

Navigating AI and technology in education: Tipping points, transformation and turbulence 28th June 2024, 9.30am-3.00pm



Maidstone Grammar School
for Girls

Keynote

Education at a Tipping Point?

Professor Becky Allen, Chief Analyst and Co-founder of Teacher Tapp

A decade ago, Bill Gates declared that schools were at a 'technology tipping point'. Yet, fast forward to today, and one might ask: Why hasn't the classroom experience undergone a radical transformation? Why does the quintessential role of a teacher remain largely unaltered? This talk explores the conservative forces that have kept the education system largely unchanged for generations. More importantly, we'll highlight promising avenues for enhancing both teaching and learning experiences in the coming decade. If the pressures to 'unbundle' the job of a teacher are greater in some subjects and phases than others, what does this mean for teacher professional identity and coherence? And as education beyond schools rapidly improves, we must ask: Will these non-traditional forms of learning ever present a truly compelling alternative to schools for the majority?



Expert input

Transforming Teaching, Learning & Workload?

Dan Boorman, Science teacher, tech innovator and teacher-trainer

This session will look into the judicious use of technology to help teachers free up time and energy, allowing them to perform the important human aspects of the job to the best of their ability.

Teacher Prompts101

Neil Almond, Primary school leader and writer at TeacherPrompts

What do Bananarama and Large Language Models (LLMs) have in common? They both know that 'It ain't what you do, it's the way that you do it'!

This talk will provide an overview of the two approaches to prompting companies utilise in AI products that are designed to support teacher workload and the pros and cons of each approach. Neil will then provide a Prompting101 class where he will share what has learnt about high-quality prompting that teachers can then use in schools to create AI assisted workflows to support their workload. Bring a laptop and create an OPEN AI or Microsoft account if you want to prompt along.

Technology and Teenage Turbulence

Ben White, school leader, education researcher and author

This session will explore emerging evidence around social media and well-being. What are the specific relationships between particular apps and processes and well-being? What can be gained? What are the risks? What role can schools play in supporting and educating young people and parents? Why are self-regulation and individual restrictions inadequate solutions to the challenges our young people face? What can we, as teachers, leaders, and parents do?



For more information and booking
<https://mggs.ptly.uk/navigatingAI>

Practical workshops and application

The expert input will be accompanied with opportunities to apply key insights and strategies to your own context. Bring along a laptop or tablet and an Open AI or Microsoft account to make the most of this.

Guest speakers and workshop leaders



Professor Becky Allen is Chief Analyst and a co-founder of Teacher Tapp, the largest teacher survey and professional development tool in the UK. She is a former Professor of Education at UCL Institute of Education and the University of Brighton. She has written extensively on school accountability, admissions, assessment, expenditure and teacher careers. An economist by training and former secondary school teacher, she is an expert in the analysis of large datasets. In 2018 she chaired a Government working group to review how data is used in schools. Her book on teacher careers called *'The Teacher Gap'* was published in 2018 *'The Next Big Thing in School Improvement'* was published in 2021.



Dan Boorman is an experienced science teacher, with an enthusiastic but critical view on educational technology. Before teaching he was an ethical hacker at KPMG, and is a co-founder of the Compare and Learn comparative judgement app. He has successfully integrated a range of technologies into his and colleagues' teaching practices and data analysis.



Ben White is an experienced school leader, writer and research enthusiast. He has led research projects relating to data and workload for the Department for Education; written syntheses of educational psychological research for organisations including Ambition Institute, Schools Week and the National College. He is currently leading a research and engagement project relating to social media use and its impact upon young people.



Neil Almond currently works for a Teaching School Hub where he supports the delivery and administration of the Early Career Framework for ECTs across England. Prior to that, he was a deputy headteacher in Croydon. Across his decade in education, he has written and presented for ResearchED, both nationally and Internationally. In late 2023, he started a weekly newsletter called *'TeacherPrompts'* to support teachers and leaders to understand AI, keep abreast of updates, and share high-quality prompts so that all educational stakeholders can get the best out of these tools. You can follow Neil on X, formerly Twitter, at @Mr_AlmondED



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