



A personal vision for education

by Mark Baker

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Background

This document began life in 2003 as I was preparing to start work as a local authority ICT consultant. I felt it was important to encourage the heads of department that I would be working with to develop their own vision for ICT, to help them to act strategically. I could not expect them to do this if I did not have my own personal vision and this led to the development of the ICT wheel diagram (last page).

The first diagram was mostly my interpretation of the KS3 ICT framework of the day, although some elements were more "my own". This has been amended since, however most of the ideas seem as relevant now as they were originally. One of the early features of the diagram was the organisation under the three headings **Effective**, **Reflective** and **Responsible**.

The ICT diagram was submitted to the ICT framework review, via my professional association, NAACE. While I have no direct evidence that it had any impact, I like to think that it was influential in the use of **Successful**, **Confident** and **Responsible** as the key learner descriptors in the updated framework documents.

I have since developed the ICT vision into a more complete educational vision. One influence was a primary school website. I really liked their strap-line, "Born curious, stay curious", choosing to adopt the "stay curious" part.

My belief in the importance of vision comes from the experience of trying to discuss the deployment of ICT to support teaching and learning. Often there is no collective understanding of what a particular school is trying to achieve, what it believes in, what it aspires to be. You cannot develop a truly coherent ICT vision unless you are clear about your vision for education. And without a coherent ICT vision developments are more likely to be haphazard, with reduced impact on outcomes.

Vision can be useful at different levels within an organisation; individuals, groups or the whole corporate body. If you would like support in developing a vision for all or part of your organisation, please get in touch via the EVC website www.educationvision.co.uk.

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Here is my personal vision for education and for ICT education, expressed in text. On the following pages this same vision is expressed in two wheel diagrams.

The purpose of this document is to show one way of expressing a vision for education and to stimulate thought and discussion around this area.

Strap line

Learners we can all be proud of.

Vision statement

Learners that we can all be proud of, who remain curious throughout their lives.

Vision for education

The development of individuals to be proud of, who are effective, reflective and responsible learners. Tolerant and caring, they remain curious and questioning and feel confident to grasp opportunities as they occur. Ready to consider the bigger picture in any situation, they can also focus on the detail and always seek to produce high quality work. As independent learners, they are positive, energetic and thorough and can work collaboratively as well as by themselves. They are happy, secure and well-rounded.

Vision for ICT in education

ICT teaching empowers learners by developing their ability to find information, critically evaluate it and apply it in order to solve problems and support a range of other activities. They develop their analytical skills and ability to manage the different stages of multi-faceted projects and can use a wide range of software and hardware effectively. They can work together in teams, developing the ability to evaluate their own and others' work and contributions, whilst remaining supportive of each other. As well as understanding common forms and conventions, they use their understanding to develop innovative and creative solutions when appropriate. They understand the range of communication options, information, support and training materials available to them and can select appropriate means of building their knowledge and skills. They show a developing awareness of potential hazards and pitfalls, understanding how they can avoid or manage risks to themselves and others and can respond appropriately when things go wrong. They seek to take charge of technology, focusing on their desired outcomes. They are discriminating in their choices and show a good understanding of what new and emerging technologies and related services may be able to offer.

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A Personal Vision for ICT

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