

BSME CPD Programme in partnership with Tribal Education

offers

Action Research – developing action research skills to improve teaching and learning

The Provider

Tribal Education

Tribal has been providing market leading learning and development solutions for over 20 years. They are one of the UK's leading providers of integrated professional development solutions for both the public and private sectors. They work with organisations of all sizes to deliver professional development solutions tailored to individual requirements. Their strength is in their ability to combine their domain expertise and technology with their unrivalled knowledge of education and learning resources to deliver unique solutions.



Professor Jean McNiff

Jean McNiff is one of the most influential action researchers in the world today. She is Professor of Educational Research at York St John University UK; Honorary Professor at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa; Visiting Professor at Ningxia Teachers University, China; and Adjunct Professor at the University of Limerick, Ireland. She enjoys working with teachers and academics who are studying their practices in schools and universities, and supervises many for their masters and doctoral degrees. Her books on action research are used as textbooks on many professional development courses. She has recently led a training programme for teachers in Qatar on the use of action research

What is Action Research?

Action research is a term which refers to a practical way of looking at your own work to check that it is as you would like it to be. Because action research is done by you, the practitioner, it is often referred to as practitioner based research; and because it involves you thinking about and reflecting on your work, it can also be called a form of self-reflective practice. The idea of self-reflection is central. In traditional forms of research – empirical research – researchers do research on other people. In action research, researchers do research on themselves. Empirical researchers enquire into other people's lives. Action researchers enquire into their own. Action research is an enquiry conducted by the self into the self. You, a practitioner, think about your own life and work, and this involves you asking yourself why you do the things that you do, and why you are the way that you are.

Delegates will do a one day session after which they will be expected to go back to their workplace to implement their learning. We will then convene after a gap of one month for a two day session to complete the course. There will then be a webinar follow on session where delegates can share best practise and enjoy further interaction with the trainer.



Continuing Professional Development Programme

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www.bsme.org.uk

The programme at a glance

Theme	Action Research
Provider	Tribal Education
Speaker(s)	Professor Jean McNiff
Target Audience	All Staff, Primary and Secondary
Number of Days	4 (1 + 2 + webinar)
Dates	Thursday 29 th September 2011 Thursday 27 th – Friday 28 th October 2011 Webinar date TBC
Location	Rashid School for Boys, Dubai, UAE
Timings	9.30am – 3.30pm
Cost	GBP 600 (BSME Member) GBP 780 (Non-BSME)
What is included	Delegate handbook, certificate of attendance, lunch and refreshments

The Programme

Dates	Modules
Day 1	<p>Session 1: An introduction to an action research cycle / Identifying a research issue This first session will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify what is meant by 'action research' • Consider the scope of action research and how it can enhance your professional status • Help you to identify a focus which you would like to investigate <p>Session 2: Why am I concerned / Learning from others This session will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build on the research of others and share examples of Arab research • Work with / draw on the ideas of your colleagues in helping you to clarify ideas, especially to clarify your educational values
Day 2	<p>Session 3: Planning and designing your action research / Overview of data collection techniques This session will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at aspects of different ways of doing action research • Help you to plan and design an action research project that will enable you to enhance your practice • Consider the potential of working with a professional partner to maximise the influence of your work <p>Session 4: Implementation and Data Collection This session will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give an overview of data collection methods and techniques • Consider how different types of data are appropriate for the form of action research you have chosen • Enable you to explain why you would choose specific data gathering techniques for a particular purpose
Day 3	<p>Session 5: Analysing and summarising data This session will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at how to generate evidence from your data • Consider how your 'new learning' may be tested against the evidence • Explore ideas about the need to invite critical feedback from peers on your new learning <p>Session 6: Reporting and sharing research / Implementing findings This final session will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give you the opportunity to share your knowledge with others and invite their critical feedback on your ideas • Consider the process of organising and communicating research findings • Explore how your research has the potential to influence future change and development
Webinar	<p>The webinar will be a structured discussion led by Professor McNiff, giving delegates the opportunity to have undertaken some action research in their place of work and to give feedback, as well as to share good practice and experiences. This should take place at least 6 weeks after the final workshop and may consist of a half day webinar in December and then a further half day in February. Professor McNiff is also happy to give e-mail support to delegates.</p>

Intended Learning Outcomes

The aim of the programme is:

- To enable teachers to make a contribution to new practices and knowledge in education
- To support teachers in further improving their classroom practice
- To promote the enjoyment of learning
- To raise the standards in your education system

Resources

Each delegate will receive a handbook containing:

- Copies of the presentation slides and supporting materials
- A publication written by Professor McNiff,
- Action Research papers
- Blank self audit template
- Examples of completed self audits

Testimonials

“What have I gained from the course?”

[The course] was amazing for us.... We shared and collaborated. We saw the need to work together and now we have built our own community: five of us come together regularly, and meet with others at different times. We talk about how we can develop things, perhaps through a subject focus.

I was really impressed by the training sessions. The level of engagement and excitement of participants was amazing

My professional learning from my action research has been significant..... I appreciate the need to move beyond skills and behaviours and focus on enabling students to develop understanding and knowledge.

As a professional I need to evaluate my practice continually. Accepting the need for self-improvement is key and collaborative working is essential for improving teaching and learning ...engaging in my action research has enabled me to make recommendations for improving the quality of teaching and learning: Action research puts teachers at the centre of their professional learning, and in control of their professional lives.