

AGENDA

TIMINGS:

From	09.00	Registration and arrival refreshments
09.30 - 10.00		Non-member Schools Session
10.15 - 10.45		Time to Think Session One
11.00 - 12.30		National Conference Part One
12.30 - 13.30		Lunch
13.30 - 14.35		National Conference Part Two
14.45 - 15.15		Time to Think Session Two

VENUE

Central Hall
Storey's Gate,
Westminster,
London,
SW1H 9NH

PLANNING THE YEAR AHEAD: THE POWER OF PRECISION

The focus for the conference is precision and the importance of digging deeper and being ever more curious as leaders so that we can sharpen our approach - whether that is in our leadership or our support for pupils. We will be reflecting on the small things that made a difference in some of our partner schools, exploring strategies that we can implement in the next few months and focusing on how we can have precision, so we have impact in the right places. There will be a particular focus on play and what the evidence says about the importance of structured and unstructured play for our pupils.

This is another unmissable conference with lots of takeaways and the opportunity to hear from some great speakers including Amber Ogunsanya-William on the importance of play, Gareth Metcalfe on Problem Solving in Maths, Shareen Williamson on Disciplinary Literacy and Mick Waters on the curriculum through the lens of a child.

We look forward to a day of celebrating what has been achieved and looking at the year ahead together.



AGENDA

NATIONAL CONFERENCE PART ONE: 11.00 – 12.30

- Drumba
- Welcome
- The importance of play for our children, with **Amber Ogunsanya-William**
- Education Trends from 10,000 teachers, with **Teacher Tapp**
- Making a good start with new parents
- Planning with precision
- Close of part one

NATIONAL CONFERENCE PART TWO: 13.30 – 14.35

- Welcome back
- Being precise about stretch and challenge for all
- Stretch and challenge for all in writing
- Disciplinary Literacy, with **Shareen Wilkinson**
- Curriculum review and Ofsted update
- Our curriculum through the lens of a child, with **Mick Waters**
- Close of part two

TIME TO THINK SESSIONS

BEYOND THE BELL: HOW LUNCHTIME PLAY EXTENDS THE CURRICULUM AND SUPPORTS BEHAVIOUR (AM ONLY)

In this session, a school leader shares how a strategic focus on outdoor play — grounded in inclusion, autonomy, and purposeful risk — has improved behaviour, enhanced wellbeing, and strengthened the wider curriculum. Discover how reimagining playtimes through a whole-school approach has transformed lunchtime into a rich opportunity for learning, creativity, and social development.

PLANNING WITH PRECISION IN SCIENCE (AM ONLY)

This session explores effective diagnosis in science. What strategies can we use to determine what children can and cannot do? How can we incorporate the outcomes into our planning of future learning?

USING THE PiXL OFFER TO SHARPEN YOUR WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH TO PUPIL WELLBEING (AM ONLY)

At a time when pupil wellbeing has never been more critical, this interactive session will equip school leaders with evidence-based strategies and practical frameworks to create lasting positive change in their schools. **Key takeaways from this session will include:**

- Evidence-based understanding of current wellbeing challenges in schools,
- A practical, step-by-step framework for implementing whole-school wellbeing approaches
- A deeper understanding of how belonging drives wellbeing outcomes
- Familiarity with PiXL's wellbeing resources and how to use them effectively
- Confidence to lead wellbeing transformation in your school

LEADING THE 'WRITE' WAY: TRANSFORMING WRITING OUTCOMES AT TEMPLE HILL (AM ONLY)

This session outlines Temple Hill's approach to raising writing standards through effective English leadership. This session will explore the key strategies, staff development, and collaboration which led to improved writing outcomes, including challenges faced and practical steps taken to shape effective, sustainable change.

FROM DIAGNOSIS TO CURRICULUM PLANNING (AM ONLY)

In this Time to Think session you will hear from **Mark Thornley**, HT at Heathfield Primary school. With demonstrable impact on pupil progress and outcomes, Heathfield have embedded the PiXL diagnostic assessment approach across the school; using diagnosis of assessments with precision to support teaching and to inform curriculum planning and development.

SUPPORTING WRITING IN THE EARLY YEARS (AM ONLY)

Join EYFS Lead and Gold Winner of the Teacher of the Year in a Primary School at the Pearson 2024 National Teaching Awards, **Natalie Poornomansy**, alongside Nursery Lead, **Emily Hutt**, for an inspiring session that aims to transform how we think about early writing development.

