


## Championing children, families and communities

Hilton Metropole, Birmingham


18 to 19 March 2008


### Conference chair and speaker information


#### Conference chair





	Sioned Bowen, Director Virtual Staff College/ContinYou Trustee
	<p><b>Biography</b></p> <p>Having taught in communities in Brixton and Brent, Sioned returned to Wales as a headteacher and then HMI and Corporate Director for Lifelong Learning. Sioned's commitment to community focused schools has held firm over nearly forty years in education and learning. As chair of the Association of Directors of Education in Wales (ADEW), Sioned was a member of the Welsh Assembly 'Food and Fitness' group and the Daugherty review on new assessment arrangements for schools. Currently, Sioned is a member of Children in Wales Policy Council, Youth Justice Committee, vice chair of a further education college, in addition to carrying out consultancy work in Wales and beyond.</p>

#### Speakers – Day one


	Julia Unwin Director, Joseph Rowntree Foundation
	<p><b>Overview</b></p> <p>Julia will look broadly at some of the main issues facing children, families and communities today. She will discuss the findings of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's recent Poverty and Education research programme. This programme looks at the impact of poverty and disadvantage on school experiences, feeding in to disadvantage in later life. The Foundation also launched a consultation on modern 'social evils' last year. Julia will refer to the themes of poverty and inequality, family and the community which emerged from this.</p> <p><b>Biography</b></p> <p>Julia Unwin was previously deputy chair of the Food Standards Agency and worked as an independent consultant operating within government and the voluntary and corporate sectors. In that role, she focused on the development of services and, in particular, the governance and funding of voluntary organisations. She also served as a member of the Housing Corporation Board for ten years and a charity commissioner from 1998 until 2003. Julia has long experience as an advocate for the users of housing, health and social care services. Julia is a member of the Council on Social Action, a member of the Ethics Committee at the University of York and a governor of the Pensions Policy Institute.</p>


	Howard Goodall Composer and Singing Ambassador
	<p><b>Overview</b></p> <p>Howard will speak about the role music, in particular singing, can have on children and their communities, how it can build social cohesion, create bridges between schools and age groups, improve learning and behaviour, and build self-esteem.</p> <p><b>Biography</b></p> <p>Howard Goodall is England's National Ambassador for Singing. He is a passionate advocate of music education for all, but is probably best known for his composing and broadcasting work. The former includes popular TV themes, choral works and stage musicals, many of which are familiar throughout the world; the latter six award winning documentary series for Channel 4, the most recent of which was <i>How music works</i>. He was the recipient of the 2007 Making Music/Sir Charles Grove Prize for Outstanding Contribution to British Music.</p>

	Jane Hutt MP Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, Welsh Assembly Government
	<p><b>Overview</b></p> <p>Jane will mention how the Welsh Assembly has developed additional services and funding, how key policy areas have an impact on community focused schools (e.g. Flying Start and Foundation Phase) and additional money for childcare services.</p> <p><b>Biography</b></p> <p>Educated at the University of Kent, the London School of Economics and Bristol University, Jane is also an Honorary Fellow of UWIC. Prior to her election to the National Assembly for Wales, Jane was Director of Chwarae Teg (Fair Play) and was the Welsh member on the New Opportunities (UK) Fund. She was an elected member of the former South Glamorgan County Council. Having served as Minister for Health and Social Services (1999 to 2005), Minister for Assembly Business, Children and Equalities (2005 to 2007) and Minister for Budget and Business Management (May 2007 to July 2007), Jane was appointed Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills in July 2007.</p>

