

Making Learning and Progress Visible

26TH AAIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 8TH - 10TH October 2015

Evaluation Results

Response Rate: 54%

There were 65 delegates.

Although 35 forms were returned some were from delegates who left on Friday evening and others from delegates who left at coffee time on Saturday morning. In addition not all delegates responded to all sections. These factors resulted in different numbers of responses to each question.

It is of note that the delegates to the one day conference evaluated the day similarly to those attending the full Member conference. For interest both responses are provided in this document.

Session 1. Dr Tim Coulson, Regional Schools Commissioner for the East of England and NE London

High			Low
7%	41%	49%	1%

Typical Comments

Well presented but difficult message for LAs to hear.

Illuminated Tim's role but related to assessment very generally. Hope his promotion of AAIA bears fruit.

Interesting to hear 'insider knowledge' of RSC role and future plans for the difference categories of schools.

Very useful to have an update about multi-academy trust.

Session 2. The National Picture

Phil Beach, Director of Strategic Relationship, Ofqual

High			Low
58%	17%	65%	12%

Typical Comments

Phil is to be congratulated for a pint-sized and digestible summary

Ofqual input wasn't particularly relevant as aimed at secondary.

Tim Bristow, Senior HMI, Ofsted

High			Low
82%	18%		

Typical Comments

Tim efficiently highlighted assessment related changes to Ofsted's approach to inspection and shot it through with what these might mean in practice. Most helpful and encouraging.

It's always useful to hear from the horse's mouth. Tim made so much sense - this is what inspection is about. Here's hoping it impacts on all inspection teams.

Catherine Wreyford, Head of Assessment Policy, DfE

High			Low
12%	47%	32%	9%

Typical Comments

Still lots of unknowns (which is probably understandable). Not a huge amount of new info in the presentation but Q&A session provided useful insight (to a certain degree).

Catherine was interesting but having a colleague from STA alongside her would have been really useful.

More general comments suggested that this session is 'always useful' and an 'essential part of the AAIA conference' though frustrating.

Session 3: Authentic Learning, Assessment and Progress: describing the journey from EYFS onwards - **Jan Dubiel**

	High			Low
3 Day Delegates	94%	6%		
1 Day Delegates	94%	6%		

Typical Comments

Amazing! Wonderful to see how quality EYFS practice applies to the whole system.

Really valuable, engaging and useful. Both reminders and new ways of thinking.

Well presented and have taken a lot away from what he said about the philosophy of assessment.

Session 4: Harnessing the Freedom of Life without Levels: Consultants Jenny Short and Tim Scully

	High			Low
3 Day Delegates	56%	35%	6%	3%
1 Day Delegates	59%	35%	3%	3%

Typical Comments

Carpe Diem! It's up to us all - excellent.

Practical suggestions - great presentations.

So good to revisit all that we know is right about principles of effective teaching and learning. Quadrant diagram excellent.

Session 5: Assessing without levels in practice: Sheringham Primary School and Knebworth Primary Schools

	High			Low
3 Day Delegates	67%	21%	12%	
1 Day Delegates	59%	24%	14%	3%

Typical Comments

Excellent - very enthusiastic, professional and great to hear of assessment without levels working well.

Love the philosophy of learning communities, learning together and sharing good practice.

Strong presentations and great to hear about innovative practice in real-life school contexts.

Session 6; Jo-Anne Baird

High			Low
32%	44%	24%	

Typical Comments

Very good. Would have been good to have had this on Thursday.

Such an easy speaker to listen to. Made some unfamiliar and complex information intelligible.

Loved it. Thought provoking.

Session 7: Warwick Mansell

High			Low
52%	32%	8%	8%

Typical Comments

A good finish. It's a reminder of the fact that we do make the most of 'bad' policy.

A valuable review of some terrible times and appalling policy decisions. We'll keep reading your comment Warwick and valuing the fact that you understand and will keep criticising.

Excellent - Warwick is the voice of reasoned outrage.

General Comments about the Conference Overall

All but one respondent took the time to make positive comments about the event, typically:

Thanks for yet another thought provoking and inspirational conference. Here's to Bournemouth next year.

A really varied programme and exceptionally well organised. A lot to take away. Thank you.

Fantastic value and organisation. Thank multiple yous.

Good to bring in day delegates again.

A small number of delegates (5) made comments similar to this one:

Sole single format over all sessions not ideal. Very little discussion either in groups or plenary. Suggest more variety of format, more engagement of participants and use of their expertise and perspectives.

One delegate suggested that the screen was too low and he/she could not see over other delegates' heads.

Some delegates expressed appreciation that Will Emms was present on the Friday but suggested he should have been part of the panel on Thursday.