

ASSOCIATE

JONATHAN LEAR

“If you can’t beat them, be creative, go Guerrilla and take the fight underground!”

The next time you hear yourself moaning how you want to be creative in your classroom but ‘they’ won’t let you, remember these four words – Jonathan Lear, Guerrilla Teacher.

‘Guerrilla Teaching’ is what Jonathan calls his award-winning combination of great creativity, a sound grasp of pedagogy and a willingness to take more than a few risks in the classroom.

And, having seen it in action, we know how powerful it is to make everything better.

A practising teacher and deputy head at an inner-city primary school, Jonathan doesn’t so much teach as create an atmosphere in his classroom that is magical, engaging and exciting and that makes the children desperate to get on and learn.

And, as you would expect from a ‘guerrilla teacher’ he doesn’t let anything the government might say or do get in his way when it comes to doing the right thing for his young learners.

From one to one coaching and mentoring, to intensive support, Jonathan can offer a tailored programme to suit the individual needs of teachers working in any phase of primary education. Jonathan has worked extensively with NQT’s, experienced teachers and senior leaders to develop and enhance their practice.

Some of the areas that Jonathan has worked on most recently include:

- Planning
- Effective questioning
- Creative teaching through context

- Child-led learning
- Behaviour management
- Engagement and motivation
- Middle and senior leadership development

Whether it’s a staff meeting for 20, or a conference for 200, Jonathan is able to provide thought provoking and inspiring training. To date, his audiences have included teachers, teaching assistants, middle and senior leaders, Headteachers, Deputies, Assistant Heads, Governors, university students, parents, and children.

Themes from some of his most recent events include:

- Creativity
- Creative teaching and learning
- Child-led learning
- Curiosity
- Curriculum design
- Initial Teacher Training
- NQT development
- Behaviour management
- Engagement and motivation

Along with whole school development sessions and INSET (see groups section for more information), Jonathan also offers a refreshing perspective on curriculum design. Guerrilla Curriculum is a skills based curriculum model that combines essential core skills and knowledge with the opportunity for children to think and learn creatively.

Each term is themed, and contains topics that allow teachers the opportunity to design relevant, engaging and creative learning experiences for their children.

Guerrilla Curriculum offers a broad and



“If we’re not taking the opportunity to dress our children as farm animals, then they’re definitely missing out” -

Guerrilla Teaching

balanced approach to primary education. It is designed to meet the requirements of the new primary curriculum whilst also providing opportunities for children to develop the skills they need as 21st century learners.

Feedback from recent events:

“Jonathan was brilliant, truly inspirational, made a huge impact. My planning next year will be influenced by what I have seen and heard today”

“Jonathan is absolutely phenomenal, simply the best speaker I have ever heard in my career. Mind blowing!”

“This has given me a huge amount of inspiration and ideas to take back to my year 6. Has made me feel more confident about taking risks in the classroom”

Books written by Jonathan Lear:

- *Guerrilla Teaching*
- *There is Another Way* (contributor)
- *The Working Class* (contributor)

Jonathan has been with Independent Thinking since 2012.

All Independent Thinking Associates are DBS checked.

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