



# Towards excellence and equity for all: Educational innovation in changing times

The fifth annual Summer Think Tank 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016

The Manor House Hotel, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire

*"The ability to shift from reacting against the past to leaning into and presencing an emerging future is probably the single most important leadership capacity today. It is a capacity that is critical in situations of disruptive change, not only for institutions and systems, but also for teams and individuals."* - Otto Scharmer (2013)

We invite you to join us at the fifth annual Summer Think Tank, which is your opportunity to spend 24 hours in a relaxed environment together with your peers reflecting on the challenges that you have faced over the last 12 months and, making use of the collective wisdom of the group, to consider what may lie ahead in the coming year

Think Tanks bring together Directors, their direct reports and others in senior leadership positions across the public sector to exchange practice and reflect upon and seek solutions to the challenges they face. The theme we have chosen for this year's event is:

***How can local authorities continue to play a significant role in ensuring that our state funded educational system serves all children and young people?***

Our programme includes contributions from 2 local areas with very different contexts, where strong alliances with and between schools, underpinned by a shared sense of moral purpose, provide the foundation of a truly school-led improvement model:

- **Debbie Barnes and Gavin Booth from Lincolnshire County Council** will present a case study on the Lincolnshire Learning Partnership, detailing its journey towards a sustainable sector-led system, the development of effective Peer Review and the growing relationships between the Local Authority, the LLP and the teaching schools
- **Pete Dudley from Camden Council** will discuss the creation of Camden Learning – a school company limited by guarantee that has grown out of a wish expressed by schools to adopt some of the collaborative and visible improvement practices that typify many of the world's best and fastest improving school systems.

## **COST**

Subscribing local authorities are entitled to one place for the DCS or their nominee free of charge on either of the Summer or Autumn Think Tanks. A reduced rate also applies to any additional places for subscribing LA employees, to find out more please [click here](#).

For non-subscribing local authorities this event will be chargeable at £425+VAT.

## **HOW TO BOOK**

Places on the Think Tank are limited and are allocated on a first come, first served basis. To book a place please complete the [booking form](#) and return to [Jessica.Drummond@thestaffcollege.uk](mailto:Jessica.Drummond@thestaffcollege.uk).

Please note: This event is subject to our cancellation policy, which can be found [here](#).

## OUTLINE AGENDA

### DAY 1: 23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST

12.00	Registration
12.30	Welcome & context setting
13.15	Lunch
14.00	<b>Session 1 - Group work</b> Topics to be selected from themes submitted by participants prior to the think tank
15.30	Break
16.00	<b>Session 2 - What is the role of schooling?</b> Video presentation from Charles Leadbeater to prompt group work to consider the kind of education system we are working towards in England
17.00	<b>Session 3 - The changing shape of the middle tier</b> Lessons from international and national research on how school systems achieve excellence and how local authorities are shaping an effective “middle tier” between schools and central government
17.30	<b>Session 4 - Case Study 1: Lincolnshire County Council</b> The Lincolnshire story, detailing its journey towards a sustainable sector-led system, “lead by schools for schools” - the Lincolnshire Learning Partnership
19.30	Dinner

### DAY 2: 24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

09.00	Review and reflect
09.15	<b>Session 5 - Case study 2: The ‘Camden Learning’ journey</b> The genesis of Camden Learning in response to schools’ wish to adopt some of the collaborative and visible improvement practices that typify many of the world’s best and fastest improving school systems
10.45	Break
11.15	<b>Session 6 - Implications for practice: discussion and review</b>
12.30	Reflection and next steps
13.00	Event close & lunch