



Cokethorpe
CONFERENCE

Active Thinkers – Active Learners

Wednesday 5 July 2017

Free to Attend

Cokethorpe Conference

Welcome to the 2017 Cokethorpe Conference. Building on last year's hugely successful Growth Mindset conference, the theme for this year is *Active Thinkers - Active Learners*. This topic will be explored with particular attention given to the practicalities of implementing and developing an active approach to learning in primary school classrooms.

Over the course of the day, delegates will attend three interactive sessions and have the opportunity to meet and network with teaching professionals from across Oxfordshire and its neighbouring counties.

Early registration is recommended as the conference was fully booked last year.

Active Thinkers – Active Learners: The *Future-Smart* Approach *C J Simister, MA Cantab MA London PGCE*

Dispositions such as initiative, focus, persistence, originality, curiosity, collaboration, reflectiveness and flexibility of mind, besides being highly valued in the longer term, help children engage in a more active, intelligent and thoughtful way with their learning in school.

During the day's sessions, Jane will look at how schools can foster classroom cultures and teaching practices that give young people the best opportunity to develop the broadest range of helpful character attributes. Her focus is on supporting teachers with simple, effective and inspiring ideas and her training sessions are packed full of lively activities, teaching strategies and examples from the many schools with which she has worked.

About C J Simister

*C J Simister has spent many years gathering and developing a huge range of innovative techniques that teachers and parents can use to help young people develop the intellectual qualities and skills needed to thrive and succeed in school and beyond. She now advises schools around the world, helping them to become Future-Smart® and is a regular speaker at UK and international conferences, presenting at events alongside Professors Carol Dweck and Angela Duckworth. Her third book, *The Character, Grit and Resilience Pocketbook*, was published this April.*



Session 1

A Realistic Approach

'Whatever qualifications you might have, where you are on the character scale will have a big impact on what you can achieve in life' (APPG Report, 2014). But what does character mean? And how can busy schools find time to tackle this on top of everything else?

This session explores a set of 14 valuable dispositions – qualities that research shows underpin academic and longer-term achievement. It offers practical advice about how to encourage these more openly and effectively through creating an approach that is tailored to each school's culture and context.

Delegate Pack

All conference attendees will receive a handout that contains a summary of everything that has been covered in the three sessions and a free copy of Jane's latest book *The Character, Grit and Resilience Pocketbook*. A practical, step-by-step guide to discovering simple strategies that deepen effective learning and foster the future-smart attitudes and skills your pupils will need to flourish in an exciting but unpredictable world.

Session 2

Deepening Your Learning Culture

What can we do to shift pupils from passive to active? To engage them more thoughtfully in their own learning and help them take greater responsibility for their own development and progress?

Illustrated with a wide range of practical ideas and activities, this session demonstrates how teachers can foster qualities like curiosity, initiative, risk-taking, reflectiveness and persistence by creating a classroom and whole school culture that makes these messages impossible to miss.

Session 3

Character and the Curriculum

The final session of the day looks at two simple but effective methods for bringing learning dispositions into day-to-day curriculum lessons, enhancing performance across the achievement spectrum as well as developing essential, longer-term transferable skills.

With lively, interactive teaching strategies to demonstrate these methods, delegates will leave with a framework for developing this further in their own schools. There will be an opportunity at the end to reflect and share questions and ideas.



Conference Programme

The schedule for the day:

9.30am	Registration and Refreshments	1.00pm	Lunch
10.00am	Session 1: A Realistic Approach	2.00pm	Session 3: Character and the Curriculum
11.00pm	Break and Refreshments	3.30pm	Finish
11.30pm	Session 2: Deepening Your Learning Culture		

Register Your Place

The Cokethorpe Conference is free to attend but registration is required by **Friday 23 June 2017**. Early registration is advised. Further details about the Conference, including the online registration form, can be found at:

www.cokethorpe.org.uk/conference2017

How to Find Us

Cokethorpe School is situated two miles south of Witney and ten miles to the west of Oxford. Parking is available onsite.

Cokethorpe School, Witney, OX29 7PU