



Teachers and Professional Learning

Frensham teachers are highly qualified and committed to ongoing professional learning: individual, faculty-based and whole school-focused. The emphasis is on best practice globally, which is evidence-based and supported by action research. To that end, teachers work with internationally recognised experts in the field of education.

In particular, since 2012 Frensham teachers have been guided by Frank Crawford, former Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland, and now international speaker and advisor on school transformation, the impact of technology, learning spaces and different teaching approaches that better engage learners and develop the skills they will need in order to be successful in a 21st century global community.

Led by an Executive Strategic Learning Team, teachers establish professional learning goals each year and work together collegially in cross-faculty groups known as 'Teacher Learning Communities' (TLCs) to achieve these goals. The Executive provides meaningful school-based opportunities for teachers to observe, discuss, coach, reflect on and learn more about the craft of teaching from each other.

Throughout 2014, all Frensham teachers undertook the Mini Certificate of Gifted Education run by GERRIC, UNSW School of Education and all have now added this qualification to their already extensive credentials. Teachers regularly review their teaching practice by asking these three questions:

1. *What am I doing in class today?*
2. *Why am I doing it that way?*
3. *How can I demonstrate the impact I am having on student learning, progress and achievement?*

In recognising the importance of ongoing professional learning for its teachers, Winifred West Schools Foundation each year awards scholarships to outstanding teachers to develop their craft further through involvement in an international conference or programme. Executive staff members also represent the School at high-level national and international educational conferences to ensure that a Frensham education continues to be relevant and world class.

For 2015 and ahead, the professional learning goals for Frensham teachers are:

1. To meet the individual learning needs of all students by personalising programmes, experiences and outcomes
2. To promote a growth mindset in every student and member of staff
3. To develop leadership capacity in all students and staff
4. To create a learning community that is world class and embraces innovation, inspired by evidence-based research and external critique.



WWS Professional Learning Workshop ~ Guest presenter Lee Crockett working with Staff