

# National Conference 2013: Impacting on young people's lives

PiXL 2013  
The National Conference

The first PiXL National Conference is taking place on Monday 2nd December 2013 at Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Westminster.

**“With a growing network of some 600+ schools, so willing to share outstanding practice in all areas of school leadership, it is time to offer this superb opportunity to all PiXL schools.”**

*Sir John Rowling, Chair of PiXL*

Many of us, I'm sure, will have sat at one of the six PiXL Main Meetings this year alone and frenetically scribbled down so many gems of ideas – any one of which could transform an area of our school – and wished for just a little bit more time to reflect on the best practice being shared and to unpick the issues a bit further.

The breakout sessions this year have definitely enabled this to happen, but the platform of a National PiXL Conference will give senior and, more importantly, some of our middle leaders from across our collaborative the chance to network and really learn about the outstanding school improvement practice that is happening in PiXL schools across the country.

**Jeremy Turner**

*Member of the PiXL Strategic Operations Group*

Numbers from each school are limited initially to five per school and will cost £100 per person.

Be inspired

## The National Conference Programme

The National Conference will be based around 15 Zones listed below each headed up by a senior PiXL leader. Every zone will offer a real range of presentations, workshops, inspirational talks and the chance to hear about and reflect on the best practice surrounding the key issues related to each zone.

### 1. Keynote Zone

A number of internationally renowned speakers are being approached to deliver inspiring keynotes in the larger auditoriums. These currently include Matthew Syed – author, sports writer and Olympic Champion.

### 2. Teaching and Learning Zone

This zone will highlight many of the latest developments and strategies used by leading practitioners for securing outstanding practice in lessons, focusing particularly on collaborative planning and how to use student-led learning to maximise engagement, progress and achievement.

### 3. Transition Zone

This will explore all aspects of transition and look at what elements of the learning journey can be strengthened to support young people to achieve at the very highest level.

### 4. Curriculum Showcase Zone

In the ever-changing education arena, we are always looking for ways to ensure our learners have the best provision in order to achieve the most success. This zone will provide practical ways to develop your curriculum whatever the needs of your students.

### 5. Raising Achievement Zone

Highlighting a wealth of PiXL strategies, this zone will unpick key areas including: the use of Personalised Learning Checklists and tried and tested strategies for improving behaviour for learning and maximising memory. The zone will also highlight a number of case studies from leading PiXL schools across the country.

## 6. Interpreting and Using Data Zone

A real variety of sessions will be offered in this exciting zone, including a presentation from a PiXL Raising Standards Leader, whose work with staff enabled one PiXL school to take their results from their worst ever in 2012, to their best ever just a year later and explaining how data was used as a key lever to help turn things around.

## 7. SMSC in Schools Zone

This zone will look at the reality of how to create a positive culture and ethos in school that really promotes all aspects of SMSC. Young people today need to develop respect, an understanding of diversity, excellent social skills, self-esteem, confidence, imagination, creativity and have a real willingness to reflect on the experiences of life. So how do we as school leaders and staff working in the tough realities of the nation's schools create and develop, not just a strong sense of right and wrong, but a growing spiritual awareness in a diverse, ever changing world? Visit the SMSC Zone to reflect on where you and your school are and how you can make the next steps on the transformation journey.

## 8. Leadership Inspiration Zone

This zone promises to bring a wide range of ideas to stimulate discussion and debate. Zone leaders Rebecca Clark and Paul Hammond are bringing together speakers from across a wide range of settings. We anticipate speakers from education of course, but also from a business, sport, charity and a military perspective. Delegates will be attracted by inputs from a Raising Standards Leader, a successful headteacher and several national policy makers.

## 9. Numeracy Showcase Zone

In this zone a number of key PiXL partners engaged in raising students' standards of numeracy will be showcasing their good practice.

## 10. Closing the Gap Showcase Zone

The use of RAP Meetings to enable diagnosis, therapy and testing in a transparent, challenging and supportive forum to take place; the power of peer mentoring; an 'ACE' or Accelerated Curriculum Experience at Key Stage 3 and how getting the right people on the bus, in the right seats and moving in the right direction changes the culture of a school, are just some of the key sessions on offer in this important zone.

## 11. PiXL International Zone

There is a growing network of PiXL schools who are interested in sharing the PiXL principles and methods with link schools abroad. Schools in Tanzania, Ghana, Kenya and Chile have joined the PiXL International 2012/13 pilot project and are enthusiastic about sharing the PiXL practices which work best for them. PiXL International has learnt a lot over the last year and you are invited to come and hear about our experiences on a range of topics.



## 12. New Technologies Zone

This zone will look at all forms of technology that are now available for use in the classroom, at home and across education. It will be interactive and will focus on providing ideas and strategies that can be implemented straight away.

## 13. Preparing for Ofsted Zone

Covering the key aspects and challenges of the Ofsted Framework, this zone will call on the expertise of experienced leaders from around the country. If you are expecting an Ofsted inspection soon, or just want to understand more about the intricacies of the framework, there will be much on offer.

## 14. Literacy Showcase Zone

As well as being critical for every school's English GCSE results and so headline figure, literacy is also the lens through which most students access the curriculum as a whole and, therefore, it is vital that schools do everything they can to get it right. So, what should a school be doing to raise the standards of, and promote, literacy? Visit the literacy zone and find out what you can do, how you can do it and why, in the end, it will be worth it. We have a range of experts in their field who will be able to support school leaders, English teams and literacy co-ordinators in developing literacy, providing the resources and the inspiration necessary to allow you to really make a difference in your school.

## 15. Middle Leadership Zone

All aspects of middle leadership will be explored in this key zone, including the essential features of excellent PiXL Middle Leadership and what it means to be an outstanding PiXL Middle Leader.

### Key Networking Hubs

There will also be a number of networking areas where delegates can discuss best practice and meet some of the major PiXL partners.