

SPEAKER & TALKS

Maria Davou



Unlocking Potential: Exploring Play-Based Learning for Young Learners

This talk delves into the transformative power of play-based learning in early childhood education. We examine how structured play activities stimulate cognitive, social, and emotional development, fostering creativity and curiosity. By integrating play into the curriculum, educators can create engaging, inclusive, and joyful learning environments. We explore evidence-backed methodologies, highlighting the benefits of imaginative play, games, and role-playing for skill-building. Join us to discover the science behind play-based learning, and how it nurtures a lifelong love of learning in young minds, empowering them to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.

Teaching Grammar Without Teaching Grammar

In this talk, we will explore ways of subtly integrating grammar tasks in all skills. Grammar is present everywhere and there is no language without it. However, teaching Grammar communicatively is often a riddle for teachers. How can we design grammar tasks that are creative and meaningful? How can we teach grammar “in disguise”? The talk will include examples from soft-CLIL and values-based approaches.

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Gareth Davies



AI - a journey of discovery

When I started teaching, I used chalk on chalkboards, cassettes in cassette players and the school had one overhead projector between 20 teachers. Times have changed - CD players, data projectors, whiteboards, interactive whiteboards, Learner Management Systems, and of course the internet, have all threatened to bamboozle us and make us reconsider our teaching approach. But as resourceful teachers, we've overcome each challenge. Now, we are faced with the latest technological challenge - AI. Come with me, as I go on a journey of discovery, asking what AI means and what it means to us as teachers? We'll explore the ways it can help us, how it might hinder us and we'll leave you equipped to begin to face down this latest challenge, just as we've done the others.

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A student said to me recently that if they say less, they will make fewer mistakes. This saddened me greatly.

The goal of learning a language should be to equip ourselves with the means to communicate, not to make as few errors as possible. I want students to see English as a tool to get things done not as a subject they need to pass. In this talk, we will look at how we can motivate our students to talk by setting meaningful, challenging, creative tasks throughout the lesson that will help them to stretch their existing knowledge and communicate effectively in English.

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Caroline Reading



Life Vision – your students’ success, now and in the future

Life Vision is the six-level successor course to Solutions. In developing this course, we kept some of the trusted strengths of Solutions whilst at the same time incorporating new skills that students need today to become responsible and global citizens in a digital age.

In this session I aim to show you the similarities between Solutions and Life Vision, and also the main areas of methodology and features that differentiate Life Vision from Solutions, such as engaging video, soft critical thinking skills, speaking practice, Mediation tasks, Global Skills lessons, 360° image lessons and Assessment for Learning as well as the course materials, both digital and print, that support teachers.