ASSOCIATION of EDUCATION ADVISERS

dreambox READING PLUS
Reading Solutions UK

Learning from the **Past**,
Looking to the **Future**

Association of Education Advisers

CONNECTING **EDUCATORS**

Seventh Annual Summit
2024

@EducateAdvise

21 JUNE

Annual Summit Programme

Radisson Hotel York
9AM - 4PM

Seventh Annual Connecting Educators Summit

Welcome to our conference

As you can see from this programme, we have a remarkable day lined up. We are incredibly proud to welcome some of the most significant and world-renowned educationalists today. We are equally delighted to feature our very own Associates and Senior Associates, presenting on their own unique knowledge and skills.

Learning from the past

Within our world of education, the importance of learning from the past while looking toward the future cannot be overstated. This dual perspective is crucial not only for personal growth but also for societal progress.

I strongly hope that any future minister will reflect on what has gone before and the great practice that is taking place within the AoEA community. This will provide a vast array of insights. Education policy and practice is a rich tapestry, woven with both successes and failures that provide invaluable lessons. From the early days of the 'new relationship with schools', 'intervention in inverse proportion to success', School Improvement Partners, National Leaders in Education, National Challenge Advisers, Teaching Schools. Every era has contributed to our understanding of how best to support and enable our schools to develop and improve.

Avoiding past mistakes

The allure of so-called magical solutions for school improvement often led to policies that failed to address the root issues. By acknowledging these mistakes, we can avoid similar pitfalls and create more effective educational environments.

Perhaps the biggest mistake is continuing to believe that schools will only improve if the support they receive is imposed on them.

Our view is people want to learn, want to improve, and would welcome and invite challenge, as long as those who provide the support have the required skills and knowledge and, importantly, are trusted.

Preparing for the future

When we established the AoEA in 2016 we addressed key questions:

- How do we ensure all schools and colleges receive the support they deserve?
- How can we achieve quality, consistency, and capacity regarding the advice given by advisers working within the education system?
- How can we develop a better synergy between inspection, regulation, support, and development?
- How can we ensure decisions taken by school and college leaders are well informed, and right for the school or college setting?
- How are those who provide support and advice trained and developed?

We decided that the establishment of a quality standard for those who support and enable school and college improvement would have the greatest impact when addressing these challenges.

Looking to the Future

Right from the start the AoEA has advocated for self-sustained improvement for all schools with enabling and capacity building at its core. The fundamental shift in the thinking about how we support and enable our schools to develop and improve is happening now.

Shifting the paradigm

Some of our early thinking is now being accepted as self-evident.

- Great leaders are not necessarily great advisers, and vice versa
- Identifying and developing the specialist skills and knowledge related to the work of the education adviser is vital
- There is a need for professional learning programmes which are specifically designed to support the advisory role
- Access to a community of those who work within this field is critical for sharing professional skills and knowledge, as well as individual well-being
- It is imperative that there is a quality standard for those who advise, support and enable school improvement.

Knowledge development and exchange

The AoEA continues to build one of the largest resource banks of case studies, covering all aspects of school support and improvement. The types of activity identified within the hundreds of case studies are being presented at the 'Sharing Great Practice' sessions today.

Over the last twelve months we have developed two new major resources for our Associates:

First, a collection of learning modules that explain in detail each of our accreditation criteria, covering professional skills and knowledge, school improvement, governance, change management, organisational development, and quality systems.

Second, I am incredibly proud that the second book in the series 'The Role of the Education Adviser' is about to be published. The contributions from our international and UK community reflect the enormous range and depth of the work of education advisers. To produce one book in a year is impressive. To produce two is remarkable.

Building a consensus and a coalition of shared values

The vision of AoEA is that every school, college, and education provider has access to high quality support, advice, and challenge, which is independent and focused on improving outcomes for children, schools, and their communities. This cannot be done by AoEA alone. We have, therefore, been building strong coalitions with colleagues across the educational landscape who share the same vision and values.

