Middle East Assessment Conference

Wednesday 28th February 2018

08:30: - 09:00 - Registration & refreshments

09:00 – 09:15
Welcome
James Neill, International Director, GL Education

09:15 – 10:15
The Mona Lisa Effect
Matthew Savage, Principal, The International Community School, Amman
The best schools offer a personalised learning approach which ensures that the entire learning experience is tailored to the strengths and needs of each individual student. They achieve this through the effective use of robust, standardised data on students' aptitude, attainment and attitudes.

Matthew Savage will explore this data triangle, focusing on the stories it tells and how, through smart and strategic interventions, we, as teachers, can change the endings.

10:15 – 11:00
Have data, will innovate…
Nicola Lambros, Deputy Head, King's College, Madrid
So you have analysed your data, calculated the verbal deficit, identified the fragile learners, individual student profiles and set high expectations what do we do next?

Nicola Lambros will provide you with a set of practical and impactful actions and strategies you can take to maximise student progress and drive school development. She will share case studies and examples of how the data can be practically applied in the academic, pastoral and whole school setting to enable all staff to positively and measurably impact school development targets and lead change.

11:00 – 11:15 – Break

11:15 – 12:00
Attainment is only part of the picture
John Conway, Principal, Sheikh Zayed Private Academy for Boys, Abu Dhabi
When Sheikh Zayed Academy for boys opened in August 2015, early benchmark testing showed that students' attainment was on average significantly behind their peers, typically 3 grade levels for a Grade 7 student.

John Conway will explain how a data-driven approach enabled the teaching staff to identify the root causes of the situation and put in place interventions at whole-school and individual levels to ensure that students could make accelerated progress to reach their true potential.

12:00 – 12:30
Panel discussion
James Neill with Matthew Savage, Nicola Lambros, John Conway

12:30 – 13:15 – Lunch

13:15 – 13:30
Exploring the benefits of Value Added analysis
Paul Charman, Fischer Family Trust

13:30 – 14:15
Assessment experts:

Effective use of data to ensure progress is at the core
Liam Cullinan, Head Teacher – Secondary, Nord Anglia School Dubai
Nord Anglia International School Dubai wanted to find a way to share their data more effectively within the school and to bring key information to the attention of teaching staff in a timely manner. To achieve this, they have adopted Power BI to compliment the GL data, a tool that was available as part of their standard IT infrastructure.

Liam Cullinan will explain the journey to power BI and how the tool is used within the school and the process they followed to coach and engage staff. He will also discuss next steps, including how the school plans to share the data with students.

How to engage confident learners
Erika Elkady, Head of Secondary, Jumeira Baccalaureate School
Jumeira Baccalaureate School took part in the trial of the Dubai Student Wellbeing Census (DSWC). Comparing this data with the data provided by the Pupil Attitudes to Self and School survey helped Erika to identify some specific concerns with student engagement that the school is now addressing.

Find out how this analysis was carried out and how the school is engaging their learners by developing the right balance between skills and challenges.

14:15 – 15:00
Data for accreditation
Naveed Iqbal, Principal, International School of Creative Science, Nad Al Sheba
Colin Bell, CEO, Council of British International Schools (COBIS)
Dave Stansfield, Head of R&D, Council of International Schools (CIS)
Organisations like CIS and COBIS support international schools with a wide range of services; offer representation with external stakeholders and provide an external endorsement of quality. For this reason, their accreditation processes must be robust. Colin Bell and Dave Stansfield will outline what they believe makes an outstanding international school, and how effective use of assessment data can support schools in the accreditation process.

15:00 – 15:30
Leadership and data as a foundation for success
Sir Michael Wilshaw
Sir Michael Wilshaw was the Chief Inspector of Schools in the UK from 2012 to 2016. Before taking up this appointment he had established an outstanding track record of school leadership, particularly in transforming schools from failing to outstanding.

Sir Michael believes that progress, both at an individual and cohort level, is the key metric by which to judge the effectiveness of a school's teaching. If progress is good, the outcomes will tend to look after themselves.

This is particularly relevant when students come from widely different starting points and when there is a high degree of mobility, both of students and staff, within the school.

Referring to his experience both in school leadership and school inspection, Sir Michael will emphasise the importance of the effective collation, analysis, and use of student data to support teaching and learning and the need for effective leadership and training to ensure that teachers are able to understand and use the data where it matters – in the classroom.

15:30 – 15:45
Summary, James Neill