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Managing. The supply learning mind

A guided conversation for managers of Learning Power



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Line of argument through the slides

- What does the learning journey look like? Not a quick fix.
- Plan ahead, be prepared.
- Achieve the change by developing staff; culture of enquiry
- Manage the essentials of professional enquiry
- Sort out what online content is available + when to tackle
- Find out about the 'how' of team learning sessions/agendas
- Keep in touch with the developments as they go along
- Make a plan for use of the online units across the year
- Take a look at what might be achieved over 3 years



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The threads that link these slides together:

- **The Building Better Learners 'journey'**
- **The blended learning programme and teacher learning communities**
- **How the story unfolds over time**

Aim of the discussion: To consider/explore the different aspects of using the online modules in Stepping Stones 1 to support developments.

Objectives: By the end of the discussion participants will have explored:

- What the journey might look like
- The possible barriers/obstacles
- How Teacher Learning Communities work
- The development of a detailed plan of implementation

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The learning journey: how long it takes

Focusing Year 1 • Understanding the concepts ◦ reviewing current practice ◦ planning a route	Establishing Year 2-3 • Increasing the variety of learning behaviours ◦ develop twin focused lessons ◦ infusing throughout the curriculum ◦ tracking progression
Developing Year 1 • Build learning friendly cultures ◦ devolve greater responsibility to students ◦ develop learning talk ◦ incorporate reflection into learning ◦ celebrate the learning process	Enhancing Year 3-4 • Increasingly build the use of learning behaviours into: ◦ the curriculum ◦ lessons plans....3 levels of inclusion ◦ task design...choice and challenge ◦ continually improving and deepening practice



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The Key message(s) on this slide:

The school's journey will take time, it is not a quick fix.

Detail:

This slide emphasises that developing children's learning habits is a long-term (but rewarding) process which will take several years to become fully established in the school. However, research suggests that real improvements in pupils' motivation, achievement and behaviour will become apparent within weeks of beginning the journey.

It is important that the approach is taken up in all classrooms – learning power is an entitlement for all children.

The focusing and developing stages are supported through materials in this pack.

Anticipating needs and difficulties

- Think about a realistic and transparent framework for understanding what is being asked of teachers,
 - what difficulties and demands will it involve
 - what support will be available
 - what is and what is not negotiable
 - what timescales are envisaged.
- openness and clarity about understanding the change will remove any resistance by staff or parents.

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The Key message(s) on this slide:

We are asking a lot of teachers, what support structures will we need to provide?

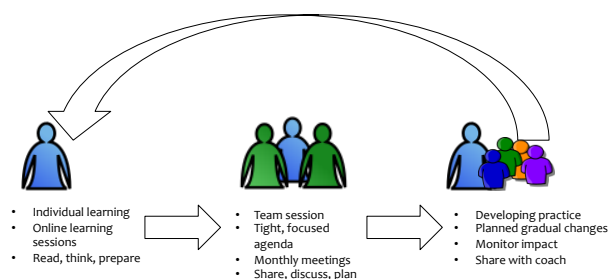
Detail:

what difficulties and demands will it involve: The vast majority of teachers find it easy to buy into the vision of helping their students to become better learners - much like raising standards, what is not to like? Some may be less keen to make the necessary changes in their teaching habits / classroom culture; some may believe that because their teaching is 'good' they are already building these learning habits and hence it does not apply to them; some will want to do it, but need help to know **what** to do differently; some may be 'initiative weary' and reluctant to engage; a few may argue that they are paid to teach a subject and that this is not their responsibility; and some may just need time to think through the implications for themselves, to see the impact of the others' experiments, before fully committing. Consider these your critical friends, the ones who will ask the awkward questions, who will want to see evidence of impact, who will in time become your most thoughtful advocates.

what support will be available: There is online support for the learning journey ahead, and colleagues will gain support from learning within a Teacher Learning Community. But the question goes beyond what we will give teachers to read, think about and do. It begs the question 'how will we, as leaders/managers support individual teachers to navigate these changes.

Ask yourself: What help and support would you like if you were a main scale classroom teacher working through this programme? Then consider how you provide it!

Achieve the change through blended learning programmes



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The Key message(s) on this slide:

This is an overview of the blended learning programme of online support, individual and team reflection, and small scale action research.

Detail:

Now to the blended learning programme.

Talk through the learning process diagram

Content about learning and learning behaviours are fed to teachers, working at their own pace, each month. these are absorbed and thought about.

Teachers then meet as groups to discuss the ideas, firm up understanding and plan how to use the ideas and change their practice.

In later sessions they bring accounts of their classroom experiments to the group. These are probed and extended by the group

After the team session teachers put their plans into action and monitor the effects.

possibly discussing with a coach if coaching is part of the school's CPD support system.

