

ASSOCIATE

WILL RYAN

“Dare to be different to discover how to lead and teach with both heart and soul”

Will Ryan has now been enthraling Independent Thinking audiences in Britain and overseas for many years. He brings a huge experience of primary education, passion and humour to training events. One delegate recently described him as 'Education's Michael Macintyre'. His book *"Inspirational Teachers Inspirational Learners"* which is a book of hope for the curriculum and creativity in the twenty first century was given a 10/10 review in the Times Educational Supplement. It was described as *"the inspirational text that should be on the reading list of all educational administrators and on the bedside table of all school leaders and classroom teachers"*.

His advice is simple; If your horse drops dead dismount! The way he sees it, we too often end up either on a journey that is rapidly going nowhere or on a course set by the 'powers that be' with a government-issue horse that just isn't up to the job. (He also suggests that once you have dismounted, take a critical look around you and then choose the means and direction of travel most appropriate for you.)

He believes that for too long we have worked on an 'outside in' model of education where outside forces such as the government have provided 'one size fits all' school improvement strategies. He believes that our best schools do the exact opposite and turn themselves 'inside out'.

Through his work on 'Inside Out Schools' he urges school leaders to examine the 'moral purpose' that took them into the profession in the first place and then to consider the unique needs of their community, and then use their minds their hearts and their souls to create a truly personalised and superb learning community which provides a high quality memorable education.

He further argues that if the approach is followed with rigour it will produce high standards in literacy, numeracy, science and ICT as well as create emotionally intelligent enterprising pupils. (Will has a track record of helping schools get into HMCI's list of most effective schools.)

Will has worked both on school leadership and developing a model of pupil creativity where inspirational teachers achieve inspirational responses from their learners. His training sessions on curriculum design and pupil creativity have been very well received. His work with schools in teaching and learning, often just prior to an OFSTED visit, carries with it the message that is loud and clear - *Don't teach safe lessons in sterile environments!* This is then followed with the powerful question, *'When did you last teach an inspirational lesson that led to inspirational learners?'* Will then works with a school to provide frameworks and activities to help them deliver the goods, modelling the process of 'Excellence and Enjoyment' as he goes.



"Inspiration: the difference between people achieving potential and exceeding it" - Inspirational Teachers, Inspirational Learners

Feedback from recent events include:

"Thanks so much for today. You were absolutely brilliant. I cannot thank you enough. It has really fired us up and a terrific staff area set to be even more terrific! You were on top form and we loved it. Very well done. In fact, you were so good, I want you to come back next year"

"An inspirational, child-centred, speaker who spoke to us from the heart and with a philosophy that resonated"

Books written by Will Ryan:

- *Twenty-First Century School Assembly and Classroom Activities*
- *Inspirational Teachers Inspirational Learners*
- *Leadership with a Moral Purpose - Turning Your School Inside Out*
- *The Working Class (contributor)*
- *Dare To Be Different*

Will has been with Independent Thinking since 2006.

All Independent Thinking Associates are DBS checked.

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