

How to improve the Impact of PD through a Culture of Mentoring and Coaching

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**April 2025** 



# Question One: WHY DOESN'T PD RELIABLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE ?



#### Eureka Moments?

- The answer to Life, The Universe and Everything is ....?
- PD can be inspirational
- But why isn't it transformational?





## Why does PD have low impact in schools?

- Teacher workload?
- Lack of resources?
- Reluctance to embrace change?
- Competing priorities?
- Stress / anxiety / demotivation ?





## Are there deeper causes?

"All the reviews found that an essential element of successful CPDL is overt relevance of content to its participants and their day-to-day experiences and aspirations for pupils."

"The strongest review found that achieving a shared sense of purpose during CPDL is an important factor for success."

"What was clear was that all studies showed it was important 5 that CPDL programme design creates a "rhythm" to activities, through multiple instances of ongoing support/follow-up activities."

'Developing Great Teaching Lessons from the international reviews into effective professional development.'

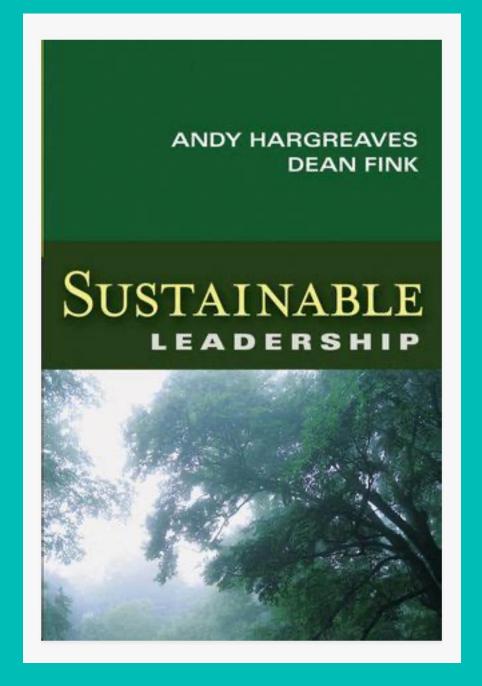
*The Teacher Development Trust* 





## And deeper still?

- What would it look and feel like if schools were genuinely sustainable environments?
- Long term strategies rather than shortterm targets?
- Nurturing the wellbeing, trust and energy levels of staff and students?
- Recognising teaching as 'emotional labour'?





Question Two: What is a Culture of Mentoring & Coaching



## What are Mentoring & Coaching?

"Mentoring involves primarily listening with empathy, sharing experience (usually mutually), professional friendship, developing insight through reflection, being a sounding board, encouraging ... Mentoring is an intense work relationship between senior and junior organisational members."

David Clutterbuck

"Coaching is ... partnering with clients in a thought-provoking and creative process that inspires them to maximise their personal and professional potential"

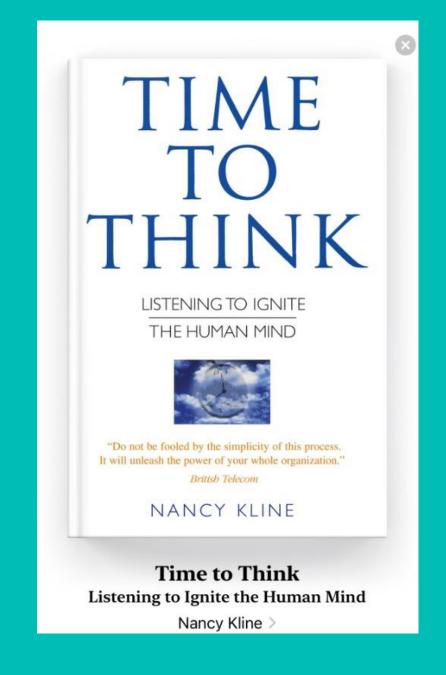
International Coaching Federation definition





What are the key benefits of a Coaching and Mentoring Culture?

- Coaching & Mentoring promote relationships of trust.
- Coaching & Mentoring promote deep and active listening.
- Coaching & Mentoring promote selfrealisation.
- Coaching & Mentoring embraces a whole school team.
- Coaching & Mentoring promote time to think.
- Coaching & Mentoring promote slow, sustainable learning.





## What would it look like if my school had a coaching culture?

- The school has embedded the capacity for all staff to develop coaching and mentoring skills.
- Coaching & Mentoring are fully integrated into all school change and improvement programmes.
- Coaching & Mentoring are not remedial interventions but a planned part of sustainable teacher wellbeing and career development.
- The school invests in Coaching & Mentoring by allocating resources of Spaces and Time to relationship building.





## Question Three How can we improve PD Impact through Coaching & Mentoring?



## What sort of PD programme?

- Stop / Avoid 'one off' PD days with a 'one size fits all' limitation.
- Through coaching, discover and work with teacher's authentic needs, alongside appreciative inquiry lesson observation.
- Empower mentoring from across the school to reduce dependency on external PD providers

When I die, I hope it is during professional development because the transition from life to death would be so subtle. friEdTechnology Creating Educator PD that doesn't

suck since at LEAST 2008



### **Empower Professional Reflection**

- Develop a Professional Learning Community, teachers routinely observe and reflect on each others' lessons.
- Develop a Teacher Self Review Tool.
- Embed self-review and professional development challenging & supportive conversations into the Coaching programme.

#### Questions to Help you to Reflect on your Lessons 课堂反思自问

ASPECT OF LEARNING 让学习发生的层面	What went well/ Even better if 进展顺利之处/可以改善的方面
How good was the Start to the Lesson? Did I motivate students to want to study this topic: 课堂开头做得好吗? 我有没有激发学生对本章节的兴趣?  • Flipped Learning 翻转式学习法  • Using student's curiosity?利用学生的好奇心  • Having a starter activity?设计了"开胃"小活动  • Using Question and Answer for an interesting conversation? 一问一答与学生展开有意思的对话  • Making the learning relevant to the students?将本章节与学生生活联系起来  • Setting clear Learning Objectives, which are differentiated if necessary? 设计清晰	
Prior Learning: Did I clearly link the new learning to prior learning? 原有的学习基础: 我有没有新知识与旧知道清晰的联系起来?  Ask the students to make the link?让学生自己建立新旧知识的连接。  Use Spiral Curriculum/Distributed Learning to link to last week / last month / last year?使用螺旋式或分布式课程设计,与上周/上个月/去年的知识链接起来  Use Prior Learning Review as Assessment for Learning to find 'gaps' in knowledge?使用原有知识学习测评,找到知识上的漏洞	



#### Align PD, Lesson Observation and Coaching.

- Teacher self selects a professional development area.
- Coach and teacher select PD source (home grown if possible)
- On-going coaching discussions accompany PD delivery.
- Teacher selects time of observation.
- Pre-observation discussion to set focus questions - how well did I…?
- Empowering, appreciative, question led feedback.
- Grow teacher to become Mentor / Coach in the skill area.





#### Sustainability, Wellbeing and the Why

"People don't buy what you do; they buy why you do it. And what you do simply proves what you believe." Simon Sinek, 'Start with Why' (2009)

"When adults in schools work well together with reciprocal and relational trust, it increases energy for improvement that then benefits students and their achievement."

Hargreaves and Fink, 'Sustainable School Leadership', 2003

"The quality of your attention determines the quality of other people's thinking".

Nancy Kline, Time to Think, Listening to Ignite the Human Mind, 2015





## Thank you!