Professional development and community of enquiry

- encourage teachers' openness about and enthusiasm for their own learning
- strengthen a whole school ethos of non-defensive, supportive and collaborative enquiry
- Without the development of professional intelligence, teachers are unlikely to 'practise what they preach', and the process of culture change is slowed.

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The Key message(s) on this slide:

Creating a community of enquiry is an essential cornerstone of professional development through a Teacher Learning Community

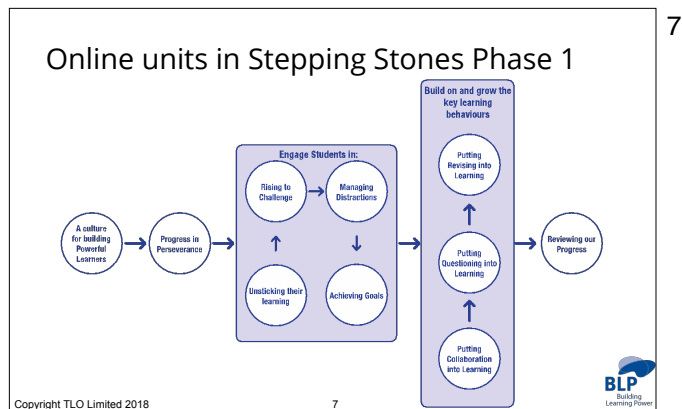
Detail:

Changing or developing one's working practices is hard and delicate work. It works best when you can meet in a **safe professional environment** in which to explore and plan how you could change and then share and probe the triumphs, tribulations and outcomes of your classroom experiments. Research into teacher learning communities by Dylan Wiliam, of Assessment for Learning (AfL) fame, describes such teams as:

- a small group of teachers who meet together regularly
- to deepen their understanding of an approach,
- to commit to trying out new things,
- to reflect on and share their experiments with each other.

Teacher learning communities are **the engines of teacher development**, but safety is the key.

We want our students to experiment and explore, to 'fail in safety', to learn in an environment where it is ok to have a go, to make mistakes and to learn from them.



The Key message(s) on this slide:

These are the 10 online modules in Stepping Stones 1

Detail:

There is an implied order in these modules:

We strongly recommend that teachers start with the culture module – it sets the scene for the others that follow.

Progress in Progression is an information module that tees up the 4 modules on Unsticking your Learning: Rising to Challenge, Managing Distractions; and Achieving Goals.

This is the suggested order for these modules, but individual schools may decide to tackle them in a different order if it better suits their circumstances.

The next 3 modules, Putting Collaboration/Questioning/Revising into Learning are expected to be tackled in that order.

The final module, Reviewing our Progress is a leadership/management module that supports reflection on what has been achieved over the lifetime of Stepping Stones Phase 1. Although it is scheduled last, leaders/managers should take a look at it very early on as it will suggest ways in which they might conduct baseline measures against which to subsequently evaluate progress.

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Making the most of the online units

- Set up Professional Learning Teams
 - monthly?
 - use the discipline of the tight team agenda in the online units
 - take an interest in staff learning enquiry plans
 - be aware of feedback from learning enquiry results
 - discuss and agree which ideas (from the online material) should become policy across the school

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BLP Building Learning Power

The Key message(s) on this slide:

To make the most of the online units, we need to be careful in how we establish, support and respond to professional learning teams.

Detail:

Timings: These will be dictated by the pace you choose to proceed at.

Ask yourself: Do we risk losing momentum if they are too widely spaced? How will we reconcile directed time with this?

The discipline of the tight team agenda in online units: The online modules contain a tight agenda for team meetings. This need for this has been extensively researched and should not deviated from.

Take an interest in staff learning enquiry plans: At each meeting, teachers will develop small scale enquiry plans. An example might be: 'If we create together a range of strategies that they can use when they are stuck, will their inclination to ask for help without first trying it for themselves diminish?'

Ask yourself: How will you keep abreast of what these plans are? How will you demonstrate your interest? How will you offer support?

Be aware of feedback from learning enquiry results: At the next meeting, they feedback on the progress or otherwise that they have made.

Ask yourself: How will you discover the outcomes of these enquiries?

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Plan the use of the online learning units

Phase one Programme – Establishing four key learning behaviours

What	When, Where, Who	What	When, Where, Who	What	When, Where, Who
Team session		Team session		Team session	
Session 2 – Engage students in rising to challenge		Session 6 – Putting Collaboration into Learning		Session 9 – Reviewing our progress	
Team session		Team session		Team session	
Session 3 – Progress in Perseverance & Engage students in unsticking their learning		Session 5 – Engage students in achieving goals		Session 8 – Putting Revising into Learning	
Team session		Team session		Team session	
Session 1 – A culture for building powerful learners		Session 4 – Engage students in managing distractions		Session 7 – Putting Questioning into Learning	

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Term 1

Term 2

Term 3

BLP Building Learning Power

The Key message(s) on this slide:

How will we tackle the online units, in what order, when?

