



# Specialist Schools and Academies Trust

**EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY** 

# The work of the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust

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#### Main areas of work

- Achieving a specialist system by 2008
- Raising Achievement, Transforming Learning
- Leadership
- Affiliation world's largest network of schools:
  - 2627 Secondary
  - 100 Primary
  - 159 Special





## **Specialist Schools**

- We currently have 2502 specialist schools in ten specialisms:
  - 408 Arts
  - 218 Business & Enterprise
  - 47 Engineering
  - 72 Humanities
  - 216 Languages
- 14 City Technology Colleges
- 27 Academies

- 222 Maths & Computing
- 18 Music
- 345 Science
- 282 Sport
- 583 Technology





#### **Mission Statement of the Trust:**

The Specialist Schools and Academies Trust works to give practical support to the transformation of secondary education in England by building and enabling a world class network of innovative, high performing secondary schools in partnership with business and the wider community.





# Core Principles of the Trust "By schools – for schools"

### Two Examples:

- Personalising Learning
- Leadership programme





# Personalising Learning: the journey so far

Kai Vacher, Head of Innovation 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2006

























Personalised learning demands that every aspect of teaching and support is designed around a pupil's needs...

David Miliband, Minister for School Standards, September 2003

So what's new in this?

# PL means meeting more of the needs of more of the students more fully than in the past





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#### **Affiliated Schools**

- 2953 secondary schools in England
- 98 primary schools in England
- 153 special schools in England
- 31 affiliated local authorities in England





#### **Affiliation Networks**

- Schools pay an annual subscription to affiliate
- Eleven regions. Each region has a steering group consisting of headteachers and other senior school leaders
- National Headteachers Steering Group
- National Conference for schools affiliated to the Trust





#### **iNet**

- International networking for Educational Transformation
- 357 schools affiliated
- Networks in Australia, Chile, Hong Kong, South Africa
- Networks being established in China, Northern Ireland, USA, Mauritius, Wales, Netherlands, Sweden and New Zealand





#### iNet's Mission

'The mission of International Networking for Educational Transformation (iNet) is to create **powerful and innovative networks of schools** that have achieved or have committed themselves to achieving **systematic**, **significant and sustained change** that ensures **outstanding outcomes for all students** in all settings.'





#### iNet aims to:

- Support and develop an international ethos of cooperation and development
- Network people who are committed to innovation and transformation of schools
- Provide opportunities for students to develop as global citizens
- Exchange people and ideas to ensure understanding of the global education community



#### iNet aims to:

- Exploit the new and emerging technologies to develop new ways of communicating and sharing knowledge
- Bring together practitioners and the world's leading academics to develop innovative thinking and practice
- Enable and support schools in their educational transformation
- Support the transition from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century educational imaginary



## iNet's Objectives

- Networking innovation
- Leadership Development
- Development and Research
- Student Voice
- Networking people and knowledge through conferences, workshops and publications
- New technologies





# Tony Blair Technology Colleges Trust National Conference November 2003



'...individual schools and the system at large must cater better for the talents and needs of each individual pupil.'





# David Miliband, Specialist Schools Trust National Conference, November 2003



'A new generation of self confident, independent students is of course a challenge. It is also an opportunity to improve the education system by tailoring teaching and learning to individual need and developing students as more active partners in effective learning.'





## The Challenge

- 5 workshops with 200+ school leaders led by Professor David Hargreaves
- Conclusion: nine inter-connected gateways for personalising learning





#### **The Nine Gateways**

Student voice

Design & organisation

Assessment for learning

Workforce development

Learning to learn

Mentoring & coaching

New technologies

Advice & guidance

Curriculum





# The six Core Themes that emerged

- Responsibility for one's learning & behaviour
- Confidence in oneself as a learner
- Engagement with learning & the school
- Maturity in relationships with staff and peers more open and honest, with greater mutual respect
- Independence in, and control over, one's learning
- Co-construction of design & delivery of education: teaching, learning, curriculum, assessment, school life

	SV	AfL	L <sub>2</sub> L	NT	Cur	A <sub>&amp;</sub> G	M <sub>&amp;</sub> C	WR
Eng	high			high	high			
Res		high	high					
Ind			high	high				high
Con	high						high	
Mat						high	high	high
Co-	high	high			high			

# Clusters of gateways...

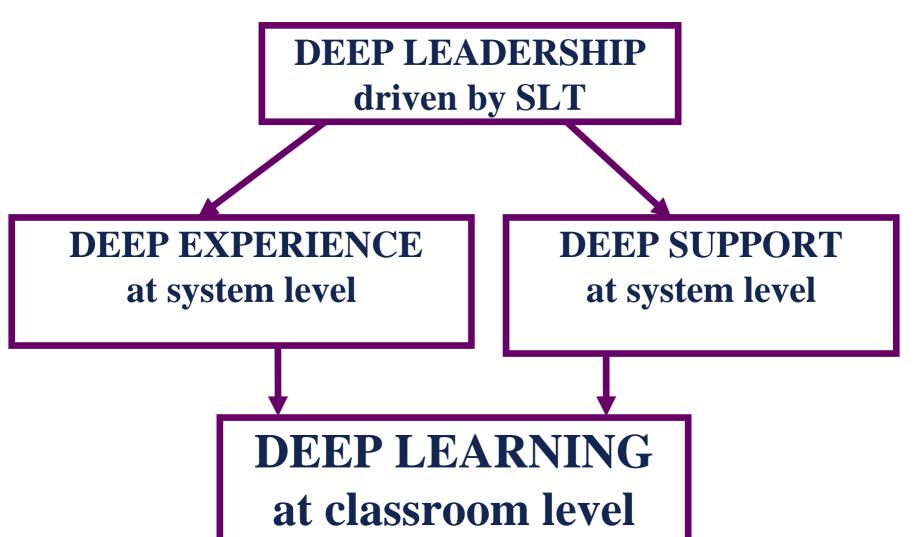


curriculum+new techs = DEEP EXPERIENCE

advice& guidance + mentoring & coaching = DEEP SUPPORT

school design & organisation + workforce = DEEP LEADERSHIP







# PL as a professional journey

- 1. The workshops with 250 school leaders
- 2. The creation of the nine gateways
- 3. The five national conferences
- 4. The six pamphlets
- 5. The meaning of personalisation
- 6. The clustering of the gateways
- 7.Development and Research Networks