



Australian National Schools Network

Dimensions of Learning Hub

Professional Development Opportunity for teacher teams to explore research based instructional design models

“Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together”

Vincent Van Gogh



The Australian National Schools Network

The Australian National Schools Network (ANSN) has a long and successful history in school reform and improvement. It is at the forefront of new thinking about learning, pedagogy, curriculum and school organisation, and brings together teachers, schools, universities, teacher unions, government and non-government employers in a unique, nationwide learning community.

The ANSN leads, supports and promotes innovative teaching and learning practices across Australia. It builds on the expertise of its members. It uses what has been learned about successful practice. The network and its members nurture good ideas, develop them, try them



out, evaluate the result and turn them into reality.

The ANSN extends and crosses boundaries. Its members are at the leading edge in their rethinking of teaching and learning. They devise and explore innovative ways to improve educational outcomes; and they share their experience of what works best in the classroom.

In times of unprecedented change, the ANSN is building teacher and school leadership capacity in wide-ranging ways. They are helping their students become more flexible; more able to handle information in the knowledge society; more skilled in the use of new technologies; more prepared to handle changing demands and occupations during their later lives. The ANSN has created an exciting network that does exciting things for education.

As part of this important work, the ANSN and CQU are proud to offer educators an opportunity to share and extend on the learning of the highly acclaimed Dimensions of Learning (DoL), which is based on the practical experience and research of the Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL) organisation.

About Central Queensland University

At Central Queensland University (CQU) the teacher education degree, the Bachelor of Learning Management (BLM), has a high emphasis on giving beginning teachers the skills to design pedagogical strategies that will achieve learning outcomes for students. The professional knowledge and pedagogy courses in the BLM program are influenced by the research and strategies that underpin the Dimensions of Learning. CQU has worked with schools in the Professional Learning Project to help classroom teachers engage with instructional design strategies as they plan and design learning. Working in this way, classroom teachers can apply the relevant aspects of the DoL to their planning at that point in time. In 2007 CQU's leading DoL practitioners were accredited by McREL to deliver the approved professional training in the Dimensions of Learning. The CQU team has since expanded on the original McREL training to develop an interactive 5 day action learning Hub that allows participants to explore and implement the philosophy and strategies of DoL in an Australian context.

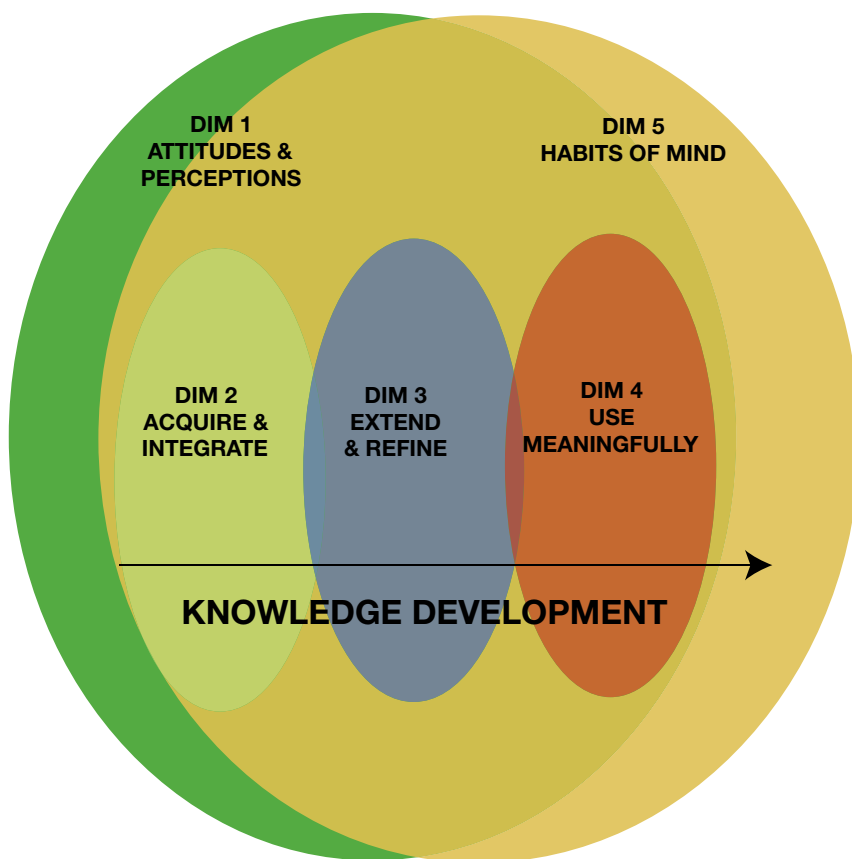
Background

Dimensions of Learning (DoL) is defined by McREL as "a comprehensive model that uses what researchers and theorists know about learning to define the learning process. Its premise is that five types of thinking -- what we call the five dimensions of learning -- are essential to successful learning."

