

Design & Technology with ICT Education Show

Show Patron: Sir James Dyson



18-20 November 2010
NEC, Birmingham
Hall 10



Bob Booth, Educational Advisor to the D+T Show

Design and Technology Update October 2011

Since the announcement of the review of the National Curriculum there has been a call for evidence resulting in strong support for the retention of Design and Technology as part of the National Curriculum with statutory Programmes of Study from 2014. The recommendation of the Expert Panel and Advisory Committee should be known early next year. So, in these challenging times, the Design and Technology Education Show offers a great deal of stability and subject security.

The organisers realise that teachers may well have difficulty in obtaining funding for continuing professional development so this year's show has increased the FREE subject updating opportunities. Seminars reflect the possible curriculum changes which will take place across the Key Stages and the foremost experts in the field are not only talking about and showing exemplars but offering you solutions too. The Keynote lectures parallel the continuing drive to modernise elements of the D&T curriculum and these are followed each day by seminars dealing with current issues. In addition, there are six specialist Workshops each day giving you access to the latest curriculum activity, planning and developments.

New versions of the CAD and CAM systems offered to schools will be supported and these applications offer a superb opportunity to continue to modernise what you do with your pupils and give them access to stimulating and exciting software. Research has shown that some pupils are spending significant parts of the day with electronic entertainment gaining many of the skills needed to operate CAD systems. This 'front-loading' with knowledge and expertise can be done at home leaving lesson time for creative applications of new skills; many of the seminars and workshops will be demonstrating the strategies which allow pupils to produce stunning work.

The clearer focus on key concepts gives us an opportunity to spell out our subject's contribution to the curriculum, to create a strong supply of scientists, engineers and technologists and support language development which we need to demonstrate together with our subject contribution to raising standards generally.

If you are a teacher with expertise in design and technology education and want to contribute to subject development in your school or college this show is the ideal place to gain an in-depth knowledge regarding issues affecting your subject. Look over the programme of seminars and workshops, plan which you want to attend and sign up for these activities as soon as you enter the show hall. If you are making decisions on CAD and CAM training, software applications, hardware and maintenance requirements there will be experts on hand to give advice and show examples of pupil and teacher work. There will also be post-graduate professional development information for teachers with subject leadership aspirations.

As the new curriculum is being prepared for in your school why not make an early request to take advantage of this personal development event – share what's on offer with your head teacher! Don't forget, registering on-line in advance will save you time on the day you visit.

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