SOUTH WEST TEACHING AND LEARNING CONFERENCE 2015

ASPIRATION   INNOVATION

SOUTH WEST ACADEMIC TRUST

MOTIVATION   COLLABORATION

THURSDAY 11 JUNE

Presenters are from SWAT schools, partner schools and the university

THE UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

10am-3.30pm

For Further details contact:
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#swatconf15
@swatconf
www.swat.education

Cost: £20

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

Key Note Speaker

Dan Roberts
Deputy Headteacher, Devonport High School for Boys

Dan Roberts is a self-professed "geek" who has always loved school…and is sometimes known as "The Chicken Man" (a moniker bestowed on him by his students during an especially unique class project called "Recharge the Battery"). As he explained to the TED London crowd, "Learning actually saved me several times as I was growing up." Luckily for his students, Dan has kept that love of learning, and it translates into his teaching each day. So much so, he has won numerous national and international teaching awards, most recently the ICT Visionary in Education at the TES Schools Awards.

Dan has held various positions of responsibility within secondary schools, including Deputy Headteacher at Saltash.net Community School in Cornwall and Headteacher at the International School of Seychelles. Dan is currently Deputy Headteacher at Devonport High School for Boys in Plymouth, where he will become the new head from September.

His 5 minutes of fame was in 2009 when he advised the Obama administration as part of their educational technology reform 2020 plan.

Session Outline

'Being brave in a climate of change'

With technology developing at a phenomenal rate, the increasing economic pressure and the continuous fluctuations in the education system the future for schools and learners provides a recipe for deep frustration. However in this period of change there is the potential for an abundance of creativity, innovation and collaboration through technology. Those schools that have brave leadership, teachers, learners and ultimately a brave community that are willing to take risks in this climate of change will be those that will continue to achieve success. In this Key Note speech Dan will share some of his views in relation to:

- Exploring specific creative and innovative examples of how technology is impacting on learning.
- Sharing good practice on the ways of improving access to all.
- Successful stories of improving the way that groups of students use digital technology.
- How are school leaders taking advantage of technology to improve the success of their school?
- How are teachers using technology to revolutionise their professional development?
- Whose responsibility is it to educate young people and the wider community to address the digital literacy gap?

Student Research Presentations

This is an exciting addition to the programme for this year, giving students the opportunity take the lead in this session.   Students from a variety of SWAT schools have worked throughout the academic year in collaboration to research a variety of issues linked directly to teaching and learning from their perspective.

Within this session delegates will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of workshops, including areas such as:

• The use of mobile technology and technology addiction
• Catering for the most able students
• The use of data and what it means to students and parents

These interactive sessions will give delegates the opportunity to hear first-hand the impact of a range of school improvement projects that have been implemented by schools within the trust. This will give a platform for students to discuss their own views about the successes and limitations that they have experienced and to propose ways in which their experiences of those projects can be used by delegates to develop learning strategies within their own schools.

It is anticipated that these will be informal and interactive sessions, enabling delegates and students to have open and honest discussions about the effectiveness of the teaching and learning areas presented.

Further information about the content of each student research presentation will be made available on the day. Delegates will then be free to choose their preferred session.

Workshop Choices

Please choose ONE from each of the following THREE SECTIONS (Motivation, Innovation and Aspiration). We appreciate that some workshops will be oversubscribed and will do our utmost to meet your needs.

WORKSHOP A – 'MOTIVATION'

1.   **A School Improvement Story - The Journey from Special Measures to 'Inspirational' - Paul Mckeown (The Bishop of Winchester Academy)**

Mention the word Bournemouth, and immediately images of golden beaches and long summer days will spring to mind. Nothing could be further from the truth for some of Bournemouth's younger residents. For children within the catchment area for The Bishop of Winchester Academy, life is far from the easy going image of one of the UKs top holiday destinations. That was certainly the case a few short years ago before a quite remarkable transformation took place.

Children now willingly stay at school for more hours than any other local school. The school has become the most popular school in Bournemouth. Ofsted has described many features of the Academy as 'Outstanding.' This session will tell the story so far focusing on strategies to effect embedded and sustained improvement.

2.   **"Bringing the real world into learning" Gary King and Phil Ruse (Tavistock College)**

Bringing the real world into the new curriculum. How can we strike the balance between the challenging academic demands of the new curriculum, whilst preparing our students for the real world and not just the skills they require to pass examinations?

3.   **"Less is more - How to build a resilient learner through problem solving".   Joe Whiteman (Lipson The Co-operative Academy)**

How to set up and introduce self- organised learning environments (SOLES) in mathematics to KS3 students to build resilience for later years. Looking into the work of Sigata Mitra on SOLES and promoting growth mindset through language used in the classroom.

4.   **Motivating Year 9 - Valérie Bailey (Torquay Boys' Grammar School)**

Students decide on the language they will continue with to GCSE level 6 months into year 9. Hence for the second part of that year, teachers find themselves with 50-70% of students having decided that they will not continue with French the following year. For years, apathy, low attainment and disruptive behaviours became the daily portion of teachers in the French department at that time. We therefore decided to introduce a competition and the award of a language certificate in order to attempt to raise interest and end-of-year grades while communicating enthusiasm within the French lessons for year 9s. My presentation will outline how we delivered this and the inherent analysis of results.

