



## A network making the difference

### **An international platform for professional debate**

With the origin as a Comenius 3 network 2003-2006 (107811-CP-1-2003-1-SE-COMENIUS-C3), today the Learning Teacher Network™ is a sustained and membership based European educational network and association. Expressing the European dimension, the network acts as an international platform for professional debate in the vanguard of educational progress. The network keeps its appreciated character of being a vital meeting point for professionals from the entire educational world.

As an independent association, the network unites professionals in education in the ambition of sharing and creating front-line teaching and learning in order to develop education and training. One main characteristic of the network is the welcoming and excellent atmosphere when people communicate and meet. The guiding words that illustrate the network are "trust, respect and fun".



## **Seeking answers to meet the future**

The rationale of the network is a number of coinciding shifts of paradigm deriving from the information society and creating major challenges to the educational community in all parts of Europe, such as:

- transition from teaching to learning, and the creation of professional learning communities,
- transition from factual knowledge to advanced knowledge and understanding of context, and
- teachers, leaders and trainers must themselves be in the process of continuous learning.

Living in the information society creates a demand for flexibility and open-minded approaches to solutions. Education needs to be proactive, to provide for elements of lifelong skills and is required to comprise responses to global and local challenges. The network discusses and contributes to answers on these vital issues for the future.

## **Promoting creativity and innovation**

The development of the network in itself derives from creativity, where the network's organisation and expression is tailored over time for best possible performance. Thematic interest groups, new publications and a new interactive website are such examples.

The network takes action to strengthen the exchange of knowledge and experience, but also to impact on educational change.

The network's annual international conferences address front-line topics and provides for content, which is based on the sharing of research and new knowledge, experience and good practice. By promoting creative work and ideas the conferences highlight new possibilities and support innovative action in education and training. Among the wide range of conference presenters the network actively welcomes LLP projects to share their findings and results.



Dissemination of new knowledge also takes place through the quarterly *The Learning Teacher Journal* (ISSN 1654-0344). The journal is a peer refereed journal which publishes research and advanced professional development by educational practitioners engaged in teaching and learning. During 2009 the new *The Learning Teacher Magazine* (ISSN 2000-2006) will be developed and published on a regular basis. The earlier produced trilogy of books on the new role of the teacher is available still in both paperback and electronic versions.

## **A network for educational progress**

In summary, the Learning Teacher Network articulates its mission through:

- Providing for an international forum of professionals embracing a holistic view on education and concerned with professional development in education and training.
- Organising international events, such as conferences, training courses, symposia, seminars and meetings, to ensure the dissemination of new or pertinent knowledge in the thematic field.
- Supporting, developing and promoting good professional development practice, international exchanges, the creation of new networks and projects, and the thematic interaction between educational players.
- Gathering and disseminating information on all aspects of front-line policies, teaching and learning in education and training.
- Offering consultancy and advice on the development of policy and practice.



## **Working within the Lifelong Learning Programme**

The Learning Teacher Network operates within the EU Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP). In line with the objectives of the programme, the network initiatives and activities seek to contribute to successful programme actions and thereby to the development of education and training in Europe.

## **Become a network member**

The network embraces practitioners in school, trainers, researchers and other educational experts within the whole range of education from pre-school to universities. Membership is open to anyone who supports the objectives of the network. The members constitute the network.

You and/or your institution are warmly welcome to become a member of the Learning Teacher Network. As member you are able to influence the strategies and the development of the network. You are also encouraged to propose initiatives and to participate in network activities.

The membership fee for institutional membership is 50 euro per calendar year and for individual membership 25 euro per calendar year.

### **Contact details**

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### **The Learning Teacher Network**

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