

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND EDUCATION UPDATE

22nd May 2020

Dear all,

I hope you are all well. I am conscious that you are now in the midst of planning for the wider-reopening of our schools and that this is likely to be the focus of your work time. We also have a bank holiday weekend and the half-term break next week, which I hope will offer you a chance to relax and re-charge your batteries.

With this in mind, I have just linked to a couple of professional learning highlights from the past week. These focus on resourcing of the curriculum, and I hope they are useful to those of you who are at that stage of your planning. If you are not, I believe the videos and blogs I'm highlighting will be available for the foreseeable future and that you will be able to come back to them at a more suitable time.

Feel free to get in touch if any of you wish to talk about your curriculum and education planning moving forward. The past few weeks have been incredibly challenging and everyone has done a wonderful job of adapting provision in far from ideal circumstances. I believe it is likely we will be delivering an education in challenging circumstances for some time to come, and I know the prospect of this can feel overwhelming at times. I am more than happy to talk your thinking through if you believe it would be helpful.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and a good week.

Best wishes,

Sallie

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

READ: Ruth Walker on Booklets, Rosenshine, Teach Like A Champion, and Knowledge-Rich Curriculum

Ruth suggests that whilst a curriculum can never be reduced to a booklet, they are brilliant tool in codifying ambitious content and promoting consistency in lessons. In this blog, Ruth explores the benefits of booklets, advises how teachers can then design booklets and use them to plan lessons effectively.

Long-term memory is a powerhouse of human cognition, helping us to solve problems, make sense of new information and look things up. But storing things securely in long-term memory can be really hard, particularly for students who have to remember lots of new information in lots of different subjects. Spaced-repetition is a solution to this problem. It is one of the best-evidenced findings in cognitive psychology, and makes remembering things much easier and quicker, but despite this it is not often used: in fact, it has been described as a 'case study in the failure to apply the results of psychological research'. This presentation will give a quick overview of spaced-repetition research, and then focus on some practical advice about how you can integrate a spaced- repetition flashcard system into your teaching & planning.



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