

LEARNING TOGETHER: DIALOGIC APPROACHES TO SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AND CULTURAL CHANGE. EXPERIENCES FROM CHINA AND THE UK

- A conference for educational leaders (senior and middle managers): in schools, universities and educational organisations.
- Mounted by the Development Education Centre South Yorkshire (DECSY) in association with Lifeworlds Learning.
- Date: Friday 19 June.
- Venue : St Mary's Conference Centre, Sheffield
(10 minute walk from the railway station)

Conference Aims

- To explore issues relating to:
 - the processes of inter-cultural learning;
 - critical and creative thinking across the curriculum;
 - comparative pedagogies within and between Shanghai and UK schools;
 - national and school-based curricula;
 - leadership for cultural change/school improvement; and
 - teachers as creative professionals and members of learning communities.
- The newly published book '**Developing Global Schools in China: Learning Together**' will be used, in part, as a catalyst in the consideration of these aims.

Conference Programme

10am – 10.20am

- Welcome to the conference.
Professor Hu Wei, Xiehe Education Group (via Skype), Trevor Higginbottom, Xiehe Education Group, Helen Griffin, DECSY, Tom Franklin, 'Think Global', A representative from the Geographical Association and Rob Bowden, 'Lifeworlds Learning.'

10.20am – 11.15am

- 'Inter-cultural learning and professional exchanges, with China in mind'.
Dr Fran Martin, Senior Lecturer in Education University of Exeter,
Past President of the Geographical Association (2011-2012).

11.15am – 11.35am

- Coffee

11.35am – 12.35pm

- Workshops (conference members make their first choice from the attached list).

12.35 – 1.30pm

- Lunch

1.30pm – 2.00pm

- PISA global competencies 2018: a step in the right direction?
Rob Bowden, Strategic Director and Lead Practitioner, Lifeworlds Learning.

2.00pm – 2.30pm

- ‘Developing Global Schools in China: Learning Together’. A Review.
Professor David Lambert, Professor of Geography Education, Institute of Education, University of London.

2.30pm – 2.40pm

- Tea, refreshments.

2.40pm – 3.20pm

- Dialogic spaces based on themes in the publication. (Eg Approaches to values education in a Xiehe Global School; a whole school approach to developing critical thinking using Philosophy for Children; differentiation in teaching and learning within Xiehe Global Schools; creating cross phase continuity and progression, 2-19 years, in Xiehe’s Global Schools; establishing an early years foundation : the (Xiehe) Fortune International Kindergartens; Chinese and Western perspectives on school leadership; ensuring consistency and excellence in whole school policy development in a Xiehe Global School).

3.20pm – 3.50pm

- Enhancing pupil achievement by sharing best practice on generic teaching and learning processes from both Chinese and UK classrooms.
Trevor Higginbottom HMI, Chief Education Consultant, Xiehe Education Group.

3.50pm – 4.30pm

- Establishing the key outcomes of the conference. Seminar involving the lead speakers in the conference, chaired by Rob Unwin, Education Advisor, DECSY and National Leader (North), Global Learning Programme.

Conference Workshops

- **What is global learning?** Rob Unwin.
- **'Learning Through Values' for whole-school cultural shift** Rob Bowden.
- **Sustainability issues in the curriculum** Clive Belgeonne, Education Advisor, DECSY and National Leader (North), Global Learning Programme.
- **Philosophy for Children and Global Learning** Helen Griffin.
- **The Shanghai/UK International Geography Project** Peter Round, UK Project Co-ordinator and Associate Assistant Head Teacher, Hall Cross Academy, Doncaster.
- **Comparative pedagogies in Chinese and UK mathematical education** Jan Hedge, Education Consultant.
- **Developing China – UK school partnerships: theory and practice** Gemma Eden, Global Learning Co-ordinator, Watercliffe Meadow Primary School, Sheffield and Peter Lambert, Languages Teacher and International Co-ordinator, Woodhouse Grove School, Leeds.
- **Ensuring quality and ongoing school improvement: contrasting approaches in China and the UK** Trevor Higginbottom.

Administrative Issues

- Conference fee (including all refreshments) £120 (student members: £50).
- Please apply for conference membership to: Jane Anderson, Administrator, DECSY, by email (jane@decsy.org.uk) or by phone (0114 241 2751)