

Citation:

Lofthouse, RM (2018) Mentoring; engaging with heart, mind and soul for the good of the profession. In: Developing Outstanding Mentoring across the SHU Partnership, 29 June 2018, Sheffield Hallam University. (Unpublished)

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Mentoring; engaging with heart, mind and soul for the good of the profession



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What keeps me awake at night

We train teachers up just to break them down

AFTER A recent round of school visits, on which I observed student teachers, I find myself taking stock. I have been training teachers for more than a decade. I have seen four standards rewrites, designed PGCEs split between professional and master's level, accommodated the changes needed to welcome School Direct and worked with trainees doing university courses. I have interviewed hundreds of prospective student teachers, watched thousands of lessons and developed working relationships with dozens of mentors. The numbers creep up: quotas

filled, placements completed, qualifications awarded and jobs secured. Am I proud? Yes. But my overriding thought is how pleased I am that I don't know the number of teaching posts abandoned by those bright newcomers who have so much to offer. When I go back into schools, people I had hoped would become mentors are often no longer

And why is this? Well, we have even teaching. subverted school visits to provide Virgorappee rather than support,

chats with distracted mentors as we dash along corridors. Summaries of trainee teachers' progress often extend only to "I hardly see them", "They're doing fine" or "We're still working on the same two targets".

I observe lessons from behind a pile of "evidence files", trying to make sense of the context and the practice. I must assess teaching and learning in a snapshot.

And then there's the lesson review: "Let's talk about learning - your pupils' and yours." I try to resist the routine of

People I had hoped would ticking off targets - they substitute for become professional mentors are often no longer even teaching

repertoire. This system is so devoid of passion and has been

simplified beyond use. We need to work harder at the entrance stage of the profession to ensure that these talented teachers stick around. 9

The writer has worked in teacher

Cautionary tales

It [is] difficult for teachers to engage in interaction [with each other] with sufficient frequency, specificity, and depth to generate new insights into teaching dilemmas or to foster instructional Horn & Little (2010) innovation.

> Judgementoring and other threats to realizing the potential of school-based mentoring in teacher education

Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield, UK, and University of Leeds, Leeds, UK

The camera in the classroom: video-recording as a tool for professional development of student teachers

Authors: Rachel Lofthouse and Peter Birmingham





International Journal of Mentoring and Coaching in Education Emerald Article: Teacher education lesson observation as boundary crossing Rachel Lofthouse, David Wright



THE PROFESSION 18/19

DEVELOPING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE, PRACTICE AND BEHAVIOURS FOR YOUR TEACHING CAREE

Mentoring student teachers; a vulnerable workplace learning practice

teachers

Mentoring student

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Received 30 March 2014 Revised 24 July 2014 12 August 2014

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Workplace learning:
What is the role of mentoring in initial teacher development?

Ensure teaching is desired goal
Identify prospective specific career interests

3 goals of workplace learning

Gain occupational capacities – learn the skills needed to do the job at entry

Develop occupational competencies for future professional learning – have the skills needed to keep developing

(after Stephen Billett)

Mentoring: can we go further?



What affects the outcomes?

goal
Identify prospective
specific career interests

Gain occupational capacities – learn the skills needed to do the job at entry

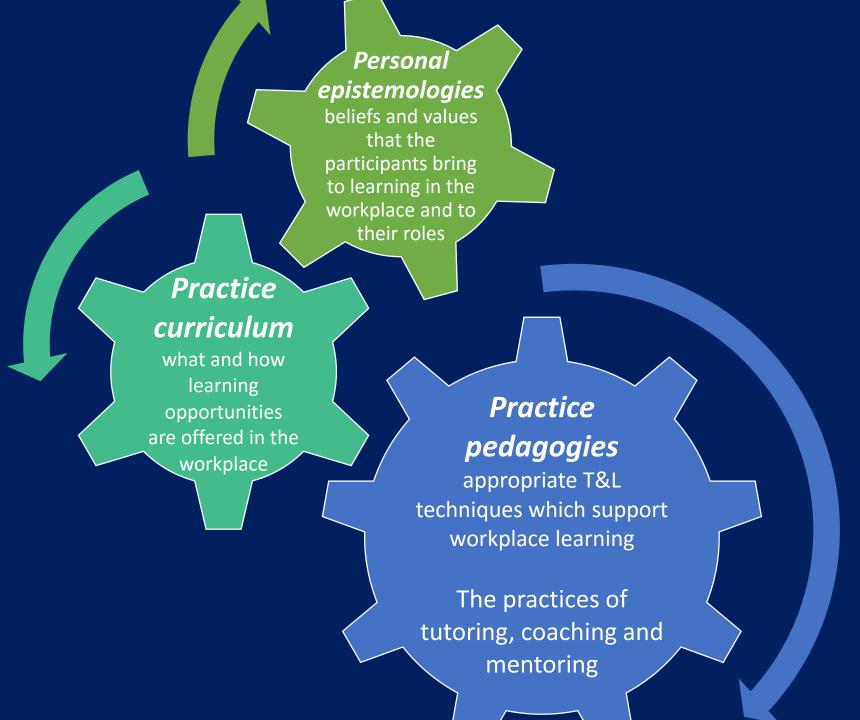
Develop occupational competencies for future professional learning – have the skills needed to keep developing

Mentoring

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3

Dimensions of learning in the workplace



(after Stephen Billett)

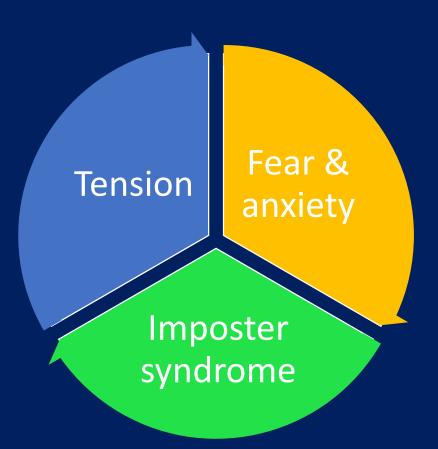
Mentoring

Scaffold, frame & assess professional learning

Promote dialogue & divergence

Enable transformation through boundary crossing





This will hurt me more than you...

Solidarity with peers and with learners ...

Safe spaces to learn to be the very best you can be

Permission for purposeful creativity

Mentoring: How do we plan for positive engagement?



Solidarity with peers and with learners ...

Safe spaces to learn to be the very best you can be

Permission for purposeful creativity











Image sourced at: https://mindfulminutes.com/heartmind-aligning-heart-mind-meditation/







Please contact me if you have questions about this session, about the work of CollectivED, or would like to write for our Working Papers



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