Detail:

The group now needs to work together to talk through some of the administrative decisions they need to make.

The table scaffolds this discussion.

When will we start?

Will we expect staff to do the individual work in their own time or will they be given time to do it?

What teams will we have? year teams, mixed year teams. how big a team,?

When will the teams meet, when in the month, how long after the individual sessions?

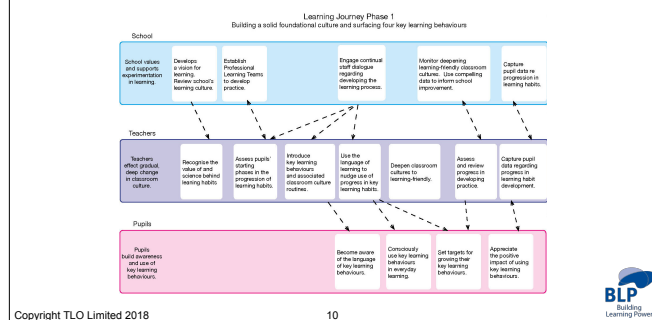
Who will be leading which team?

And so on.....

WHAT PHASE 1 DEVELOPMENT LOOKS LIKE IN DETAIL

This is a planning tool. When will the online learning happen....in the month. When will the relevant team meeting take place?

Learning Journey Phase 1.



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The Key message(s) on this slide:

Changes in leadership and teaching drive changes in student learning

Detail:

Phase 1 is supported by Stepping Stones 1.

Phase 1 in detail.

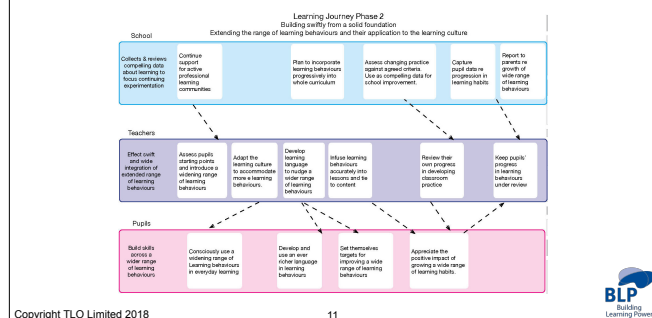
- Building a solid foundation for understanding using three key learning behaviours.

This phase may take a year to 18 months to complete.

There are 3 levels of development;

- what the school leadership needs to do
- how this underpins and enables teachers to develop
- and how teacher development similarly underpins the what and how of pupil development as learners

Learning Journey Phase 2.



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The Key message(s) on this slide:

Phase 2 goes deeper and expands the range of learning behaviours.

Detail:

Phase 2 is supported by Stepping Stones 2

Phase 2 Building swiftly from a solid foundation

Extending the range of learning behaviours and their application to content

The different sorts of development that happen in phase 2.

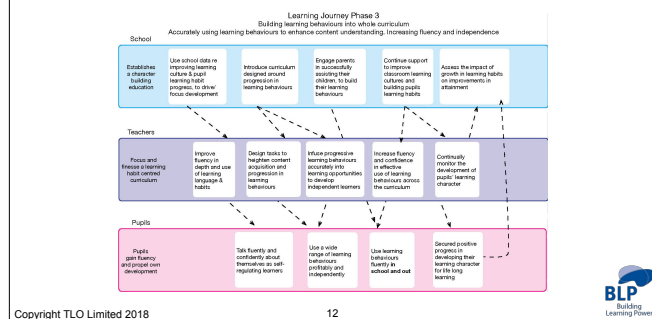
Again the changes in the teaching line happen monthly (9 times) because the phase 2 online course will introduce a new behaviour each month.

The school could start with any of the learning habits and move on in any order OR it could group them; starting with three that cover, for example, attentiveness....revising, noticing and listening/empathy.

Note too the inclusion of parents being kept informed of their child's progress in learning behaviours.

Emphasise the importance of monitoring the developing practise and changes in pupil behaviour.

Learning Journey Phase 3.



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The Key message(s) on this slide:

Phase 3 builds on phase 2 to Build Better Learners

Detail:

Building learning behaviours into whole curriculum.

Accurately using learning behaviours to enhance content understanding. Increasing fluency and independence.

Phase 3 is about infusing all the learning behaviours across the curriculum at the level needed, the greater fluency of use, more accurately linking content and learning behaviours and pupils being able to transfer the habits to life elsewhere

AT PRESENT WE DO NOT HAVE ANY ONLINE PRODUCTS TO SERVE THIS PHASE 3 BUT WE ARE WORKING ON IT.