

Setting the Stage for Learning

Learning to Learn: building positive Attitudes and Perceptions, dimension 1, through productive Habits of Mind, dimension 5





The ANSN would like to extend an invitation for all interested educators to join with **Tina Doe** and **Hanan Harrison** in a 5 day action learning project, *Setting the Stage for Learning*, which focuses specifically to dimensions 1 and 5 of the McREL Dimensions of Learning framework (www.mcrel.org)

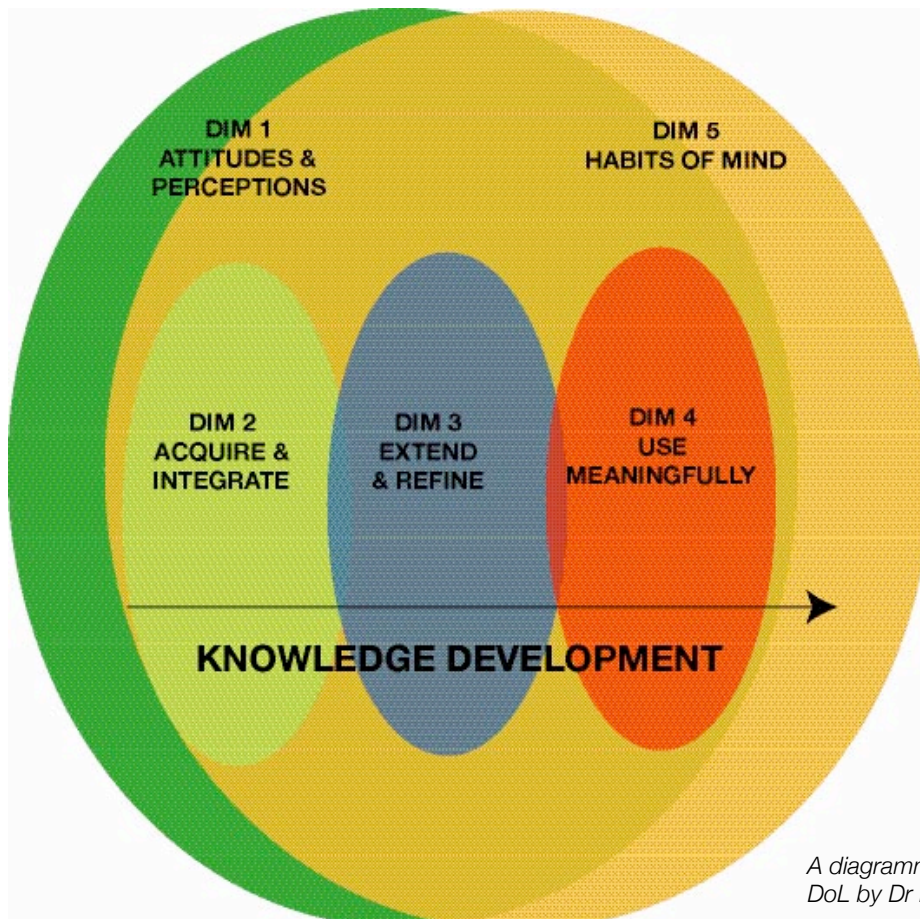
Dimension 5, Habits of Mind, identifies productive mental habits that, along with attitudes and perceptions, Dimension 1, form the backdrop of the learning process.

(Dr Robert Marzano, 1997)

Setting the Stage for Learning is about skillful, intentional design through these vital learning dispositions and frames of mind. The aim is to provide tools that assist schools to build the citizenship skills, knowledge, capabilities and values that equip our students as independent thinkers for the 21st century knowledge economy.

Initially, hub participants will experience a range of opportunities to introduce or reacquaint them with productive **Habits of Mind** (dim 5) and the establishment of positive **Attitudes and Perceptions** (dim 1) for learning. Progressively, the action learning will challenge and support individual understanding through professional dialogue and reflection strategies. Participants will establish new and meaningful connections for their own educational context by pin pointing how

- to overtly cultivate specific **Attitudes and Perceptions** (dim 1) that relate to both the positive climate of the classroom and the classroom tasks.
- the **Habits of Mind** (dim 5) can be interwoven to align pedagogy, curriculum and assessment



A diagrammatic representation of DoL by Dr David Lynch (2005)



Background Information:

Dimensions of Learning is 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." McREL

Since the early 1990's the McREL Group have conducted substantial research and extensive work in schools to develop The Dimensions of Learning (DoL). As a framework for learning design, DoL is underpinned by evidence based pedagogical strategies that mesh the science of learning with the art of teaching. The DoL framework is based on the premise that all learning takes place against the backdrop of learners' Attitudes and Perceptions (dim 1) and their use (or lack of use) of productive Habits of Mind (dim 5). Dimensions 2, 3 and 4, examine knowledge development through instructional strategies and assessment designed to develop the types of thinking that allow students to take accountability for their own learning.