Key educational representative organisations, such as ASCL, NAHT, AOC, NGA, CST, SSAT, NASS and the Chartered College of Teaching are giving their overwhelming support to the AoEA's independent quality standard for education advisers.

The AoEA is increasingly working with varied systems and structures across the UK and internationally. These include federations of maintained schools, networks of academies, a combined authority, and multi-academy trusts. We continue to work with colleagues in Northern Ireland, Wales, and Scotland and, most recently, the U.S.A.

We are building from the base, developing partnerships, sharing and honing the quality of some of the best education advice that exists, as well as encouraging and developing new capacity. This approach will be more sustainable, adaptable to the needs of individuals, and agile in terms of the needs of a modern education system.



AoEA Chair **Les Walton CBE**

KEY SPEAKERS



09:15 Keynote

MEL AINSCOW

Mel Ainscow CBE is Emeritus Professor, University of Manchester, Professor of Education, University of Glasgow, and Adjunct Professor at Queensland University of Technology. A long-term consultant to UNESCO, he is internationally recognised as an authority on the promotion of inclusion and equity in education. His latest book, Developing Inclusive Schools: Pathways to Success, is published by Routledge.



15:10 Keynote

MICHAEL FULLAN

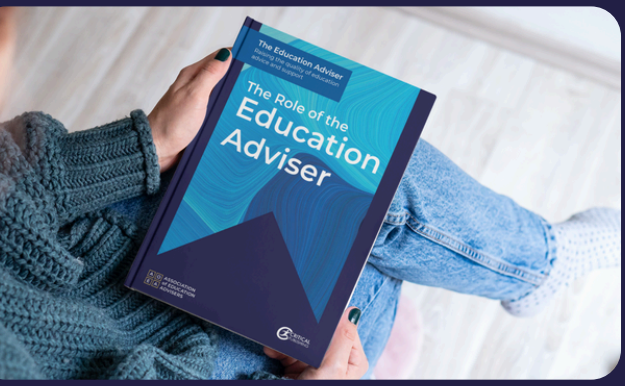
Michael Fullan, Order of Canada, former Dean of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, and Professor Emeritus of the University of Toronto. He is co-leader of the New Pedagogies for Deep Learning global initiative (www.deep-learning.global). Michael served as Premier Dalton's special policy adviser in Ontario from 2003-2013. He received the Order of Canada (OC) in December 2012 and holds five honorary doctorates from universities around the world. His 'interim autobiography', Surreal Change, covers his pre-Covid-19 Pandemic period to 2018. Michael and his colleagues are now working diligently on field-based comprehensive system change in several countries. The goal of this work focuses on the 'humanity paradigm' —a deep care and commitment to all living things including equity and equality in the service of helping all humans cope and thrive in complex societies of the 21st century.

ASSOCIATION of EDUCATION ADVISERS | BOOK SERIES

"With its array of insightful authors sharing experience and offering advice,

the ultimate benefit will be to pupils in schools."

-Professor Mick Waters



"The Role of the Education Adviser" is out now! Grab your copy today from our exhibition stand.

Don't have space in your bag today? Order it online to be delivered to your home or school! Follow the link below:

aoea.co.uk/book-series

The Education Adviser Series is a collection of six books designed to empower education professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to drive meaningful change in schools and educational institutions. This series, meticulously curated and aligned with the AoEA accreditation and professional learning programme, serves as a comprehensive guide for aspiring and practising education advisers.

List of Upcoming Books

The Role of the Adviser in School Improvement
The Role of the Adviser in Education Governance
The Role of the Adviser in Managing Change
The Role of the Adviser in Encouraging Quality Systems
The Role of the Adviser in Organisational Development

CRITICAL PUBLISHING

EXPERT PANEL:

THE IMPACT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN EDUCATION

AL KINGSLEY — PANEL CHAIR



Author of three EdTech books and speaker at events such as Bett UK, ISTE, and GESS Dubai, Al's unique insight comes from his 30+ years of EdTech and governance experience across multiple roles including CEO of NetSupport, chair of multi-academy trusts, chair of his region's Governors' Leadership Group, and more.

