

Associate

DR DEBRA KIDD

“We’re pedagogical activists who can change the future, so hope, don’t mope, reform, don’t moan”



“Our obsession with measuring and certainty has driven us to a point of near despair and to moments of blind acceptance of the shiny and new” - Teaching: Notes from the Front Line

When it comes to embedding genuine creativity in our classroom practice, Dr Debra Kidd has been walking the talk for many years now. She combines the rare feat of having teaching experience in every phase of education with her recent doctoral studies looking at the genuinely complex nature of education alongside a growing international reputation.

With such a unique background, she is very well placed to help teachers with practical, insightful and inspiring ideas to help bring lessons to life for all children, regardless of academic or social background.

What’s more, she is proving herself to be a powerful ally for the sorts of school leaders and policy makers who are looking for support when it comes to standing up for the sort of education we can all believe in.

Her latest book in partnership with long-time friend, ally and fellow Independent Thinking Associate Hywel Roberts, gives full rein to her skill for helping teachers weave together a creative curriculum that genuinely reflects the personal and local needs and interests of their children and the wider community. *Uncharted Territories* published by the Independent Thinking Press in 2018 is a step-by-step guide for all teachers on how to bring

lessons to life in a way that taps into the imagination, excitement and capacity for original thought of all children, regardless of their background.

A particular passion for Debra has been her fight to put oracy at the heart of so many aspects of school improvement, especially when that is matched by the sort of enquiry-based approach that so many of the international schools Debra works with around the world adopt with great results.

Her willingness to stand up and fight for the sort of education that children truly deserve means that Debra is not only a powerful agent of change in the classroom but also a fearless critic and advocate in wider platforms, whether that’s online, in the media or in national and international conferences.

The originator of the popular grassroots event *Northern Rocks* and the author of a number of challenging and controversial education books, Debra is equally at home debating thorny global educational issues in conferences and keynotes as well as rolling her sleeves up and working with children of all ages in areas ranging from literacy and oracy to theatre and music, self-confidence and leadership and standing up to make the world a better place.

Feedback from recent events:

“Thank you so much for helping to make the AET HT’s conference such a stimulating, enjoyable and valuable occasion this week. I am deeply grateful to you. The feedback was hugely positive and I am so grateful to you.”

Books written by Dr Debra Kidd:

- *Teaching: notes from the front line*
- *Becoming Mobius: The complex matter of education*
- *There is Another Way (contributor)*
- *Uncharted Territories (2018)*
- *Don’t Change the Light Bulbs (contributor)*

Debra has been with Independent Thinking since January 2014.

All Independent Thinking Associates are DBS checked.

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