	<p>Robson Davison Deputy Secretary, Department of Education Northern Ireland</p> <p><b>Overview</b> Robson will set out current policy developments in Northern Ireland, covering several departments, to champion children, families and communities.</p> <p><b>Biography</b> Robson is responsible for schools and youth policy. He is involved at present in the implementation of a revised curriculum, in reviews of special educational needs provision, alternative education provision and school improvement policy and in changes to transfer policy. Work is also underway on an early years strategy and on the future development of extended schools. All of this provides Robson with a broad view of recent approaches in Northern Ireland to championing children, families and communities.</p>
	<p>Ty Goddard Director, British Council for School Environments</p> <p><b>Biography</b> As director of the British Council for School Environments (BCSE), Ty is responsible for managing the BCSE team and for the development and implementation of strategy. Ty previously worked as managing director of School Works, an organisation aiming to build better schools through consultation and participation, bringing together the best in the building industry with the best in education. Formerly, Ty was Community Strategic Manager at Brighton and Hove City Council's Schools. He has also acted as an advisor to the DfES on extended schools and co-location of services. In 1998, Ty was elected to Lambeth Council and became Chair of Education, later combining this with a social services role. Ty has worked as the UK and European Political Advisor for the NSPCC, and was the National Campaigns Co-ordinator for SCOPE. He has spoken at national conferences for a range of bodies, including the DfES, 4Children, Sure Start and BURA.</p>
	<p>Geoff Mulgan Director, Young Foundation</p> <p><b>Biography</b> Since late 2004, Geoff Mulgan has been director of the Young Foundation, a centre for social innovation based in London. Between 1997 and 2004 Geoff had various roles in the UK government including director of the Government's Strategy Unit and head of policy in the Prime Minister's office. Before that he was the founder and director of the think-tank Demos and adviser to Gordon Brown MP. He is a visiting professor at LSE, UCL and Melbourne University; on the boards of the Work Foundation and the Design Council; and is chair of Involve and of the Carnegie Inquiry into the Future of Civil Society. His most recent book is <i>Good and bad power: the ideals and betrayals of government</i> (Allen Lane, 2006).</p>
	<p>Ian Gilbert Managing Director, Independent Thinking</p> <p><b>Overview</b> A whistle-stop tour of four key areas that anyone involved in the development of young people should be aware of – how to get children's brain hurting; democratising learning; the new 'Top Table' and why we should always bear in mind, 'It's the brain, stupid'.</p> <p><b>Biography</b> Ian Gilbert is the founder of Independent Thinking Ltd and one of the UK's leading educational speakers in demand at home and abroad for his entertaining, inspiring and effective work breaking new ground in the areas of learning, creativity, motivation and achievement.</p> <p>His work has been featured on local and national TV and radio and in TES where he has been referred to as a Mr Motivator, although if you ask him he will deny it.</p> <p>He is the author of the bestselling book <i>Essential motivation in the classroom</i>, reviewed in TES as one of 'the top five educational books' and being translated into Spanish and Greek with a number of other titles underway.</p> <p>Apart from his innovatory work in education, he has also taught creativity to murderers and tax inspectors, been a Learning Science consultant to the BBC and addressed organisations such as the NHS and Accenture on thinking skills, learning and how to use the brain you've got.</p> <p>Independent Thinking Ltd (motto: do things no-one does or do things everyone does but in a way no-one does) is a powerful and unique network of speakers and trainers including, amongst others, a consultant paediatric neurologist, two professional actors, a TV confidence guru and an OBE.</p>

## Speakers – Day two

	<p>Beverley Hughes MP Minister for Children, Young People and Families, Department for Children, Schools and Families</p>
	<p><b>Overview:</b> Keynote address on government strategy on championing children, families and communities.</p>
	<p><b>Biography:</b> Beverley was leader of Trafford Borough Council until 1997 when she was elected MP for Stretford and Urmston (Manchester). She has held ministerial posts in the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions and the Home Office.</p> <p>Following the general election in 2005, Beverley was appointed Minister for Children, Young People and Families at the Department for Education and Skills. At the Cabinet reshuffle in June 2007, Beverley remained in post and was given additional responsibilities for Youth Justice and appointed Minister for the North West. Beverley also attends Cabinet when social policy issues are discussed.</p> <p>Beverley received an MSc for her postgraduate research into the treatment of schizophrenia from both Manchester and Liverpool Universities in 1978. She is married with three children and currently lives in Manchester.</p>

	<p>Maggie Farrar Operational Director, National College for School Leadership</p>
	<p><b>Overview:</b> Interactive leadership symposium, sponsored by the National College of School Leadership, which identifies the big leadership challenges and opportunities raised by the Every Child Matters agenda. The delivery of the ECM five outcomes and the Children's Plan, gives all of us the opportunity to develop our leadership. The symposium will explore and deepen learning and understanding from a range of perspectives and contexts giving leaders the chance to focus on the difference they are making now and how to develop their leadership, and the leadership of others, to sustain better outcomes for children, young people and families. The symposium will focus on three enquiry questions and will aim to deepen our knowledge of impact and outcomes, leadership and sustainability. The symposium will also share tools and learning protocols that can be used by leaders at all levels of the system in order to further their learning and leadership development around the ECM agenda. The outcomes from the symposium will be captured by NCSL and ContinYou and will be made available after the conference.</p>
	<p><b>Biography:</b> Maggie's love of teaching and working with young people started in West Africa where she taught in a large secondary school in Northern Ghana. She then moved to London to work first in Newham, Greenwich and then in Hackney. Her last teaching post in London was as Deputy Head of Haggerston School in Hackney. She then moved to Birmingham to work with Tim Brighouse where she set up the University of the First Age, a national charity which develops extended learning experiences for young people in school and community settings. She has worked with the DfES on the development of study support and partnership programmes that involve the community and voluntary sector. Since May 2003, Maggie has been working at the National College of School Leadership where she is an operational director responsible for Every Child Matters and Standards. Her work at the NCSL includes working with other sectors on a multi-agency team development programme, the setting up and support of the new NPQICL (National Professional Qualification in Integrated Centre Leadership) for early years leaders, supporting local authorities on the 'Change for Children' agenda, promoting a learning to lead in communities programme for community leaders and the development of leadership programmes for leaders of extended schools.</p>