BSA GROUP EDI CONFERENCE

Curiouser and Curiouser Why Research Matters

Thursday **29** September
09:15 – 16:00

Audience:

Suitable for any member of staff. Particularly useful for EDI leads and staff in leadership roles.

This one-day online conference will focus on the importance of research culture in helping us explore the complexities of EDI Issues and seeks to challenge our thinking and to drive effective strategy forward in our schools. As well as signposting recent research across a wide range of areas linked to EDI, speakers will consider research as an opportunity and tool that can deepen understanding, challenge perceptions and celebrate creative and critical thinking.

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Curiouser and Curiouser -Why Research Matters

Thursday 29 September

SESSION

09:15 - 09:30

Welcome and introduction

- Ammy Davies-Potter, Director of Guardianship and Inclusion, BSA Group
- Irfan Latif, Conference Chair and Principal, DLD College London
- Darcy Bourne, GB and England Professional Hockey Player, Wellington College Alumni

09:30 - 10:15

Why research?

- Chair: Nick Wergan, Global Education Director, Inspired Education Group
- Professor Abigail Harrison Moore, Professor of Art History and Museum Studies, University of Leeds
- Louise Banahene MBE, Director of Educational Engagement, University of Leeds

Focusing on EDI, this session will consider the explorative value and power of research and the importance of engaging ourselves and our pupils in the journey to know, to see and to understand.

10:15 - 10:30

Break

SESSION

10:30 - 11:15

Student led projects and empathy

- Chair: Bex Tear, Executive Head, Fulham School
- Rebecca Crumpton, Curriculum Support Manager, AQA
- Ed Kirwan, CEO and Founder, Empathy Week

This session will explore the benefits of student led projects – focusing on how they can support successful transitions as well as building confidence and resilience. Empathy has been shown to increase creativity and reduce biases; Based on recent research that has highlighted the ways in which empathy can increase creativity and reduce biases, this session will address the ways in which empathy can be developed and why it is such a crucial skill to develop in our students.

11:15 - 11:30

Break

11:30 - 12:15

Racial equity in education and adultification of children

- Chair: Gavin Horgan, Head, Millfield School
- · Kiki Nartey, Education Lead, FLAIR
- Coco Stevenson, Director of Inclusion, St Paul's Girls' School and Educational Consultant

This session will firstly focus on unpacking and highlighting key information and learnings from a recent racial equity in education report. Over 80 schools were surveyed with the aim of finding out how best create an education system that enables all children and staff to thrive. Secondly, key information and a summary of research around the area of adultification bias will be explored. The damaging limitations of assigning children adult attributes and inappropriate levels of maturity will be considered as will the means through which this can be addressed.

12:15 - 13:00

Lunch

13:00 - 13:45

The why, what and how of using research to further impact: a case study

- · Chair: Liz Hewer, Head, St George's School
- Temi Akindele Barker, Founder, Inclusion Labs
- Dr Naomi Leite, Inclusion Consultant and Reader in Anthropology, SOAS, University of London

This case-study focussed session will provide the opportunity to hear and learn more about the possibilities offered by the effective use of research to maximise impact.

13:45 - 14:00

Break

14:00 - 14:45

Self-identity and animal assisted interventions

- Chair: Natasha Dangerfield, Headmistress, Westonbirt School
- Dr Emma Loveridge, Director, Rafan House
- Professor Jo Williams, Professor of Applied Developmental Psychology, University of Edinburgh

Following on from the theme of last year's EDI conference: identity, belonging and connectedness, this session will start by considering how a culture can be empowered to such an extent that self-identity can be embraced wholeheartedly. Next, in the context of the increase in child and adolescent well-being and health concerns in schools, the opportunity for animal assisted interventions will be discussed. Key areas will include what research tells us about the impact that children's attachment to pets can have along with animal-assisted therapies and/or learning.

14:45 - 15:00

Break

15:00 - 15:45

Architectural history, bystanders and intercultural pedagogies

- Chair: Mark Lauder, Headmaster, Strathallan School and BSA Interim Chair, 2022
- Professor Abigail Harrison Moore, Professor of Art History and Museum Studies, University of Leeds
- Jonathan Charlesworth, Executive Director Educational Action Challenging Homophobia (EACH)
- **Dr Karem Roitman**, Consultant Education, Gender, Social Inclusion

The last session of the day will start with exploring a school's physical environment as an affective space and the impact this may have on the sense of belonging for pupils and staff who may respond differently to the fabric of architecture as well as to its historical and cultural references. The role and impact of bystanders will then be considered along with practical strategies to inspire someone to become an upstander. Though the consideration of art and literature as tools for creating empathy, self-understanding and inclusion, our final speaker will share insights from research on intercultural education. They will discuss how these insights might be applied to other areas of inclusion such as neurodiversity.

15:45 - 16:00

Closing remarks

- Irfan Latif, Conference Chair and Principal, DLD College London
- Robin Fletcher, Chief Executive, BSA and BSA Group





Ammy Davies-Potter
Director of Guardianship and
Inclusion, BSA Group



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