5. **A Beginner's Guide to Solo Taxonomy in the Classroom - Nicola Bacon (The Axe Valley Community College), Claire Swallow (The Kings School, Ottery St Mary) & Sam Banks (Colyton Grammar School)**

As part of a cross-school trio research project for the Jurassic Coast Teaching Schools Alliance, we investigated whether SOLO taxonomy was useful in three highly contrasting classes (D and T, Art, and French). Convinced that it can be a useful approach to developing students' understanding of the learning process, we will present a lively, interactive and hopefully illuminating session for the "absolute beginner" in SOLO.

6. **Developing discussion skills in the classroom to motivate young people into action! - Nikki Pitman (Carter Community School)**

This session will look at practical methods that can be used in the classroom to develop young people's discussion skills in order to challenge their perceptions, build their confidence and motivate them to become active participants within their classroom, the school community and the wider community.
With a focus on discussion skills, our students have been motivated and empowered to involve themselves in debates, questioning leaders within our community and involving themselves in public speaking. The power of words has motivated our students to want to make a stand and share their voice!

7. **Filling in the blanks: using action research to support the teaching of grammar at Key Stage 3 - Louise Everett-   Lindsay (Devonport High School for Boys)**

Grammar is an increasingly popular component of the new curriculums and exam syllabuses in English. Many teachers can lack confidence in this area for a number of different reasons, including historical changes to educational policy. In an attempt to tackle this challenge, a pair of English teachers at DHSB set out to fill in a few blanks this year...

This session offers an overview of how the application of action research can benefit both practitioners and students. Current theories and pedagogical approaches will be shared, along with project findings. Through exercises and activities we will explore own grammatical knowledge and generate practical ideas for application across the curriculum

8. **The 4Rs plus a little bit extra – Sophie Cape (Torquay Academy)**

An interactive workshop on how relationships, reflection, resources and routines can inspire students to have the desire to achieve better things.   You will leave with an insight into how we as an Academy have turned our students' attitudes around as well as resources to start using straight away.

WORKSHOP B – 'INNOVATION'

1.   **One2one Technology and its Impact on Education – Sarah Howgate (Churston Ferrrers Grammar School)**

An exploration of the impact technology has had on the teaching and learning of year 10 students, involved in the one2one Chromebook pilot, at Churston Ferrers Grammar School.

Churston invested in Chromebooks for the whole of year 10 in September 2014 as a one year pilot to investigate the educational benefits this provision could offer students and teachers. The pilot has been a success and received an enthusiastic response from students and staff. This presentation will focus on: setting up the pilot and financial considerations; student and teacher responses; impact in the classroom; online marking and sharing documents with students and staff; some initial feedback on data; technical issues; the future.

2.   **Searching for Indiana Jones – Sandra Mitchell and Neil Williams (Paignton Community and Sports Academy)**

Raising the aspirations of Year 7 History students at PCSA by retracing the footsteps of local explorer, Percival Fawcett.

This workshop will begin by identifying the barriers to success faced by some young learners. We will explore differentiated approaches to teaching local history and share our experience of motivating Year 7 students of all abilities to investigate the extraordinary life of the man who inspired the legend of Indiana Jones.

3.   **The opportunity of A level Reform - Chris Harris (Colyton Grammar School)**

As a result of Colyton's unique three-year VI Form, teachers at the school found themselves in the unusual position of having to implement new A-Level specifications a year ahead of most schools. With this practical experience in mind, this interactive session will pose five key questions that departments might like to consider as they finalise their A-Level programmes before offering a range of innovative solutions to each of the five talking points

4.   **Learning Commons' - Ben Forte (Devonport High School for Boys)**

How you can turn your traditional Library into a technology enhanced learning space? Ben Forte has spent time researching and creating spaces and software to inspire students. In this session he will share his ideas for creating the perfect atmosphere, behaviour and culture.

5.   Inspiring Apps for Education - Alex Makepeace (Parkstone Grammar School)

A look at 5 of the best free web apps that could be used by all teachers – any platform (Windows, Mac, Linux, Android), any subject, any level of ICT knowledge. These websites can save you time, effort and improve your teaching by making learning more interactive, improve presentations, develop exam answers and the 'best of the rest'.

6.   A different approach to whole school literacy - Helena Baker-Thornton (Torquay Girls' Grammar School)

Looking at the challenges and successes of introducing a whole school literacy scheme with a twist. Through use of media techniques we aim to bring grammar back to life, overcoming the feelings of fear amongst staff and students by challenging the culture grammatical elitism and making literacy accessible and memorable.

