum that leads to superficial ‘coverage’ of content rather than an opportunity for in-depth learning towards deep understanding.

This workshop will present practical suggestions for three key strategies in dealing with an overcrowded curriculum that are currently being used in primary and secondary schools. These are, Curriculum Mapping to identify commonalities in student learning outcomes in different KLAS/subjects, the development of Integrated Curricula based on rich tasks, and practices in the use of Peer Teaching and Assessment. The emphasis will be on Stages 3, 4 and 5, both within primary and secondary schools and across Stages 3 and 4. Teachers using these strategies will be invited to share their experience with participants.

Academic Coordinator: Associate Professor David Smith

Workshop 6: Building Strong Teams in Schools
Friday 24 October 9am – 4pm
People come together in schools with their varied experiences, personalities, work styles, skills and strengths to meet specific goals or objectives. Sometimes we lose our focus on achieving the main goals by becoming caught up in personality conflicts. Also, when groups have worked together for extended periods they sometimes become stuck in certain patterns of being and working. A school is a microcosm of the society in which we live. Effective teams within school communities support schools in maintaining harmonious environments – much like what is desired in the wider community. When individuals within a school come together to work for the greater good of the society and support multiple levels of learning among the students, they need to ensure that they themselves are able to build teams, which will help them meet the desired objectives. The foundations upon which these teams are built determine their effectiveness. This session explores the issues that are important to consider when building strong teams and looks at strategies that support team building. During this day participants will explore:

- Possibilities for new ways of working, focusing on their strengths using an asset-based model of development, and
- Ways of working that will help them to overcome obstacles in new and creative ways.

There will also be opportunities for participants to develop strategies for bridging gaps within their own learning communities and understand how they can maximize their skills and abilities to support each other in this era of rapid on-going change.

Academic Coordinator: Dr Ann Cheryl Armstrong

Cost
$185 per workshop / $1,000 for all six workshops. (GST inclusive)
Special rates apply for two or more registrations from one institution.
Please contact Nina Goodwin on 02 9351 6329 for more information.

Venue
Education Building, Manning Road
The University of Sydney

Administrative Enquiries
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Effective Tools for Future Planning - Workshop Series 2008

Registration Form

Please complete one form per person and provide complete details

Title __________________ Name ____________________________________________________________

School Address __________________________________________________________ Postcode __________

Stage/s Taught __________________ Curriculum Area/s ___________________________________________

School Phone __________________ Fax __________________ Mobile __________________

Email __________________________________________________ Teacher Accreditation No. _______

ATTENDANCE DATES (please tick all dates you will be attending)

☐ Workshop 1: Postponed – Date TBA 9am – 4pm Analysis of Test Data for School Effectiveness

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FEES DUE

☐ Individual workshop/s x _______ @ $185.00 each (GST inc.). Total $ ___________________

☐ All six workshops - $1,000.00 (GST inc.).

Special rates apply for two or more registrations from one institution. Please contact Nina on 02 9351 6329 for more information.

PAYMENT

☐ Attached is a cheque made payable to The University of Sydney / ☐ Please debit my VISA card / Mastercard (please circle)

Cardholder Name ___________________________ Amount $ __________________

Card Number __________ / __________ / __________ / __________ Expiry Date __________ / __________

Signature ___________________________ Date __________________

Closing date for registrations and refunds for withdrawal (less a $50 administration fee) is 7 days prior to start date.

Please mail completed forms with cheques payable to The University of Sydney to: Division of Professional Learning

Faculty of Education & Social Work, 612-A35

Or fax your form with credit card payment details to: 02 9351 6249

The University of Sydney NSW 2006

TAX INVOICE The University of Sydney ABN 15 211 513 464

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The University of Sydney reserves the right to alter any arrangements or cancel an event or to refuse any enrolment or registration as permitted by law. Should the University of Sydney cancel an event the participant will receive a full refund of fees. Refunds for withdrawal (less a $50 administration fee) are available if notification is received in writing either by mail or email at least seven days prior to the start date. Please choose carefully as the University of Sydney cannot accept responsibility for changes in personal circumstances or work commitments. No refunds will be given after the closing date.

DECLARATION

I have read and understand the terms and conditions and declare that the information I have provided is correct and complete.

Signature ___________________________ Date __________________

SURVEY

How did you find out about this program? ☐ Flyer ☐ Our website ☐ Government website ☐ Other website ☐ Internet Search (ie Google)

☐ Word of mouth ☐ Journal or Newsletter ☐ Other: __________________

Division of Professional Learning

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