Discover proven approaches to writing in the Early Years that have delivered remarkable results for young learners at Outwood Primary Academy Woodlands. This session explores how effective writing instruction is fundamentally rooted in oracy and play, seamlessly woven into an engaging early years environment that nurtures natural curiosity and expression.

Our expert speakers will share practical strategies and real classroom examples demonstrating how purposeful play, rich oral language experiences and thoughtfully designed learning environments create the perfect conditions for children to flourish as confident writers from their earliest years.

DISCIPLINARY LITERACY, WITH SHAREEN WILKINSON (AM & PM)

In this engaging session, Shareen will share key insights from her latest book, *'Disciplinary Literacy in Primary Schools'*. She will delve into the crucial role of talk and reading in fostering deep learning across the subject disciplines. Participants will explore how oral language is used distinctively in science, history, and geography, and how these differences impact on reading and speaking approaches. What does it mean to read, talk and write like a scientist, historian or geographer in the primary classroom?

CREATING INDEPENDENT MATHEMATICAL PROBLEM-SOLVERS, WITH GARETH METCALFE (AM & PM)

We want all children to grow as flexible, independent mathematical problem-solvers. We want their maths experiences to be intellectually and emotionally rich. In this session, we will explore how children can engage in a range of problem-solving tasks so that all children access tasks and all children are challenged. We will consider the routines that enable children to be mathematically playful and creative, building a love of primary mathematics.

IMPLICATIONS FROM KS2 NATIONAL RESULTS WITH THE PiXL CURRICULUM TEAM (AM & PM)

The session will cover some of the key findings from the KS2 national data including any trends and patterns in the data that leaders should be aware of. You will also have the opportunity to hear from the subject teams on the implications of the data for planning and teaching in Year 6 and in younger year groups.

RHYTHM, REGULATION & READINESS: MOVEMENT THAT SPARKS THE MIND, WITH DRUMBA (PM ONLY)

Discover how rhythm-based movement can rapidly shift a child's mental and emotional state, helping them reset, regulate, and re-engage in learning. This energising breakout explores how tools like Drumba can be used in short bursts to support self-regulation, boost classroom focus, and promote positive behaviour — all through the power of movement and music.

USING PiXL FOR IMPACT — OUR 3-YEAR JOURNEY (PM ONLY)

In this session you will have the opportunity to hear from an Executive Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher on how they have used PiXL for impact. Having moved from 58% RWM in 2019 to 96% RWM in 2025, they will be sharing some of the strategies and approaches that have had impact and the lessons they have learnt on how to best utilise PiXL.

THE 3 TOP TIPS TO RAISE AN EXTRA £10,000 FOR YOUR SCHOOL (PM ONLY)

Need to start a PTA or power up the one you already have? Get the insider knowledge from Parentkind, who manage 13,000 PTAs daily across the UK. Hear the benchmarks on national fundraising and how schools with or without a PTA can successfully motivate parents to get involved to raise £10,000 of funds for your school.

MIXING IT UP: SHARING STRATEGIES FOR MIXED-AGE CLASSROOMS (PM ONLY)

In this session, the HT and DHT from Eastoft Primary will share their experience of established and successful mixed-age practice. Full of practical insights and first-hand experience, this session will include top tips on curriculum planning, the use of DTTR, staffing challenges, and advice on adaptive teaching for mixed-age practice. If you are new to mixed-age classes, or are implementing them for the first time this year, come and explore the many benefits of mixed-age practice.

IMPLICATIONS FROM THE NEW WRITING FRAMEWORK (PM ONLY)

This session will explore the key messages from the new Writing Framework and implications for school leaders. Join us as we consider how to shape a writing curriculum that builds a positive writing culture, promotes the writing processes and strengthens both composition and transcription — empowering pupils to become confident, reflective writers.

GAMES: THE ONES TO PLAY AND THE ONES TO AVOID (PM ONLY)

In this eye-opening session, **Joe Sparks** will expose some of the subtle psychological games we need to be aware of as leaders — what they are and how we can avoid them in our leadership. This session will challenge your thinking as well as give you an insight into the unconscious behaviours that may be holding you or your teams back.



**IGNITING LEADERS,
CHANGING LIVES**

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