

WatsEducation Newsletter

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Useful Links:

watseducation.weebly.com/ Consultancy, CPD, Projects, Resources and more.

watseducationideas.weebly.com/ Inspirational videos and stories for class discussions and assemblies.

www.literacyshed.com/
The Home of Visual Literacy

www.mathematicshed.com/ Resources and ideas for creative mathematics teaching.

www.learnmaker.co.uk/
Getting the most from your mobile technology

Contact Us:

www.watseducation.weebly.com wats.ed.consultancy@gmail.com

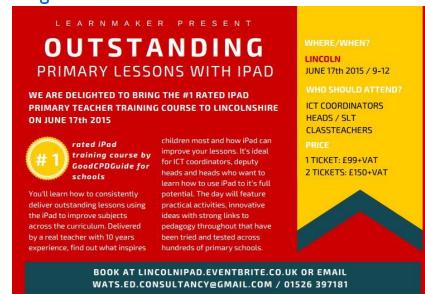
Twitter: @WatsEd

Welcome:

Welcome to the 1st WatsEducation newsletter.

Hopefully this will be a monthly event, sharing some things we are doing and things that I think will be of interest to schools. Nothing too long, but something useful.

Upcoming CPD Events:



At WatsEducation, we try to find the best CPD providers from around the country.

Based in Manchester, LearnMaker are involved in many exciting projects across the country. They are teachers, leaders and innovators. James and Jay work for examining bodies; advise for government forums and lead change in schools; from primary to further education, independent and state.

As Apple, Google and Microsoft Certified Educators they can help maximize the progress and standards children achieve through use of iPads and integrated technology in your school.

If you are interested in this event – use the contact/booking information above.

Early News: Maximising Progress for EAL Pupils:



This is early notice of a possible upcoming project for WatsEducation. A CPD event specifically Secondary Schools looking at how pupils with EAL (English as an Additional Language) are supported after transition from Primary and how their progress can be maximized.

EAL support can sometimes be a tricky area for schools and this event will be designed to help schools build on what they do well and focus on areas which could be developed.

Once finalized course leaders will endeavor to:

- Establish principles and understanding via case studies
- Think about developing and enabling school structures and systems
- Develop a menu of strategies that might be deployed to enhance access, provision and partnerships.

More news on this Lincolnshire event will follow, but if it sounds interesting to you, please drop me an email and I will be able to keep you up to date.

wats.ed.consultancy@gmail.com

OfSted Insights:



I have been searching recent OfSted reports looking for references to specific areas of teaching and learning:

This month 'Outdoor Learning'.

improving lives

I wanted to see what OfSted were making reference to and recommending when inspecting schools.

Below are some selected comments quoted directly from recent reports from around the country. The grading for the school's Overall Effectiveness is shown in (Brackets).

References to 'Outdoor Learning' in Main Findings by OfSted for Primary schools:

- The outdoor learning environment is stimulating, thought provoking and enthralling. (O)
- The school is further extending all-year-round opportunities for outdoor learning and adventure. (O)
- Teachers do not use the outdoor learning space as well as they could to extend children's early learning of number and letter skills. (G)
- A variety of experiences, including outdoor learning, widens pupils' experiences and engages their interest.
- Outdoor learning is limited because the school does not have a suitably enabling outdoor learning environment and covered area. (RI)
- The provision for outdoor learning in the early years is limited and sometimes constrains children's learning and physical development. (RI)
- Outdoor learning activities lack focus and purpose. (RI)

References to 'Outdoor Learning' in Recommendations by OfSted for Primary schools:

- Further develop the school's own environmental area as a resource for outdoor learning. (O)
- Improve the provision for outdoor learning in the early years, to further develop children's physical development. (G)
- Build on the very good use of funding for sport and physical education to extend opportunities for outdoor learning and adventure in all seasons. (G)
- Promote words and numbers in the outdoor learning area. (G)
- Improve the outdoor learning experiences for children so that they have as many opportunities as possible to practise and develop their language and number skills and accelerate their learning. (G)
- Make better use of the extensive school grounds to develop outdoor learning for all. (RI)
- Evaluate the specific needs to develop outdoor learning across all areas devising and implementing plans so that the quality of the outdoor learning environment matches that found in classrooms. (RI)
- Improve the outdoor learning environment in Reception by providing better levels of equipment that stimulate children's imagination and better promote the development of their literacy and numeracy skills (RI)
- Review what is currently provided in the outdoor learning environment to make the best use of what is available and adding to it where necessary, so that it is as good as that provided indoors ensuring that access to outdoor learning is available to children throughout the day. (RI)

While outdoor learning is a small element of teaching and learning, these are just a few of an increasing number of references.

Do any of these quotes match your school?

Can WatsEducation help with your needs, or help you develop your strengths? Get in touch.

"You can't stop a teacher when they want to do something. They just do it."

I.D. Salinger The Catcher in the Rye

Website Updates:



I have recently launched: http://watseducationideas.weebly.com/ On this page you will find a collection of links, videos, stories and images which I think would be useful for discussion starters or for assemblies.

The audience suitability ranges from EYFS to (possibly) KS4. I will add notes as appropriate to each with any suggestions for use, but as with all resources like these there is a massive potential for different interpretations.

Everything on this page is from the source I found it, so please be aware you WILL need to watch and check before using with children!

If you have a resource that you think would fit, please send me a message and I will have a look - you will be credited as a contributor.

> See you next month! Mike (@WatsEd)