TOM CLARK OBE — PANEL SPEAKER



Tom was formerly CEO of George Spencer Foundation School and Technology College during which time the school received consecutive 'outstanding' Ofsted reports. The school became the first 'grant-maintained school' in Nottinghamshire, one of the first 13 'specialist technology colleges', and one of the first 'Beacon Schools'.

DAME KATHY AUGUST — PANEL SPEAKER



Kathy has spent 45 years working in and for public education. She has been a director of education in two LEAs, worked as a senior adviser in the DfE, been a visiting professor at Salford Business School, and worked as an interim CEO. She became a Dame in 2014.

DR ALBIN WALLACE — PANEL SPEAKER



Dr Albin Wallace FBCS CITP FRSA MRi is the founder and CEO of SkyBleu Research Ltd, a company providing independent digital education support services. Originally working for 25 years in education in Australia and internationally as a lecturer, teacher, leader, university tutor, curriculum developer, information systems manager and education centre manager, Albin was brought to the United Kingdom in 2000 as learning technologies manager of an education action zone. He has extensive experience in supporting schools, teachers and senior leaders in digital learning.

EXPERT PANEL:

THE FUTURE OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

BARONESS ESTELLE MORRIS — PANEL CHAIR



Estelle started her career as a teacher in an inner city multiracial comprehensive school where she taught for 18 years. She entered Parliament in 1992 and was appointed a minister in the Department for Education and Skills in 1997 becoming the secretary of state for education and skills in 2002. She followed this with two years as a minister at the Department of Culture Media and Sport. Estelle has been a member of the House of Lords since 2005 which she combines with her work as the chair of the Birmingham Education Partnership. She helped to establish the Association of Education Partnerships.

STEVE MUNBY — PANEL SPEAKER



Steve is a self-employed consultant and speaker on leadership and on system reform. Based in the UK, he works with governments and with groups of schools around the world. Steve has worked in education throughout his career. He was director of education in the Merseyside borough of Knowsley in the UK before becoming chief executive of the National College for School Leadership in England and, later, chief executive of Education Development Trust, an international not-for-profit education organisation working in Asia, India, Africa, the Middle East and Europe.

MICK WATERS — PANEL SPEAKER



Mick is one of the best-known figures in education. He has extensive experience in schools always trying to help them improve on their previous best. He works with governments at policy level and regularly talks at conferences. In 2022 Mick published three books, all in collaboration with others: one on schooling policy with Tim Brighouse; one on curriculum and teaching with Claire Banks and one on values in subject disciplines with Bridget Knight.

FAUSTINA GRAHAM — PANEL SPEAKER



Faustina was appointed as chief inspector of the Education Training Inspectorate (ETI) in the Department of Education (NI) 2020. She has spent her entire career working in education: teacher of English and Drama; principal inspector of English in ETI and assistant chief inspector. Faustina's aim is for inspectors to provide the catalyst which builds consensus to make and take brave decisions about the future of education.

