

LEARNING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: IMPLICATIONS FOR CLASSROOMS, CURRICULUM AND COMMUNITY

Wednesday 21 March 2007

09:30 to 15:30 (Registration from 08:45)

Jeffery Hall, Institute of Education, University of London

Keynote Speakers:

Parmjit Dhanda MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for
Children, Young People and Families

Alan Dyer, Associate Director of the Centre for Sustainable
Futures, Faculty of Education, University of Plymouth



A one-day conference for
schools and Local
Authority organised by
International Network for
School Improvement

Conference Organisers:
Jane Reed & Alun Morgan
in partnership with
Anna Birney and
Liz Jackson, WWF

Contact: Ranjna Patel
T: 020 7612 6347/6409
E: londoncentre@ioe.ac.uk

We are at a critical point in our history as a global community. Al Gore's recent film 'An Inconvenient Truth' commented optimistically that we have the resources and know-how to hand, but we need to work together on a range of actions that will make a difference.

This conference will take the learning agenda into new but urgent territory. What is it that pupils, teachers and parents need to learn to contribute to making their communities more sustainable? How can schools and classrooms be places where a creative approach to environmental learning is part of their everyday experience?

The Government's response to the consultation on the sustainable schools' strategy says: "our task is to turn a Challenge that may seem overwhelming at times into a movement for innovation and improvement".

This conference aims to:

- Brief you on the Government's Sustainable Schools Strategy for pupils, communities and the environment and how it can help deliver the outcomes of Every Child Matters
- Give you the opportunity to think about what sustainability means for you in your life and professional context
- Enable you to work with other colleagues on one aspect of sustainability in a workshop session
- Begin to put environmental sustainability into your school improvement planning and curriculum frameworks

Conference Programme

09:00 **Registration and coffee**

09:30 Welcome and introductions

09:40 **Sustainable schools for pupils, communities and the environment:
The Government's response**

Parmjit Dhanda MP, Parliamentary under Secretary of State for Children, Young People and Families

10.10 What is sustainability? Whole group enquiry

10:45 **Coffee**

11.15 Participatory workshops on the themes of environmental sustainability and its implications for Classroom, Curriculum and Community run by WWF-UK staff

12.30 **Lunch**

13.30 Reflections on the workshops and day so far

13.50 One of the pupils who is a DfES Climate Change Champion will speak to us (TBC)

14.10 **Putting our visions of a sustainable future into action: How we influence and support the next generation**

Alan Dyer's session will explore what it means to be a child growing up in an age of climate change and ecological adjustment. He will explore the ways in which children currently experience their world, crucial to which is the child's relationship with the adults they relate to and how they share their experience including which stories they tell about the planet and our relationship to it.

15:20 Final plenary

15.30 Close

Keynote Speakers:

Parmjit Dhanda is Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children, Young People and Families. He studied engineering and information technology at Nottingham University and then worked for Connect, the union for professionals, in Communications. He was elected councillor for the London borough of Hillingdon in 1998 prior to becoming an MP. He is MP for Gloucester and has specific responsibilities on which he will report to the Secretary of State. These include 3 PSA targets; a new strategic responsibility for DfES interests in children's health; a new lead responsibility for the Department's parenting strategy and the lead on the DfES interest in the HMT Third Sector Review and in the Voluntary & Community Sector more generally. Parmjit Dhanda is also the department's lead on environmental sustainability.

Alan Dyer is co-director of the Centre for Sustainable Futures at the University of Plymouth. The Centre focuses on Education for Sustainable Development and aims to promote institutional change in the areas of curriculum, campus, community and culture. Alan is an active teacher working with schools, universities, NGOs and environmental centres across the UK and internationally. He is founder and director of Education Earthwise – a university supported charity at the hub of networking environmental education and ESD practice nationally. He is well known as an inspirational teacher and workshop leader and has lectured and facilitated numerous conferences and workshops throughout the world. His recent co-authored book, **Let Your Children Go Back to Nature**, exemplifies experiential approaches to environmental education.

International Network for School Improvement

Originally set up in 1994 by the Institute of Education as the National School Improvement Network, a part of the International School Effectiveness and Improvement Centre, the Network has enjoyed 12 years of very successful operation. It currently has 650 members from a wide range of educational backgrounds both in the UK and overseas. A refocus **on learning** has been taking place in the Network in the last few years.

The Network's purpose is to give a central place to pupil's learning in school improvement. The Network provides regular publications, projects and events that support the professional learning of members by developing and sharing school improvement in creative and innovative ways.

The London Centre for Leadership in Learning

The London Centre for Leadership in Learning has been established by the Institute of Education to provide an important new professional development facility for London's teachers, leaders, lecturers, and other education related professionals.

The Centre brings together and builds on existing internationally renowned provision at the Institute such as the International Network for School Improvement, the London Leadership Centre, the Institute's large INSET programme and the leadership and management section of the School of Educational Foundations and Policy Studies. The Centre will also continue to develop its flourishing consultancy business.

This leaflet is available in alternative formats.

Please contact 020 7612 6347/6409
Email londoncentre@ioe.ac.uk

Cancellation Please note that refunds for cancelled bookings (less 25% to cover administration) will be available when cancellations are received in writing (post/fax/email) not later than seven days prior to the course. There will be no refunds for cancellations made within seven days of the event or failure to attend the course.

Conference Costs: £160 per person for **members** or two participants from the same institution
£190 per person for **non-members** of The International Network for School Improvement
£60 per person for Institute of Education students
£90 for Institute of Education members of staff

Please make cheques payable to the Institute of Education and addressed to the INSI Office (WH 2) at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL

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Application Form

I/We would like to attend the conference *Learning for Environmental Sustainability: Implications for Classrooms, Curriculum and Community on Wednesday 21 March 2007, Jeffery Hall.*

Name
(first name in full please)
LA
Designation
Address
(including post code)
Telephone and email
Signature
Date
Do you have any special access requirements?

Please tick the appropriate column:

<input type="checkbox"/>	I / We enclose a cheque for the full course fee payable to Institute of Education
<input type="checkbox"/>	I / We are member(s) of the International Network for School Improvement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Please invoice for the course fee at the above address
<input type="checkbox"/>	I / We require a vegetarian meal

Course Administration

Please return all application forms to the INSI Office (WH2),
Institute of Education,
20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL