



BRITISH EDUCATIONAL
SUPPLIERS ASSOCIATION



CURRICULUM CONFERENCE 2023

23 February 2023

#BESACC

GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON

PROGRAMME

09.30 – Welcome and refreshments.

09.55 – Introduction from the Chair.

Jane Harley, Former Policy and Partnerships Director, Oxford Education.

10.00 – The science of learning that underpins effective curriculum implementation... and what this means for service providers within the sector.

Jon Tait, Director of School Improvement and Deputy CEO, Areté Learning Trust.

10.45 – Exploring climate and sustainability as part of a broad and balanced curriculum and the evolution of the new GCSE in Natural History.

Tim Oates CBE, Group Director of Assessment Research & Development, Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

Christine Özden, Global Director of Climate Education, Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

11.30 – A Journey into Space – What makes an effective learning environment in which to deliver the curriculum? Sponsored by Gratnells Ltd.

Terry White, Chair, Association for Learning Environments.

Mel Shute, Headteacher, Trumpington Park Primary School.

Anna Patuck, Teacher, Trumpington Park Primary School.

Bhavini Pandya, Co-Director, Planning Learning Spaces in Practice Gratnells Ltd.



12.15 – Lunch and networking.

1.30 – Exploring the role of technology in exams and assessment. How do we assess the curriculum – now and in the future? Findings from Pearson’s research on digital assessment.

Hayley White, Assessment Director, Pearson.

2.15 – What have changes to the Early Years framework meant for curriculum provision?

Carol Shephard, Head of Early Years, KCS.

Zoe Raven, Chief Executive, Acorn Early Years Foundation.

Michael Freeston, Director of Quality Improvement, Early Years Alliance.

Carole Jacques, Headteacher, Earlham Nursery School, Earlham Early Years Centre, Norwich.

3.00 – Refreshments and networking.

3.20 – Wellbeing across the curriculum – how is it being effectively resourced? Sponsored by youhq.

Jon Ford, Founder and CEO, Life on Time Ltd.

Jonathan Baggaley, CEO, PSHE Association.

Kelly Hannagh, Mental Health Consultant, Mind Work Matters.

Nadim Saad, Founder and Chief Happiness Officer, The Happy Confident Company.

Phil Berry, Assistant Headteacher (Curriculum), St. Martin's School, Discovery Educational Trust.



4.00 – Closing remarks from the Chair.

Jane Harley, Former Policy and Partnerships Director, Oxford Education.

SPEAKERS



Jane Harley

Jane Harley was, until January, Policy and Partnership Director at Oxford University Press for UK Education, and actively involved in the Oxford Language Reports, focusing on narrowing the word gap. She has nearly 40 years' publishing experience in primary and secondary education, print and digital, both for the UK and overseas and believes passionately in the importance of supporting teachers with the best pedagogies, programmes and professional development to improve learning and engagement. Jane has been Chair of the Education Publishers Council, and a member of the BESA Executive Committee. She has just retired, but continues to take a deep interest in the world of education.



Jon Tait

Jon is Deputy CEO and Director of School Improvement at the Areté Learning Trust comprising of three large secondary schools and sixth form colleges in North Yorkshire. Prior to this role, Jon had worked in three different and diverse North East Schools for 20 years, with 15 of those being as a school leader in various senior leadership positions. Most recently as Deputy Headteacher and Director of Teaching School, Jon was responsible for the strategic leadership of teaching and learning, professional development, initial teacher training and external school to school support. Jon has significant experience in contributing to system leadership via his extensive professional network of education professionals around the world. Jon's innovative approach to school and organisational leadership challenges the habits that have gone before, looking at ways to improve education through change management. In 2017 Jon graduated with his NPQH (National Professional Qualification for Headteachers) and then in 2021 he completed his NPQEL (National Professional Qualification for Executive Leadership).

Jon is also an education author and speaker, having four books published on areas ranging from classroom pedagogy, educational research and school leadership; together with regularly speaking at national and international conferences about all aspects of education. Jon delivered a talk on the world famous TED stage in 2015, talking about 'The Future of Learning'. Additionally, Jon has also been recognised by Microsoft as one of their Microsoft Innovative Educator Experts, showcasing how technology can pave the way to advances in student learning and organisational efficiencies. With his digital skills, Jon can work with teachers, leaders and organisations anywhere in the world and across multiple time zones to provide bespoke support, advice and professional learning.