7.   Developing the European Dimension - the TGGS experience - Gordon Neighbour
**   (Torquay Girls Grammar School)**

There is a wealth of funding and opportunities for developing links with schools in the European Economic Area through the Erasmus+ programme. Using his own experiences, Gordon will show you the processes involved in developing links to other schools and how this can benefit teaching and learning and the experiences of the students. Gordon has participated in four European training events and TGGS is the lead school for the "TeSS - Developing Seismology - Teaching Seismology in Schools" project for which we were awarded €96500 to work with 3 other schools in Europe.

8.   Empowering Partnerships, Enabling engagement – Professor Debra Myhill (The University of Exeter)

EPPE PROJECT IMPACT GOALS:

•   Impact on teachers' capacity to bring contemporary research into the classroom.
•   Impact on ECR's (Early Career Researchers) skills in communicating research to young people.
•   Impact on ECR's career development and understanding of the work environment.
•   Impact on students' attitudes towards Science, Maths, Engineering, Economics and Philosophy.
•   Impact on students' personal aspirations towards university education.

WORKSHOP C – 'ASPIRATION'

1.   Running a successful Teaching and Learning Group in school – Jerry Rogers
(Bishops Wordsworth Grammar School)

How can we make a whole school impact in teaching and learning? This was the question that we, like many other schools, struggled with a few years ago. The initial outcome was the setting up of a Teaching and Learning Group. The purpose of this session will be to share some of the ideas and strategies that this body has helped to implement. Some of these may be familiar but there may be 'a golden nugget' of an idea that you haven't tried yet.

2.   Teaching & Learning - It does what it says on the tin. - Stuart Palmer
(The Bishop of Winchester Academy Brand)

Teaching and Learning are at the heart of all that we do at TBOWA. A culture of 'High Expectations and No Excuses' drives our T&L improvement agenda. This is built around a set of consistent and distinctive practices that are the 'TBOWA Brand'. This has been critical in ensuring sustained improvement leading Ofsted to describe many of the school's features as 'Outstanding.'

3.   Aspiring Head of Department? How to improve your chances - Claire Eales-White
(Plymouth High School for Girls)

•   What is the role of a Head of Department?
•   What makes a successful Head of Department?
•   How to devise an effective Departmental Action Plan.

4.   Personalising the Curriculum - Juliette Baldwin (Avon Valley College)

Expressive arts at Avon Valley is fully personalised to the students skills. This workshop will explore the personalisation of level 3 qualifications to maximise student performance.
A general discussion will form part of the session to explore how a range of qualifications and subjects can be personalised.

5.   Using Educational Research to Inspire - Dan Bishop (South Wilts Grammar School)

Why and how should schools engage with educational research? This session looks at how schools can use educational research to make an impact on students' progress, and deepen students' learning, and enjoyment of, learning.

6.   Self-awareness = Self-improvement: The move towards coaching as a vehicle for self and school improvement – Steve Shields (Bournemouth School for Girls)

After a review of our academic mentoring programme we discovered that it was working just fine for 50% of the mentees. So what wasn't working for the other half?

In this session we will be outlining our journey towards supporting those who knew where they were going wrong, but didn't know how to put it right and how we found out that the staff and the students had lots in common when it came to seeking self-improvement.

This session may involve a live speed-coaching demonstration dependent on brave volunteers. Not suitable for the faint hearted.

7.   Pupil Premium: from flagship policy to local provision - Dave Butcher (Devonport High School for Boys)

A brief summary of DHSB's recent journey and an exploration & sharing of different strategies.

8.   Beyond Conflict: Working with business to inspire innovative approaches to learning - Dr Sue Prince (The University of Exeter)

This workshop focuses on mentoring relationships and the benefits for local organisations and students with a focus on conflict resolution as the theme for the session. It will give examples of university projects where students have been mentored by local organisations on curriculum-based projects and extra-curricular projects and the impacts on students in terms of academic and experiential learning and skills development. It will look at the benefits of this approach for schools in terms of encouraging analytical approaches to learning.   The workshop will be interactive with the theme of contributing to a dialogue about innovative teaching / learning methods.

SWAT Teaching & Learning Conference June 2015
Programme for the Day

Timing	Length	Detail
9:30-10:00	30mins	Registration & Coffee
10:00 - 10:35	5mins	Introduction - Martin Swannell SWAT Coordinator Chairman
10:35 - 11:05	30mins	Keynote Address - Dan Roberts Deputy Headteacher DHSB
11:05 -11:15	10mins	Questions - Chaired by Kieran Earley Headteacher DHSB SWAT Headteacher Chairman
11:25 - 12:05	40mins	Workshop A – 'Motivation'
12:15 - 12:45	30mins	Student Research Presentations – 'Collaboration'
12.45 - 13.30	45mins	Buffet Lunch
13.30 – 13.55	25mins	Keynote Address – University of Exeter Student Ambassadors 'The transition to university – a student
13.55 – 14.00	5 mins.	Questions - Chaired by Bob Owers Headteacher CFGS
14.50 - 15.30	40mins	Workshop C – 'Aspiration'
15.30		Networking & Departure

To book this event - go to

http://tinyurl.com/SWATconf2015