The DoL framework is based on the premise that all learning takes place against the backdrop of learners' attitudes and perceptions (Dimension 1) and their use (or lack of use) of productive habits of mind (Dimension 5). Dimensions 2, 3 and 4 examine ways of viewing instructional strategies and assessment as types of thinking that allow students to take accountability for their own learning.

The ANSN and CQU would like to extend an invitation to your school or cluster to join us on our journey to explore how we can extend on the research and theory of McREL about how students learn, and translate this into an Australian context.

To find out more about DoL view CQU's website <http://www.cqu.edu.au/dol/>



Benefits of Membership

The DoL hub membership is for 12 months, and includes the following benefits for clusters, schools, teachers and students:

- Five professional development days spread out during the year for school teams or clusters to explore the skills and knowledge that they require to improve learning outcomes for all their students.
- Opportunities to work with teachers, both locally and nationally. By adopting the DoL framework educators become focused on the learning process:
- At a basic level the Hub introduces participants to a common perspective and a shared language to ensure the classroom is structured around, and operating with, a consistent attention to learning.
- Participants are immersed in a repertoire of research-based instructional strategies and the thinking processes associated with each level of learning.
- The Hub also provides participants with a way of organising and scaffolding curriculum materials, ensuring assessment is clearly aligned with curriculum and pedagogy.

Purchasing a membership

The ANSN believes that professional learning is best undertaken in a collaborative way, with a team of teachers over an extended period of time. It is expected that the SAME team of THREE teachers attend each of the days. This is to help provide continuity not only of the learning undertaken, but also of the development of professional relationships with colleagues from other schools.

The cost for a team of three teachers to attend all 5 days of professional development is \$2400 + GST. The cost to ANSN members, or schools joining the ANSN, is \$2000 + GST. Small schools interested in joining are encouraged to share a membership with other local schools. This enables the establishment of a small supportive team of local teachers (a cluster) who can work together and share experiences, discuss issues and generally support each other.

Please secure your membership by filling in the registration form.

For more information contact Hanan Harrison via email:
hanan.harrison@ansn.edu.au

About Hanan Harrison

State Networker- Hanan Harrison is an educator who has developed a keen interest in pedagogy and innovative curriculum design. She has developed and implemented a number of Research Circle in Queensland since 2002 that support educators reflecting and exploring on their professional practice. Hanan also lectures part time to pre-service teachers at CQU Noosa hub, as well as supporting local schools in professional development initiatives through the university.



The Australian National Schools Network (ANSN)

The ANSN is a not-for-profit company that seeks to lead and support rethinking teaching and learning for a socially just world by fostering connections between people and schools nationally and internationally.

Join the ANSN

School Membership
\$275.00 per year (\$220 if your system is also a member.)
Individual Membership
\$ 55.00 per year
www.ansn.edu.au for further details and flyer.



Program outline

This 5-day program is based on the experience and research of McREL's DoL. The Hub is designed to give participants a repertoire of research-based skills and strategies that focus learning as 5 types of thinking.

Days 1 & 2 – Exploring effective strategies associated with the 5 types of thinking premised by DoL.

These first 2 days take an in-depth and hands on approach to introducing the 5 Dimensions of Learning. Participants will also be introduced to the research supporting the instructional strategies.

Day 3 – Examining practice and further investigation of DoL

This day provides participants with an opportunity to reflect on their work and experience to date, and share learning and resources with colleagues. Further expansion of how DoL can be implemented and sustained within a school context will also be outlined.

Days 4 and 5– Planning units of work and assessment using DoL

These days focus on developing, implementing and sharing units of work and assessment around DoL. Participants will also reflect on sustainable models for developing a school wide approach for implementing DoL.

ANSN Dimensions of Learning Hub

1. Some preliminary matters

- (i) Please complete the details below and return to hanan.harrison@ansn.edu.au
- (ii) Alternatively you can fax this form to **61 2 9590 3416**
- (iii) Returning this form confirms the school, or cluster's commitment to join the ANSN Dimensions of Learning Hub (for 12 months over a calendar year). An invoice will follow your registration.

2. Membership Details

Name of school

Are you an ANSN member? Yes No

Would you like to become an ANSN Member as part of this registration? Yes No

Number of memberships required

Main contact person for membership

Email of main contact person

Address for correspondence

State and Postcode

Phone

Fax Number

Please select venue options:

- Adelaide
 Brisbane
 Cairns
 Canberra
 Darwin
 Perth
 Lismore
 Melbourne
 Sunshine Coast
 Sydney
 Tasmania
 Other (please specify)

3. Billing Details

Only to be completed if different to above

Name and address for billing

Phone

Fax Number

4. Participant details:

Name	Email Address	Teaching Grade/Subject	Attended previous DoL training

For more information, contact:

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