8.15 - 9.00	Registration, Network and Exhibitors		
9.00 - 9.15	Welcome - Les Walton CBE, Chair Association of Education Advisers		
9.15 - 9.55	Keynote: Taking an Inclusive Turn Professor Mel Ainscow, School of Education, University of Glasgow		
9.55 - 10.40	Expert Panel: The Impact of Artificial Intelligence in Education Chair: Al Kingsley Panel: Dame Kathy August, Tom Clark, Albin Wallace		
10.40 - 11.20	Break and Networking Refreshments served in the Regatta room. Chat to our Exhibitors		
11.20 - 11.55	Sharing Great Practice with AoEA Senior Associates		
	Quality Systems *Henley Suite*	Organisational Development *Castle Howard Suite*	Change Management *Ridings Suite*
	Implementing Effective Quality Systems: A Journey of Disruptive Innovation Danielle Bamberger, Education Improvement Adviser, Pebbles Education	**Empowering leaders through effective organisational development** Matthew Humphreys, School Improvement Partner, Central South Consortium	**Managing Change: developing fully integrated, locality based multi-agency provision for vulnerable young people and families** Andy Lancashire, Independent Chair, Barnsley Schools' Alliance
12.00 - 12.40	Expert Panel: The Future of School Improvement Chair: Baroness Estelle Morris of Yardley Panel: Professor Mick Waters, Steve Munby CBE, Faustina Graham		
12.40 - 13.40	Lunch and Networking Refreshments served in the Regatta room. Chat to our Exhibitors		
13.40 - 14.20	Sharing Great Practice with AoEA Associates and Senior Associates		
	Inclusion *Henley Suite*	Self-evaluation *Castle Howard Suite*	Engaging with the Community *Ridings Suite*
	Rethinking SEND to create capacity and expertise across Elevate Multi-Academy Trust Sharon Robertson, Trust Lead for Inclusion, Elevate MAT **Creating an inclusive school for a community: the opportunities and challenges** Craig Heeley, Headteacher, Lemington Riverside Primary School **Nurturing Potential: Transforming inclusion at St. Teresa's Nursery School** Clare Evans, Principal, St. Teresa's Nursery School	**'Through the Looking Glass' with Self-Evaluation** Sharon Beattie, Principal, Dromore Nursery School **Coaching headteachers to find their own solutions** Marie Lyon, Quality Improvement Education Officer, Edinburgh Council **Securing sustainable improvement** Clara Seery, Managing Director, Central South Consortium	**Working with the community in integrating EAL pupils into schools** Dean Jones, CEO, Inspira Academy Trust **Rebuilding the reputation of a school in decline** Debi Bailey, CEO, NEAT Academy Trust **Redefining community collaboration** Frazer Bailie, School Improvement Professional, Education Authority Northern Ireland
14.25 - 15.05	Movement time		
	Curriculum *Henley Suite*	Leadership and Governance *Castle Howard Suite*	Well-being *Ridings Suite*
	System level change to develop oracy education Cath Billington-Richards, Principal Improvement for Curriculum, Central South Consortium **Effective curriculum development across a MAT** Graeme Atkins, Executive Headteacher, Hadrian Learning Trust **How can your curriculum address the needs of local employers?** Simon Barrable, Director, Simon Barrable Consulting Ltd.	**Establishing an effective governing body** Sarah Stock, Primary School Improvement Lead, NEAT Academy Trust **Learning to Lead: Who wants to be a Head?** Grant Gillies, Headteacher, South Morningside Primary School **Trust based lesson observations** Marie Neave, Executive Headteacher, Drumbeat School and ASD Service	**Trauma Informed Practice** Daniel Mulholland, Cross Organisational and Development Officer, EANI **How can Education Advisers help ensure effective safeguarding in schools** John Barnes, Executive Headteacher, Seaton Valley Federation **Using the Poverty Proofing Audit** Rebecca Jackson, Headteacher, Cragside Primary School
15.10 - 15.55	Keynote: From Ground to System: Leadership for Transforming Well-Being and Learning Professor Michael Fullan online from Toronto, Global Leadership Director, New Pedagogies for Deep Learning		
15.55 - 16.00	Closing Remarks		

OUR MAIN SPONSOR

dreambox®
READING PLUS



Reading Solutions UK is the home of DreamBox Reading Plus - the adaptive online reading development programme which improves outcomes for schools and students.

Reading Plus:

- Improves students' reading speed, fluency, stamina, and comprehension.
- Offers an online library with over 1,300 high-interest fiction, non-fiction, and informational texts.
- Exposes students to texts from topics outside their cultural context with more challenging vocabulary.
- Provides comprehensive data to show students below, at, or above year-level expectations.