The DoL framework affirms and extends on the work that effective educators already do. In many schools this framework has been embedded within curriculum development and classroom practice. Early anecdotal reference from the ANSN DoL research hubs indicates that Australian schools implementing this framework are finding resultant improved teacher practice and classroom organisation, and the alignment of curriculum and pedagogy lead to improved student outcomes.

Why join the ANSN Setting the Stage for Learning (embedding Dimensions 1 & 5):

- You will challenge your current knowledge, strategies and skills with the continued development of positive Attitudes and Perceptions (dim 1) through the Habits of Mind (dim 5)
- You will work through a curriculum design and assessment framework that will help your school to develop a common language for instruction
- You will engage in professional dialogue and reflection with colleagues to examine current practices
- You will create learning journeys that focus on intellectual bite as well as connectedness for 21st century learners
- You will be part of a national professional learning community

Who would best attend the ANSN Setting the Stage (embedding Dimensions 1 & 5)

- Educators who have been working with the Habits of Mind and or Dimensions of Learning (DoL) in classroom or school wide contexts and want to
 - encapsulate the initial motivation and momentum of this work
 - determine how to progress this learning
- Educators beginning the journey of Habits of Mind or DoL who want to work in a collaborative and innovative team

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 of a team of three teachers to attend all 5 days of professional learning is \$2500 + GST for ANSN members or \$3000 + GST for non-members. For individual costs for attending the 5 days of professional learning the cost is \$1000 + GST for ANSN members or \$1200 + GST for non-members.

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 hanan.harrison@ansn.edu.au or Tina Doe tina.doe@ansn.edu.au

Program Outline:

The 5 day hub program is designed to empower educators to make meaningful and sustainable changes in their educational setting. Opportunities will be provided for participants to develop knowledge, strategies & skills to **engage their learning community on a curriculum**, assessment and pedagogy journey; **Setting the Stage for Learning** by building positive **Attitudes and Perceptions** (dim 1) through productive **Habits of Mind** (dim 5).

Day 1 and 2

Exploring effective strategies for introducing and becoming familiar with or refocusing Attitudes and Perceptions (dim 1) and Habits of Mind (dim 5). These first two (2) days take an in-depth and hands on approach to introducing the key concepts that form the backdrop to effective learning design.

Days 3 and 4

Examining practice and further investigation. These two (2) days provide opportunities for participants to reflect on their work and experience to date, and share learning resources in the context of their individual projects with their hub colleagues. Participants will explore the development of units of work and assessment pieces through a partnership with the relevant state education authority. School and district wide incentives that implement and sustain dimensions 1 and 5 will be outlined.

Day 5

Sharing our learning about Attitudes and Perceptions (dim 1) and Habits of Mind (dim 5). Participants will reflect and share on their journey to date. This showcase of learning will include how they have developed models of implementation through practical examples relevant to participant professional context.

Facilitators:

Tina Doe is an ANSN networker who has vast experience in leading both school community and university professional learning programs. The expertise that Tina brings to Setting the Stage for Learning includes: an in-depth knowledge of learning design as backwards mapping through the Dimensions of Learning framework; and the formation of sustainable learning communities incorporating school and university stakeholders. Her current doctoral research work explores the development of teacher practice using professional learning through a partnership approach. The specific focus is on teacher pedagogy with a strong emphasis on Attitudes and Perceptions and Habits of Mind.

Hanan Harrison is an ANSN national coach who has worked in the past with educational departments and universities in positions ranging from classroom teacher, curriculum advisor and university lecturer to critical friend. Her interest and focus over the past decade has been on pedagogy, assessment and innovative curriculum design. Hanan currently leads a number of ANSN action research circles and workshops that support educators to design, implement and reflect on new initiatives and practices. These include technology integration for young learners, Dimensions of Learning, Attitudes and Perceptions and Habits of Mind, Technology Integration and Protocol Training.

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.

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.

Setting the Stage for Learning

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 Setting the Stage through the Habits of Mind 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 Hub training

 For more information, contact:
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