Tim Oates CBE

Tim Oates is Group Director of Assessment Research and Development at Cambridge Assessment, focusing on national and international research on assessment and measurement. In 2014, he was chair of the Expert Panel for Review of the National Curriculum in England. He has published widely on assessment and curriculum issues, and routinely provides briefings and advice to UK and other governments, and the OECD. He is Fellow of Churchill College Cambridge and in 2015 received a CBE for services to education.

Christine Özden

Christine Özden is recently appointed as Global Director, Climate Education, at Cambridge University Press & Assessment. She took up the role after almost 4 years as Chief Executive of Cambridge Assessment International Education. She is a member of the Environment Governance Board of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, and also sponsors the colleague-run Environment & Sustainability Network.



Christine has spent all her career in the Education sector, providing products and services to schools, universities and ministries of education, with a particular focus on publishing and assessment in international education. Partly as a result of a number of general management roles she held with Pearson, and as the founding Managing Director of the OxfordAQA joint venture between Oxford University Press and AQA, Christine has worked in different educational contexts in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Africa, and lived in Vietnam, the United Arab Emirates, Syria, Turkey and the UK. Christine has an MA in Classical Arabic and Turkish from the University of Edinburgh and an MBA from Warwick University.

Terry White

Terry has a passion for excellence in the design of schools and environments for learning. He is the co-author of Planning Learning Spaces and a founder of the Cambridge Centre for Learning Spaces Innovation. He has been a headteacher and principal of schools and has worked in both the public and private sectors of education. He was a director of WSP Buildings and Management Solutions and a founding director of both Edunova and EdunovaSpace.



He has been the lead educational design advisor on many successful BSF schemes and has delivered the design and implementation of over 50 schools, academies and pathfinder projects in the UK, Europe and internationally.

He works internationally to ensure there is a strong emphasis on learning and teaching and improving educational outcomes when planning, designing and remodelling schools. He is a contributor to a number educational and design publications and Chair of the Association for Learning Environments Europe.

He is a co-director of the Planning Learning Spaces in Practice Team. The team have developed a new participatory design framework to collaboratively work with schools, learners and all stakeholders to ensure they are the creators not just the consumers of the spaces and places in which they learn.

Anna Patuck

Anna is a class teacher at Trumpington Park Primary School where she leads science. She graduated from Cambridge University with a BA in mathematics and education in 2007 before completing her PGCE. She began her teaching career as a middle school mathematics teacher in a large multicultural school in Bedford. After gaining a Master's degree in international perspectives of Mathematics education, she moved into the primary sector where she led mathematics for several years. During this time she trained new teachers in primary mathematics pedagogy.



Mel Shute

Mel spent the early part of her career working in large, urban, multicultural schools in London and Bristol. Having an interest in pedagogy, she moved on to work in a range of independent, international schools in Gran Canaria, Venice and Munich, focusing on teaching children with EAL and embedding enquiry-based learning approaches.



She became a facilitator for the International Baccalaureate, specialising in pedagogy in the primary years and working across the Europe, Middle East and Africa region. In 2011, Mel returned to mainstream education in the UK, becoming the Headteacher at Trumpington Park Primary, part of Meridian Trust, when it opened as a new school in September 2017. She has enjoyed the challenge of growing a school within a new and evolving community.

Mel has led on facilitation of practitioners in many areas of pedagogy and enjoys creating and leading a wide range of professional development opportunities for primary practitioners at all stages of their career.

Bhavini Pandya

Bhavini Pandya is Co-Director of Planning Learning Spaces in Practice (PLSiP). The project is a Grattells initiative which brings together educationalists and school architects to pool their collective expertise and inspire the design and creation of more intelligent learning spaces. Bhavini has a long history in the teaching profession as both a teaching assistant and a teacher. Over a ten-year period, she was a mentor to trainee teachers and fulfilled leadership roles for coordinating both Science and R.E.



In 2020, Bhavini created the PLSiP Design Framework that was put together to support schools going through the redesign, refurbishment, or remodelling of their existing learning spaces. Bhavini has worked with schools in England, Northern Ireland, and New Zealand to help create exciting places in which students learn and teachers teach and inspire.

