Professional Learning in Schools Conference hosted by COBIS Training Schools

Draft Programme

26 November 2026 | Online

	Thursday 26 November 2026
UK Time (GMT) **08:00-08:20**	**Welcome**
08:25-09:10	**Session 1** **1)** Leading from the Middle: Turning Subject Leaders into Developers of People *Omar Murtaza, Deputy Head, The British School in Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan* **2)** Connecting Professional Learning and Teacher Development with New/Local Teacher Recruitment and Our International Learning Mentor Scheme *Matt Topliss, Head of School, Kyoto International School, Kyoto, Japan* **3)** What Makes Professional Learning Stick? Designing Relational, Classroom-Focused Professional Learning *Phil May, Assistant Head of Senior School for Colleague Development, Jerudong International School, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam*
09:10-09:30	**Break**
09:30-10:30	**Keynote Speaker** Professional Learning is Personal, Cognitive and Technical The Case for Co-constructing Feedback *Tom Sherrington*
10:35-11:20	**Panel** *Sarah Dore, St Julians, Carcavelos, Portugal* *Sarah Brooks, National Institute of Teaching and Education, Head of ITT Curriculum and Research (Secondary)* *Matt Topliss, Kyoto International School, Kyoto, Japan* *Rebecca Ekpenyong, St. Saviour's School, Ikoyi, Lagos, Nigeria*
11:20-11:30	**Break**
11:30-12:15	**Session 2** **1)** Professional Development for All: An Inclusive Approach to Whole-School Professional Learning *Kholood Alturky, Deputy Director, Misk Schools, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*

	2) Creating and Sustaining a Culture of Teaching Consistency *Andrew Thompson, Deputy Headteacher Academic, Epsom College, Bandar Enstek, Malaysia* **3)** Team Inquiry: How to Generate Meaningful Professional Development and Encourage Evidence Informed Development *Paul Ryan and Nicola Howard, Secondary Principal / Vice Principal Learning, Alice Smith School, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*
12:15-13:15	**Lunch**

13:15-14:00	**Session 3** **1)** Building Future Leaders: Developing High-Impact Practice Through COBIS Qualifications *Naim Shabir and Jacquelyn La France, Deputy Head Teacher / Vice Principal Academic, British International School Riyadh, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia* **2)** Creating a Culture of Excellence in Learning *Lorna Mallory, Helen Olds and Dean El-Hoss, Deputy Head of Primary / Director / Secondary Deputy, The British International School of Jeddah, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia* **3)** Coaching as the Bedrock of Professional Learning *Jemima Rhys-Evans, Head of Junior School and Strategic Lead for Professional Development, Uppingham Cairo, New Giza, Egypt*
14:00-14:15	**Break**
14:15-15:00	**Session 4** **1)** Effective facilitation: From Presentation to Participation *Claire Nuttall, European Hub Chief Managing Officer, St George's International School, Luxembourg City, Luxembourg* **2)** Leading Professional Learning: From Management to Stewardship *Emma Adams, Professional Learning Coordinator and Research Lead, The British School of Brussels, Tervuren, Belgium* **3)** Collaborative Enquiry: Building a Community of Trust, Innovation and Belonging Together *James Lloyd and Victoria van Assendelft, Deputy Headteacher (secondary) / Headteacher (Primary), The British School in The Netherlands, The Hague, the Netherlands*
15:00-15:15	**Break**

15:15-16:00	**Session 5** **1)** Context Is the Intervention *Megan Hickman, Andreea Lazar and Rachel Slater, Head of Primary / Deputy Head of Primary / Head of HR, British International School of Timisoara, Timisoara, Romania* **2)** SEND in an International School: Building Teacher Expertise When Every Learner Comes from Somewhere Different *Abiola Kudumi, Additional Needs Coordinator, The Regent School Abuja, Abuja, Nigeria* **3)** Implementing a Purposeful Oracy Pedagogy in Our Prep School *Catherine Calver and Jane Scott, Primary Learning Support Specialist and Designated Safeguarding Lead / Head of EAL in Primary, St Julians, Carcavelos, Portugal*
16:05-16:15	**Closing Remarks**