



Educational Support for Schools

# More Tools for the Toolkit

Developing the use of learning and thinking tools

**More Tools for the Toolkit** is the second practical professional development session that looks to develop the use of effective learning and thinking tools within a learning environment. To achieve a deeper level of learning and thinking, young learners need to be supported in the process of making sense and developing understanding. This process can be nurtured through the consistent use of a range of learning tools that can easily become part of everyday classroom practice.

This programme aims to:

- Explore the essential skills for effective thinking
- Enable teachers and teaching assistants to become confident with higher-order thinking and practical tools for developing higher-order thinking
- Provide a variety of cross-curricular visual tools for thinking and learning

## Programme Agenda

### **Session 1** Understanding thinking

**Aim of Session – To explore a deeper understanding of thinking and the skills required for effective thinking**

- Re-engagement in Learning - The journey to date
- An agreement about thinking - What does it look like and what is needed?
- Essential skills for effective thinking - Identification of essential thinking behaviours
- Early Reflections - Learning from session 1

### **Session 2** Show me you know

**Aim of Session – To introduce and develop a range of visual thinking tools**

- Getting H.O.T. with activities – Tools for developing higher-order thinking
- Thinking Visuals - Thinking through visual mapping and other mapping tools
- Introducing a range of graphic organisers for higher-order thinking

### **Session 3** Mapping my mind

**Aim of Session – Developing mapping skills to develop thinking and learning**

- Warming up - Thinking creatively
- Language of hierarchy - Moving higher with vocabulary
- Building maps for thinking and learning - uses across the curriculum
- Reflections on learning

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