Hayley White

As the Assessment Director at Pearson, Hayley is responsible for the assessment of all Pearson Edexcel GCSEs, GCSEs and International qualifications, which sees over 12,000 teacher examiners determine more than 5 million learner results each summer. Her remit extends from the strategic management and operational delivery of all assessment activities from the creation of question papers to the setting of grade boundaries. Hayley has a proven track record of excellent operational delivery; ensuring – without exception – 100% completion of delivery activities within a highly regulated environment. She has extensive experience of organisational development, change management, and maximising business development opportunities. Hayley is responsible for supporting teachers in their understanding of the assessment approach – ultimately ensuring confidence in student results.





Carol Shepherd

Carol Shepherd, is the Head of Early Years at KCS Education and has close to 20 years' experience working in the education resources sector. She has worked with TTS, RM Resources and Findel Education before moving to KCS 18 month ago. Her experience spans product development, marketing, purchasing and sales within the UK and International markets. She believes that the key to all those business functions is developing a strong relationship with the teachers and practitioners that ultimately lean on the products supplied to deliver wonderful and varied teaching. Carol has been Chair of the Curriculum SIG and a member of the BESA Executive Committee.



Carole Jacques

Carole Jacques, Headteacher Earlham Nursery School, Norwich

I have worked within the education sector of over 30 years. I have had the privilege of leading Earlham Nursery School for past 6 years. Over this time, we worked tirelessly to develop our community links and establish a relevant, creative and inspirational curriculum for our children.

Prior to taking up this post I worked in the primary sector, in Thurrock, Islington, Nottingham and Barking and Dagenham, at international schools in Germany and Thailand, and within a local authority as an Early Years Inspector.

I passionately believe the experiences young children are offered have a lasting and profound impact on their future choices and life chances, this belief drives my determination to champion the early years sector and ensure our youngest children have access to a wide and varied range of cultural experiences, which will broaden not only their lives but also that of their families.



Zoe Raven

Zoe Raven is the founder and CEO of Acorn Early Years, a charitable social enterprise that runs 17 day nurseries in Milton Keynes, Northants and Bedfordshire, as well as out-of-school clubs, holiday playschemes, forest schools and training. She started the organisation in 1989 with a single nursery and it has grown steadily since then, and now employs over 400 people, with a turnover of £9m. Zoe has been an active leader within the early years sector for many years, and is also nearing the completion of a doctorate in the school of business and management at Royal Holloway, University of London.

Michael Freeston

Michael has worked for the Alliance for 19 years. He coordinates all aspects of the Alliance's quality improvement support to the early years sector, including policy and procedures development, inclusion, workforce development and training. He also represents the Alliance on a range of policy forums with DfE, Ofsted and NCFE/Cache. He develops and delivers provision for international partners, most recently in China and Azerbaijan.



His background is in adult community education working as a further education lecturer and then working for The Workers' Educational Association between 1995 and 2003. He holds a BA (Hons) in Law and Politics, a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (FE) and a Masters Degree in Education Policy.

He was a member of the Expert Panel advising the Nutbrown review of early years qualifications and workforce development in 2012 and member of the Advisory Group for the Children's Workforce Development Council for England until its demise in April 2012. He was a Trustee of CACHE (Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education) until July 2015.

Kelly Hannaghan

Kelly is the Mental Health and Wellbeing Consultant for The Education People and the Director of her business Mind Work Matters Ltd.

Kelly puts wellbeing and safeguarding at the heart of education. She is an award-winning motivational speaker and school improvement advisor, published author and founder of 'Family Matters' empowerment programme.



Kelly has worked systemically throughout her experiences in working as a Senior Mental Health Lead and Designated Safeguarding Lead with some of the most challenging communities, by supporting families and pastoral staff, with preventative and early help measures in education. Kelly develops the strategies to help people thrive from adversities.

She has recently led on the DfE Wellbeing for Education Return project and leads on education development processes creating outstanding outcomes and awards for many organisations. Recognised by the DfE, NCB, The Anna Freud Centre and The Education Support Partnership as a lead influencer of mental health and wellbeing in education.

Phil Berry

Phil has worked in education for over 20 years. Originally trained as a PE teacher he has also been passionate about the mental and physical well being of young people. He has been in senior management for over 9 years and during this time he has had pastoral, curriculum and other whole school responsibilities. Phil has led on a number of school wide projects which have focused on such areas as developing the culture and ethos of the school, student progress and behaviour for learning.



