



Mantle of the Expert

Mantle of the Expert is an approach to teaching and learning that, when properly done, has very positive effects on teachers and learners alike. Originated and developed by Professor Dorothy Heathcote, MoE is drama-based approach that succeeds in giving sense, meaning and value to the knowledge and skills that children meet in the various curriculum areas. Together, they make believe that they are experts who have to deal with the problems that arise as they go about their collaborative business – problems that require them to apply all they know about maths, communications, science, history, art and design, etc.

Who is the course for?

Teachers, classroom assistants, curriculum leaders, managers and advisors have all found this course helpful in their work. It has proved particularly useful to schools focussing on:

- **curriculum development**
- **student engagement**
- **communication skills**
- **emotional intelligence**
- **creativity**
- **enquiry-based learning**
- **application of school learning to everyday life**

What does Mantle of the Expert do?

Mantle of the Expert introduces children (and teachers) to a refreshingly new way of viewing the curriculum. They aren't just 'banking' knowledge and skill for future use, they are needing them and using them right here and now in their work as expert scientists, archeologists, sailors, etc. The MoE approach has been shown to produce the following effects:

Learners become more:

- motivated
- involved
- confident
- responsible

Teachers, tutors and support staff become more:

- creative
- skilled
- knowledgeable
- enquiring

Learning becomes more:

- surprising
- enjoyable
- valuable to children

The curriculum becomes more:

- meaningful
- coherent
- relevant
- enabling

Course aims:

- to provide practical, hands-on, experience of Mantle of the Expert
- to provide help in planning Mantle of the Expert into the curriculum
- to equip teachers with the theory and practical strategies they need to use Mantle of the Expert in their own context
- to build on participants current levels of knowledge and expertise in Mantle of the expert

Course content

The course explores:



- what Mantle of the Expert is and why it is important
- how MoE strategies and resources can be used to add sparkle, value, and meaning to school learning
- MoE's connection with wider agendas like: learner engagement, children thinking for themselves, bringing numeracy and literacy to life, emotional intelligence and the social health of the class

The content can be aimed at providing a first introduction to Mantle of the Expert or, for those who already have some experience of the approach, content can be designed to help them to a deeper understanding and more skilful practice.

Course structure

This is usually provided as one-day course but it has been successfully extended over a number of sessions to allow time for participants to apply the strategies and tools that the course provides in stages.

For further information about availability and pricing for our Mantle of the Expert courses, contact us through our website at www.thinkwell.org.uk or by email to anne@thinkwell.org.uk