

## Danish International School Leadership Seminar

27 October 2022

### **Developing a Learning Powered School**

with

**Guy Claxton**

#### Programme for the day:

- 09.00-09.30 coffee/tea, networking
- 09.30 Welcome
- 09.40-11.00 Guy Claxton workshop 1
- 11.10-12.30 Guy Claxton workshop 2
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch
- 13.30-14.40 Workshop 3
- 15.00-16.00 AGM (Please note: separate Agenda sent out by 1<sup>st</sup> October)
- 16.00 Thank you for today

#### **The Presenter**

Guy Claxton is a cognitive scientist with a strong interest in the relevance of current scientific research for educational practice. He has a PhD in experimental psychology from the University of Oxford, and has been Professor of the Learning Sciences at the Universities of Bristol and Winchester in the UK. His recent books include *The Learning Power Approach: Teaching Learners to Teach Themselves* and *The Future of Teaching and the Myths that Hold It Back*. Guy's work has impacted on schools in many countries including Spain, Poland, Dubai, Singapore, China, Australia and Argentina.

#### **Overview**

The Learning Power Approach (LPA) is a science-based method of teaching that has several desirable outcomes: greater engagement by students; higher levels of academic achievement; better preparation for further and higher education; and a stronger foundation for a fulfilling life. The approach blends a traditional valuing of rigour, grades and the acquisition of knowledge with a more progressive focus on the development of a useful set of transferable, positive *learning dispositions* such as resilience, independence, curiosity, collaboration and creativity. In this workshop/seminar, participants will study the foundations of the LPA in both science and ethics, and learn about the sequence of practical steps that can turn any classroom into an incubator of powerful learning.

Throughout there will be a strong focus on the kinds of *leadership actions and attitudes* that enable this culture change to take root in individual classrooms and in the ethos of the school as a whole. There will be plenty of time for discussion, questions to Guy, and exploring the implications for different aspects of the leadership role.

## Sessions

**Session 1: The Foundations and Frameworks of the LPA.** In the opening session we will briefly cover the origins of the LPA in contemporary cognitive science and in educational ethics, and look at the synergy that has been emerging in different countries and research labs around the world. We will introduce the two key frameworks on which the LPA rests: the elements of learning power that we are aiming to develop, and the design principles of the learning powered classroom.

**Session 2: The LPA Way of Teaching.** The LPA consists of a series of small steps or ‘tweaks’ to current practice that cumulatively build a strong culture of independent thinking and learning in the classroom. These tweaks include strengthening the aura of psychological safety; designing activities that stretch students’ capacity and appetite for challenging learning; building a sophisticated culture of constructive dialogue and ‘inter-thinking’; and developing teacher talk and a common language of learning. The LPA requires teachers to become aware of subtle aspects of their classroom demeanour that may inadvertently work against powerful learning, and to commit to gradually changing some of their engrained habits. Leaders need to be both supportive and determined in promoting this school-wide cultural evolution

**Session 3: Leadership Demands.** In the final session we will look at the particular demands that the LPA places on school leaders. They need to be comfortable ‘talking the talk’ of learning power to staff, students and parents, and ready to deal with any misunderstandings and anxieties that may arise. They also need to develop robust, sophisticated forms of continuous professional development that ensure that even the most cautious or cynical members of staff are engaged in the culture change process.

**Location:** Hotel Hesselet, Nyborg

**Date:** Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October

**Time:** 09.00-16.00

**Price:** 1100 DKK per participant for DISN member schools  
1500 DKK per participant for non DISM member schools

**Sign up:** <https://tilmeld.events/disnOct>

**Deadline for signing up:** **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October**