The
Education
Fellowship
Going beyond the expected

Digital Literacies

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The Education Fellowship

News about IT, computer science, online safety and all things digital.

This month's edition features articles on Ofsted and e-safety, TEF Communities of Practice, Ofsted Data View, Digital Citizenship Flashcards, communicating with parents, GCSE Mark to Grade Converter and the British Science Festival.

E-Safety and Ofsted

Ofsted has published a new document entitled *Inspecting e-Safety in Schools*. This briefing aims to support inspectors in reviewing school's safeguarding arrangements when carrying out section 5 inspections.

The report recommended that schools:

- audit the training needs of all staff and provide training to improve their knowledge of and expertise in the safe and appropriate use of new technologies

- work closely with all families to help them ensure that their children use new technologies safely and responsibly both at home and at school

- use pupils' and families' views more often to develop e-safety strategies

- manage the transition from locked down systems to more managed systems to help pupils understand how to manage risk; to provide them with richer learning experiences; and to bridge the gap between systems at school and the more open systems outside school

- provide an age-related, comprehensive curriculum for e-safety that enables pupils to become safe and responsible users of new technologies

- work with their partners and other providers to ensure that pupils who receive part of their education away from school are e-safe

- systematically review and develop their e-safety procedures, including training, to ensure that they have a positive impact on pupils' knowledge and understanding.

Any TEF school requiring help with any of the above can contact albinwallace@educationfellowship.net to arrange for training or support. The full Ofsted briefing can be viewed at:

http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/briefings-and-information-for-use-during-inspections-of-maintained-schools-and-academies

edmodo

Social Networking for Education

The Education Fellowship Communities of Practice

It has become apparent when visiting TEF academies, that teachers are very keen to collaborate and share best practice with each other across The Education Fellowship. As a first step to allow this to happen more easily, we have created a set of groups on Edmodo for the use of teachers. By joining any of these groups you may find like-minded people in other TEF academies with whom you can share resources, explore educational ideas and generally support each other.

The first groups are listed below with the codes needed to sign-up. Please feel free to join as many groups as you wish. If you have any ideas for additional groups, then please let me know at albinwallace@educationfellowship.net

Community of Practice	Edmodo Code
Physical Education	qfgk69
Geography	8ujecj
Information & Communication Technology	xg9m66
Science	pcgvwa
Mathematics (including numeracy)	da2acw
EYFS Curriculum	kevu6s
History	mxguuv
Music	a58rhb
Art & Design	vaimur
Design & Technology	mxpsst
Modern Foreign Languages	mvuy5d
Citizenship	ax5rjb
Work-related Learning	vmurgr
Primary Curriculum	ahkh9n
English (including literacy)	mmvkz2
Computer Science	3mwicf
Ict Co-ordinators	nw2ugf

Please be sure to sign-up through tefnet.edmodo.com

Data View

Data View is a new online digital tool developed by Ofsted for comparing regional and local performance of schools, further education and childcare providers.

The tool allows comparison and contrasting of performance in Ofsted inspections in regions, local authority areas and constituencies over a number of years. For example, you can use the tool to see whether schools in a certain area are getting better over time and whether they are doing as well as schools in similar areas in other parts of the England. Data View also enables the comparison of similar local authority areas.

Data View allows comparison of Ofsted inspection evidence in a simple, visual way so that we can see what performance is like in a certain local area when compared with other areas across the country. You can also look at the picture across England to see trends over time and significant variances in performance.

Please note that Data View contains the results of inspections for all open providers at particular points in time. The latest reference point shows inspection judgements as at 31 March 2013 (as at 31 August 2012 for initial teacher education, and as at 31/12/2012 for independent schools). It does not contain live data or information identifying individual providers. It is intended that Ofsted update it periodically.

You can see it at:

http://dataview.ofsted.gov.uk/

A Platform for Good has created free, downloadable flashcards to help develop children's digital citizenship skills.

From safety and privacy to literacy and online responsibility, these cards cover the basics and have conversation starters to get teachers and students thinking and talking.

You can reference just one, or download, print, and put together an entire deck to work through. Then, you can use the conversation prompts to talk about the importance of good digital citizenship.

The flashcards may be downloaded from:

www.aplatformforgood.org/backtoschool

Communicating with Parents
We are currently looking at the way in which schools communicate electronically with parents. Does your school use Group Call, Parent View, Parent Mail or any other online method for communicating with parents?
There may be some ways in which The Education Fellowship can help reduce costs through bulk purchases. Please drop an email to
albinwallace@educationfellowship.net

GCSE Mark to Grade Converter
We have been given access to free site licence copies of a GCSE Mark to Grade Converter with variable grade boundaries entry and actual versus target performance alerts. This spreadsheet tool, donated to us by Naace, allows entry of a raw mark for a class of students for up to ten modules. The raw mark is totalled and the grade boundaries entered are used to give a GCSE grade. The tool is not specific to ICT. If you would like a copy of the tool, then please contact albinwallace@educationfellowship.net

British Science Festival
This month I attended the British Science Festival at Newcastle University. I was involved in several seminars and thought you might be interested in some of the outcomes:
1. Epifection is a new, interactive simulation developed by researchers at Newcastle University which explores an infection outbreak scenario. You and your students can take part at **www.epifection.org**
2. Photosynth is a Microsoft programme that was used in a seminar on digital forensic (the analysis of data contained within and created by digital devices). You can download Photosynth free of charge from **http://photosynth.net/**
3. I also took part in a seminar on climate engineering and there is a great book (also free) on sustainable energy available from **http://www.withouthotair.com** The author is part of the Stratospheric Particle Injection for Climate Engineering project (SPICE) and you can find out more about their work from **www.spicepipe.co.uk**
4. There was a great seminar on learning seen from a neuroscientific approach. You can download a copy of the paper from **http://www.oecd.org/edu/ceri/31706603.pdf**