



Educational Support for Schools

# Tools for the Toolkit

Developing the use of learning and thinking tools

This practical training session will look 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:

- Introduce a range of visual and collaborative learning and thinking tools
- Enable teachers and teaching assistants to develop the use of these tools
- Provide a variety of cross-curricular methods for using each tool

## Programme Agenda

### **Session 1** Why bother using learning tools?

#### **Aim of Session – To explore learning and thinking in classrooms and how it is promoted**

- Re-engagement in Learning .... Our current understanding about learning
- An agreement on learning ..... How does learning occur and what is the natural process
- Learning Behaviours for the 21<sup>st</sup> century ..... Identifying specific thinking skills relevant for the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Early Reflections ..... Learning from session

### **Session 2** Let me talk about learning

#### **Aim of Session – To introduce and develop a range of tools to support learning through dialogue**

- Learning ..... Introducing the 3 key ingredients for effective learning
- I'm a pirate !!! ..... Tools for collaborative re-engagement in learning
- 8 of the Best !!! – 8 tools for effective collaborative learning and thinking
- Questioning the learning..... Questions for reflection

### **Session 3** A Class of Young Socrates

#### **Aim of Session – Developing Philosophy for Children (P4C) as a tool for deeper learning**

- Creating an environment for philosophy ..... an appropriate climate
- Games for the beginning ..... Practical activities for the warm up session
- A philosophy session ..... Developing a community of enquiry
- Reflections on learning

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