

Dyslexia, Education and Mental Health Conference
22nd June 2019
St. Paul's Church, St. Paul's Road, Cambridge CB2 1JP

Dr Gavin Reid



9.00 – 10.00 a.m. **Dyslexia: Assessment and Learning – a Holistic Approach**

This presentation will focus on key issues in assessment and interventions for children with dyslexia. This will include the LEARN formula for dealing with dyslexia in the classroom; effective learning; dealing with the barriers to learning; intervention approaches; self-esteem and motivation and emotional well-being.

Dr Gavin Reid is an international psychologist and author. He was a classroom teacher and university lecturer and has written over 30 books in the field of dyslexia and learning. His books have been translated into seven languages. He lectures worldwide and has regular international consultancies. Dr. Reid is Chair of the British Dyslexia Association Accreditation Board. He has sat on government panels on assessment and dyslexia and has been engaged in a number of United Nations-funded projects as a learning difficulties expert.

Professor Janice Wearmouth



10.15 - 11.00 am **The Voice of the Learner**

The presentation will address the questions:

- what do current law in England and understandings of the learning process tell us about putting the learner at the centre?
- what are some of the implications for teachers?
- what are the implications for schools?
- what are some of the implications for learners?'

In her work Janice Wearmouth brings together a concern for the learner whose educational experience is problematic with a concern for professionals who have to deal with, and mitigate,

the problems that are experienced, and facilitate opportunities for learning. Since 2000 she has been researching and publishing on issues related to dyslexia and literacy difficulties, behavioural concerns in schools, teacher professional development and inclusion, with colleagues in New Zealand, at the University of Waikato and the Ministry of Education, and colleagues in the UK. She has translated this theorising and research to make it accessible to professionals from a wide range of backgrounds. Much of this work has been externally funded by central government and other institutions. In 2009 she won the National Association of Special Educational Needs (NASEN) book of the year award in the category teacher professional development for her publication: Wearmouth, J (2009) A Beginning Teacher's Guide to Special Educational Needs, Buckingham: Open University Press, and in September, 2017, she was the Routledge Author of the Month for Education. Currently she is working with colleagues on projects to raise the achievement of learners in secondary schools.

Arran Smith: Microsoft



11.00 - 11.30 a.m. Supporting Learners with Technology: Empowering Potential

At Microsoft, the Mission is to empower every person and every organisation on the planet to achieve more. With more than 1 billion people in the world with disabilities, there is no limit to what people can achieve when technology reflects the diversity of all those who use it.

Arran Smith, Microsoft's UK SEND & Dyslexia Consultant, will be talking about Assistive Technology which has been brought into mainstream use which enables teachers, students and dyslexic people of all ages to access the inbuilt assistive technology anytime anywhere.

Arran will talk about the functionality that has been added into Office 365 and Windows 10 that can help to support its dyslexic users. He will also be looking at how it can support students with dyslexia and SEND and the support they may need.

Arran classes himself as one of the 4% of the population who is a severely dyslexic adult.

When Arran was aged 9 he was diagnosed with dyslexia. He uses the metaphor that dyslexia is like going to the dentist, well that's how it was for him all the way until he was 14, this was the age when he realised that dyslexia is a difference not a disadvantage.

During Arran's working life he has worked in many industries including youth work, retail business and the not-for-profit sector. Arran has worked within the dyslexia sector for over 15

years. He is chairman of the Leicestershire Dyslexia Association and previously worked and volunteered for the British Dyslexia Association in varied roles.

Arran has spoken at many large conferences and events across the UK and more recently spoke at a national conference in India.

Despite Arran being severely dyslexic, he uses technology to support his needs and without technology he would not be doing what he is doing today.

Fin O'Regan MA, PGCE BSc



12.00 -1.00 p.m. This presentation will focus on the issue on how to effectively support children and young persons at risk of mental health difficulties for successful educational outcomes within schools and colleges. He will outline how Structure, Flexibility, Rapport, Relationships and Resilience (SF3R) are the key approaches to meet learning, behaviour and socialisation objectives.

Fin O'Regan is one of the leading behaviour and learning experts in the UK and Europe. He was the Headteacher of the Centre Academy from 1996 -2002, the first specialist school in the UK for students between the ages of 7-19 specialising issues related to ADHD, ASD and ODD.

He is currently a Behaviour and Learning Consultant and an associate lecturer for Leicester University, the Institute of Education, the Helen Arkell Dyslexia Centre. Vice Chairman of the UK ADHD Network and a board member of the European ADHD Alliance.

He has written a number of books and published articles on the subject of ADHD, Behaviour and Learning issues.