

ASSOCIATE

MIKE BREARLEY

“Good teaching doesn’t lead to good learning; it’s good learning that leads to good teaching”



“In the emotionally intelligent school, individuals see possibilities and explore them. Individual learning creates the culture of continual growth”.- The Big Book of Independent Thinking

At the heart of Mike’s work is creating engagement, leadership and a common purpose for every child and adult in the school. He helps teachers raise levels of achievement through greater well-being and the active involvement by all young people in their learning.

Mike’s work and infectious enthusiasm for teaching and learning starts with one basic premise – that every child is intrinsically motivated to learn, grow and achieve. The teacher’s job, then, is to cultivate the right conditions where that desire to succeed can become a reality.

With an endorsement for his approaches from University College London, Mike shows that it is the emotional engagement of all involved that is at the core of sustainable improvements. And by improvements he doesn’t just mean test results. Whether it is schools in challenging circumstances or those that think they are doing fine but are unaware of the challenges they actually have, Mike takes all staff on a journey that makes the child the ‘hero of their own learning’ and, in doing so, turns the concept of leadership into a creative and collaborative process, out ‘from under the shadow of the school leaders’.

Challenging conventional wisdom about teaching, learning and achievement, he confronts teachers with as five essential questions that serve to help children move to become the heroes of their own learning, not the passive recipients of someone else’s teaching.

In this way, a new leadership model emerges as teachers grow from being deliverers of the curriculum to mentors of learning and as senior leaders develop an inspirational narrative leadership approach.

Feedback from recent clients include:

“Please thank Mike on behalf of PAPH CIC for such a great talk at our Conference. We fully enjoyed it and all heads found it very interesting”

“I’ve just returned from a day with Mike Brearley in Manchester and I feel fired up and ready to change the world!”

“Mike promised a challenging yet fun day and delivered just that. Many staff said at the end how much they felt he had pushed them out of their comfort zones yet not to a point where they felt uncomfortable and threatened”

“I really feel Mike gave staff much food for thought and a number of strategies they could use to create a more engaging and positive climate within the classroom”

“Mike’s presentation provided a very thoughtful but also energetic and entertaining end to our inset”

Books written by Mike Brearley:

- *Emotional Intelligence in the Classroom: Creative Learning Strategies for 11 to 18 Year Olds*
- *The Big Book of Independent Thinking* (contributor)
- *Performance Management* – Edited by John West Burnham

Mike has been with Independent Thinking for over 10 years

All Independent Thinking Associates are DBS checked.

See our website:
www.independentthinking.co.uk
for more information.