Reading Solutions UK

Book a FREE four-week pilot today:

readingsolutionsuk.co.uk 0191 389 6078 info@readingsolutionsuk.com

Scan here for your FREE pilot.

Visit the Reading Solutions UK stand in the Regatta Suite to chat with a dedicated consultant.

SHARING GREAT PRACTICE:

SENIOR ASSOCIATES



Danielle Bamberger

Danielle has been an education adviser for over 20 years, supporting schools in Worcestershire and Birmingham. She has a particular interest in curriculum, learning and teaching development, and in the design of high-quality organisational systems. She is an advocate for empowering schools to lead their own self-improvement.



Matthew Humphreys

Matthew is a senior associate with the AoEA, an experienced school leader and improvement professional. He held leadership positions in a broad range of settings across Wales. Currently, Matthew works alongside sixteen schools to facilitate improvement during a time of significant reform. Matthew regularly leads professional learning for governors across the region. He previously held the digital learning portfolio, contributing to national policy and professional learning.



Andy Lancashire

Andy was until July 2023, service director and part of the Directorate Management Team for Children's Services in Wakefield. He managed a team of 600 individuals and a budget of £46m across a diverse education landscape. Building on the 2021 'Good' ILACS inspection he led the development of Wakefield Families Together working with colleagues in health, police, education, voluntary sector and social care to effectively support young people and their families.

SHARING GREAT PRACTICE:
ASSOCIATES AND SENIOR ASSOCIATES



Sharon Robertson

Sharon is a school improvement lead at Elevate MAT with key responsibility for SEND and inclusion. She has extensive leadership experience, as headteacher, executive leader and national leader in education. Her passion for making a difference to all children, building stronger relationships between professionals and parents/carers was key to her work developing and leading specialists' provisions.



Craig Heeley

Craig is headteacher of Lemington Riverside Primary School in Newcastle upon Tyne. He also co-chairs the Newcastle City Council inclusion sub-group. Craig has experience of senior leadership in several settings that serve some of the most deprived communities in the north of England.



Clare Evans

Clare is a dedicated and accomplished educator with nearly three decades of experience as an advisory teacher, regional capacity building officer, and principal of a nursery school in West Belfast. Clare is an active member of her Area Learning Community and has demonstrated her commitment to leading and managing a school that meets every child at their point of need.



Sharon Beattie

Sharon is the principal of an 80-place all-inclusive nursery school, which she opened from a green field site. She has served as associate assessor with the Education and Training Inspectorate since 2014; a trustee in Early Education from 2004-2010 and a Solihull trainer since 2015.



Marie Lyon

Marie works as a quality improvement education officer for the City of Edinburgh Council. Her role involves monitoring school performance and ensuring continuous improvement. Her values are central to her practice and she strives to ensure that everything she undertakes has a positive impact on learners.



Clara Seery

Clara joined the Central South Consortium in Wales as managing director in March 2020. Previously, she worked in Enfield as a school improvement advisor to primary, secondary and special schools supporting them to meet the new requirements of the Ofsted Inspection regime; implementing the new National Curriculum and working with schools to raise standards across the key stages, providing Enfield with its best set of results in 2019.



Dean Jones

Dean is CEO of a small multi-academy trust in Kent and will be director of primary education as part of a MAT merger in September. Dean has over 19 years senior leadership experience including two deputy headships, two headships and an executive headship for four years.



Debi Bailey

Debi is CEO of the NEAT multi-academy trust, which contains primary and secondary academies. Debi is a national leader of education and has over 28 years of experience. She believes passionately in working with families, carers and wider stakeholders in providing the best education for children of all backgrounds.



Frazer Bailie

Frazer has worked as a school improvement professional in the Northern Ireland Education Authority, since 2019. He has completed two principalships in outstanding rated schools. He earned a Pearson Primary Principal of the Year Award in 2010. He has served as an associate inspector, a leadership lecturer and a chief moderator for the Curriculum Council. Frazer has a track record of working with communities in disadvantaged areas to expand children's opportunities.