Jon Ford

Founder & CEO Life on Time Ltd – creators of youHQ



Jon is a performance and wellbeing coach and founder of Life on Time Ltd – the creators of youHQ an international school wellbeing application. Jon is a qualified sport and exercise scientist, trained in psychotherapy and hypnotherapy and has over 20 years of business experience. Jon has dedicated the last 5 years of his life towards developing a digital platform, which helps schools support their students wellbeing, mental health and personal development.

Highlight those in need. Inspire everyone to succeed.

youHQ is the only digital platform to safeguard whole school wellbeing and provide students and teachers with the tools to flourish.

We are uniquely changing the way schools care for their people by incorporating effective mood and wellbeing monitoring with therapeutic CBT-style tools.

Our dual platform allows the student to self-reflect and pastoral staff to nurture and support. The net result is stronger, more meaningful relationships between pupils and teachers; a deeper connection to school communities; and increased student self-awareness making for more robust, successful learners.

Jonathan Baggaley

Jonathan is Chief Executive of the PSHE Association, leading efforts to ensure every pupil receives high-quality PSHE education. PSHE education is the school curriculum subject which covers the knowledge, skills and attributes all pupils need to develop in order to keep themselves healthy and safe and to prepare them for life and work, and PSHE lessons cover some of the most pressing issues facing young people today. Jonathan led the Association's campaign for statutory PSHE, which helped lead to the new requirements for Relationships, Sex and Health education and is working closely with government and wider stakeholders to ensure they achieve their transformative potential. Jonathan has worked at a national level in education for many years, bringing particular expertise in educating young people about risks, harms and opportunities of online technologies.



Prior to joining the PSHE Association he was Head of Education at the Child Exploitation and Online Protection centre (now part of the National Crime Agency). Whilst at CEOP he led Thinkuknow, an online safety education programme used with over three million children annually. He has trained thousands of teachers, social workers and police officers in the UK and internationally in how to educate young people about online technologies. He is currently a member of the UK Council for Child Internet Safety Digital Resilience group and sits on the DCMS Media Literacy Taskforce Steering Board. He is Vice Chair of the National Youth Jazz Collective.

Nadim Saad

Nadim Saad is a Parenting Coach, father of three, motivational speaker and best-selling author of seven books, including the highly acclaimed Kids Don't Come With a Manual and the Happy Confident Me Journal series.

Nadim has worked with renowned therapists and teachers, drawing from the latest research in child psychology and neuroscience to develop a parenting and whole school wellbeing programme that's already changed the lives of over 100K families.

With 4 nationalities and having lived in 8 countries on three continents, Nadim has an extensive overview of the different parenting and educational systems. In all these places, and across the numerous countries where he has worked, he's identified the same flaws in the education system and in the way children are parented.

Children are still not taught the life skills and emotional skills that they need to navigate this ever-complex world and the education system is failing to teach them how to deal with the increasing pressures they face.

Nadim founded the Happy Confident Company and the Happy Confident Movement, to develop cutting edge programmes and products for children, schools and families to better prepare them for this new world.

He is a regular speaker on parenting themes for leading companies such as Google, HSBC, Barclays and Morgan Stanley, and he has been featured in leading media publications including Sky News, The Sunday Times, The Telegraph, The Guardian and the BBC.

He holds an MSc and an MBA from INSEAD.



"We find that the more we work with BESA the more we get out. I particularly enjoy the networking events, as this gives me a chance to talk to a number of colleagues in the same industry. The research reports are second-to-none, and the lobbying work that BESA do on behalf of members is influential and makes a practical difference to government policy."

Scholastic

"As a trade organisation, BESA is at the forefront of understanding and supporting its members' needs, whether that is through offering training and advice through a varied range of seminars and events; as a rich information source, keeping ever close to the market and sharing valuable research around funding and the changing school landscape; or importantly in these times, as an influencer, lobbying and negotiating with government on the issues that matter to the organisations it works with."

Oxford University Press

"BESA membership gives us instant external credibility as a company who've passed the entry criteria and accepted the Code Of Conduct, which is especially important as disruptor brand in international markets."

Learning Ladders

"BESA is the home for all educational suppliers, small or big. Being an authorised BESA member is a well earned qualification for business ethic and quality of service in the education sector. Not only does the association provide bespoke CPD opportunities for members, but also leads us through rough waters when the market and economic climate are volatile. I think it's safe, as an educational supplier, to follow BESA and Caroline's leadership as our North Star."

Plum Innovations