

## Introduction

The conference is aimed at recognising the valuable role classroom support staff play in improving learning outcomes for pupils, and is intended to provide delegates with:

- A look at the qualities and skills that make a good member of the classroom support team;
- A chance to enhance their existing skills and knowledge;
- The opportunity to network with colleagues from other Leicestershire schools and colleges

“Support staff who are well trained ... and clear about their distinctive contribution, can be instrumental in the work of raising standards and enriching the lives of children.” [TDA Website, October 2007.](#)

## Venue

The conference will take place at The Walkers Stadium, Leicester. A map and full directions will be sent to delegates closer to the event.



## Information

### Cost

The cost of the conference is fully subsidised by the local authority through a combination of standards fund and remodelling of the school workforce funding.

Schools and colleges are asked to nominate **one** member of their classroom support staff team to attend the conference and disseminate the information back to the school/college. Dependant on numbers we might be able to offer schools an additional place at the conference. If you would like to request a second place please indicate by ticking the box on the application form. Second places will be allocated on a first come first served basis, and we will clarify second delegate details nearer the time if applicable.

### Keynote Speaker - Alan Wells OBE

Alan was not a great success at school and left school with few qualifications. He discovered education late, qualified as a teacher, and taught in secondary and primary special schools. Alan was Director of the Basic Skills Agency for almost 30 years and was responsible for developing some key initiatives in raising standards of literacy and numeracy, including family literacy programmes and the Basic Skills Quality Mark. He is Chair of Governors of a primary school in very challenging circumstances where he lives in East London. Alan is usually considered to be a critical friend’ of Government rather than a ‘cheerleader’.

He has written extensively in national newspapers and the specialist education press in the UK and abroad, including *The Guardian* and *the Times Educational Supplement*.

Outside of work he lists his interests as waiting for the postman, lazing around, avoiding DIY and gardening, cooking, wine, travel, his family, learning rock guitar and Arsenal FC.

## Programme

- 9.00am Registration, Coffee and Market Stalls
- 9.30am Welcome & Domestic
- 9.35am Introduction by **Gareth Williams**  
Director of Children and Young People’s Service
- 9.50am Key note speech by **Alan Wells OBE**
- 10.50am Coffee and Market Stalls
- 11.15am Networks update
- 12.00pm Lunch and Market Stalls
- 1.10pm Workshop 1
- 2.20pm Workshop 2
- 3.25pm Closing address

**\*\*Please note\*\* all timings are approximate**



## Application Form

Conference Title: Classroom Support Staff  
 Date and Time: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008, 9.00am - 3.30pm  
 Venue: The Walkers Stadium, Leicester

Please indicate your workshop choices by writing the appropriate letters in the grid below. We cannot guarantee your preferred option, but will do our best to accomodate your choice, on a first come first served basis.

Preferences	Workshop
1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Choice	
4 <sup>th</sup> Choice	

Name of applicant:.....  
 School: .....  
 Address: .....  
 .....

Post Code ..... Tel: .....  
 Email: .....

Please note any special requirements (diet, disability etc) .....

Would you like a second place if available?

### BOOKING CONDITIONS

All applicants will receive a letter confirming their place and detailing the workshop(s) they will be attending. If you do not receive confirmation by 20<sup>th</sup> February please contact us.

Signed: .....  
 Date: .....  
 Print Name.....

Please send to address overleaf

Cut along dashed line

## Application Form (Cont.)

**Please return by January 16<sup>th</sup> 2008  
LATEST to:**

Jackie Branson,  
Leicestershire County Council,  
Room 101,  
County Hall,  
Glenfield,  
Leicester LE3 8RF

Fax: 0116 305 6510

Tel: 0116 305 8045

Email: [jbranson@leics.gov.uk](mailto:jbranson@leics.gov.uk)

## Workshops

Delegates will be able to attend 2 workshops or 1 double workshop from those listed. **Please note that workshops may be cancelled if fewer than 8 delegates sign up.**

Unless otherwise specified workshops are suitable for Primary and Secondary groups. Where numbers allow we will run separate Primary and Secondary workshops.

### A. The Importance of Banana Skins

- Guidance on working with more and very able pupils
- Identification of more able pupils
- Providing for more able pupils

### B. Learning styles

- The different ways we all learn
- Why do they matter?
- How to create learning opportunities that suit children's learning styles?

### C. Self Esteem

- What is it?
- How does it affect children's learning?
- Practical ways to enhance self esteem

### D. Recognising gender difference in learning styles and developing strategies to promote effective learning

- To compare and contrast the way boys and girls learn
- To understand how this affects learning in the classroom
- To devise strategies for use in the classroom to raise boys' achievement

### E. Differentiation

- What do pupils need help with?
- What practical ways can support staff help pupils to
  - a) take learning on board and
  - b) show what they have learned
- How can support staff help in this way while at the same time encouraging independence

## Workshops

### F. The changing role of classroom support

- Working in classes: What's happened?
- What's happening?
- What's about to happen

### Double Workshop

### G. Behaviour Management (Secondary)

- At the end of the workshop you should be able to:
- Explain the key psychology that underpin behaviour
- Practise a range of behaviour for learning techniques
- Evaluate the importance of de-escalation techniques in enhancing learning

### Double Workshop

### H. Behaviour Management, including Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (Primary)

- Using positive language and communication
- A look at Anger Management
- Awareness raising of SEAL materials

### Double Workshop

### J. Learning through Drama (Primary)

- To introduce the game of drama and its potential for teaching and learning
- To introduce the use of 'teacher in role' as a classroom strategy
- To provide ideas/create resources for drama that support teaching and learning

# Classroom Support Staff Conference



A one day conference for  
classroom support staff  
working in Leicestershire  
schools and colleges

The Walkers Stadium, Leicester  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008  
9.30am - 3.30pm