Cath Billington-Richards

Cathryn is a principal improvement partner in Central South Consortium which is a large and diverse region of Wales compromising over 300 primary schools and nearly 60 secondary schools. Her area of focus is curriculum and the cross curricular skills of literacy, numeracy and digital learning.



Graeme Atkins

Graeme is executive headteacher at Hadrian Learning Trust, a small MAT in the north of England comprising two schools: Queen Elizabeth High and Hexham Middle. Before moving north, Graeme spent most of his career in London and was headteacher of Northwood School in the borough of Hillingdon.



Simon Barrable

Simon is the owner and director of Simon Barrable Consulting Ltd. He has 25 years' experience in the further education sector, culminating in the role of principal at City of Portsmouth College. He has specialisms in stakeholder engagement, the skills agenda, project management, digital education, and coaching and mentoring.



Daniel Mulholland

Daniel has been a school improvement professional for the Education Authority NI for two years. He provides strategic support and challenge to school principals, boards of governors and school staff in helping them ensure their schools are self-evaluating, sustainable and high performing. Prior to this he was for 15 years the principal of a primary school of approximately 400 pupils.



Rebecca Jackson

Rebecca is currently the headteacher of a primary school in the North East of England. During her 33 year career she has worked as a learning support assistant, a class teacher and an EOTAS (education other than at school) tutor. She has been a headteacher for ten years.



John Barnes

Initially a teacher of PE and history, John followed the pastoral route. Having worked across the North East from Middlesbrough to Amble he is now an executive headteacher of two middle schools and one high school in South East Northumberland which are regarded as being very inclusive.



Sarah Stock

Sarah has worked across primary schools within the North East for over 25 years including 20 years as a school leader within communities with high levels of deprivation. She is committed to supporting and developing teaching and learning to improve outcomes for all and has an ongoing passion for curriculum, assessment and early years.



Grant Gillies

Grant has been a principal of British International at schools in Thailand, Qatar and Romania. A headteacher in the UK in several settings he has worked for Education Scotland and the General Teaching Council for Scotland. He is currently headteacher at a primary school in Edinburgh.



Marie Neave

Marie's upbringing in the segregated system in Northern Ireland continues to influence her passion for equality. She was head of three pupil referral units (PRUs) then an adviser to all 18 Kent PRUs and an adviser for secondary education in London. Marie is currently executive head at Drumbeat: a large, three site SEND school specialising in autism education. She is an active and enthusiastic challenge partner and senior associate at the AoEA.

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

We would like to say a huge thank you to those who have helped to make this event possible. You can find contact details of exhibitors and sponsors below.

Browne Jacobson

brownejacobson.com

Clothier Lacey & Co.

clothierlacey.co.uk

cocoa

cocoagirl.com

The Edwin Group

edwin.group

knowthis creative \ digital

knowthis.agency

Mighty Writer www.mightywriter.co.uk

mightywriter.co.uk

Opal

outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk

ParentShield The Child-Safe Mobile Network

parentshield.co.uk

Picture News

picture-news.co.uk

dreambox READING PLUS Reading Solutions UK

readingsolutionsuk.com

SOVEREIGN COMICS

sovereigncomics.co.uk

ypo 50

punchout.ypo.co.uk

CONNECTING EDUCATORS Annual Summit

AOEA ASSOCIATION of EDUCATION ADVISERS

PLACE TO TAKE NOTES

ASSOCIATION of EDUCATION ADVISERS

RAISING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION ADVICE

Please visit www.aoea.co.uk or email info@aoea.co.uk for more information about our accreditation, professional learning and events.

info@aoea.co.uk
0191 820 3114

aoea.co.uk
@EducateAdvise

Albany Court
Newcastle NE4 7YB

MADE WITH RECYCLED PAPER