

EDUCATION FOR A NEW ERA: **INNOVATE, SUSTAIN & INCLUDE**

21 & 22 February 2025
Safir Hotel, Giza – Egypt

Friday, February 21, 2025

9:15–9:30	Registration	
9:30–9:45	Opening Speech	Mike Thompson Director, York Press
9:45–10:30	<p>Session 1: Personality and Soft Skills Development for Career Success</p> <p>This session highlights the importance of personality and soft skills in shaping a successful career, with an emphasis on how teachers can guide their students in these areas. It delves into key skills such as effective communication, teamwork, emotional intelligence and adaptability, demonstrating their impact on professional relationships and workplace success. Participants will learn how to encourage their students to build strong connections, navigate challenges and prepare for future careers.</p>	Patrick Prendergast B.Ed, PgDp, MSc, York Press
10:30–11:15	<p>Session 2: Teaching with Intelligent Tools: Smart Classrooms and AI in Education</p> <p>This session explores the transformative role of AI in education, focusing on equipping educators and learners with essential skills for success in a technology-driven world. Through engaging discussions and activities, participants will uncover how AI enables personalised learning, adaptive teaching strategies and efficient classroom management. Educators will gain insights into leveraging AI for data-driven decision-making, fostering ethical AI integration and preparing students for future challenges. Interactive tools like Mentimeter and Padlet will facilitate sharing of best practices and collaborative solutions to embrace the future of AI-enhanced learning.</p>	Sean O'Brien B.Ed, PgDp, York Press
11:15–12:00	<p>Session 3: From Chaos to Curiosity: The Differentiated Classroom Experience</p> <p>In today's diverse classrooms, differentiation is the key to transforming learning from overwhelming chaos to engaged curiosity. This session explores practical strategies to create a structured yet flexible learning environment, where we sustain student engagement, foster curiosity and include every learner. By leveraging active learning, student choice and responsive teaching, educators can cultivate deeper understanding, critical thinking and truly inclusive learning experiences.</p>	Patrick Prendergast B.Ed, PgDp, MSc, York Press
12:00–1:00	Break	
1:00–2:00	<p>Session 4: Developing Language Skills with the Key Approaches</p> <p>Different tools are needed to develop language proficiency. Vista Higher Learning uses the science of reading approach, CLIL, differentiated instruction and the natural approach as tools for teaching English, while considering the aspects of social emotional learning.</p>	Natalia Arroyave Manager of International and New Markets at Vista Higher Learning
2:00	Lunch and Networking	

Saturday, February 22, 2025

10:00–10:45	<p>Session 1: Say 'CONFIDENCE' Not 'MOTIVATION'</p> <p>There is too much talk about motivation in language teaching. In this session I will be suggesting that it is not motivation we need to be talking about. It is how we give confidence to learners so they can believe in their ability to express themselves in English.</p>	Grant Kempton Growth Initiatives, EMEA, Pearson
10:45–11:30	<p>Session 2: Learn How VHL's Specialisation in Language, Literacy and Culture is Key to Academic and Life Success</p> <p>In today's diverse and global educational landscape, educational institutions are faced with the decision to select materials that equip students with the tools needed to become successful global citizens.</p> <p>Vista Higher Learning has become the US Market Leader as a specialised language publisher over the past 25 years through its digital advantage, pedagogical approaches to language learning, quality of products and specialised customer service.</p>	Natalia Arroyave Manager of International and New Markets at Vista Higher Learning
11:30–12:00	Break	
12:00–12:45	<p>Session 3: What Is the Story Here?</p> <p>Language learning has to be about communication and the most common way we communicate is through stories. In fact, we are telling stories all the time, not just in the classroom. This session will highlight the importance of storytelling and how you can use stories with any age and at any level of learning.</p>	Grant Kempton Growth Initiatives, EMEA, Pearson
12:45–1:30	<p>Session 4: Mastering Modern Assessment: Strategies for Success</p> <p>Effective assessment is at the heart of impactful teaching and learning. This session dives into innovative strategies to design, deliver and evaluate assessments that go beyond measuring knowledge to fostering deep understanding and skill development. We will explore practical approaches to creating meaningful, inclusive and engaging assessments that align with contemporary learning outcomes. Participants will discover tools to enhance feedback practices, promote student agency and harness data for informed decision-making. Join us to redefine assessment as a powerful tool for driving growth, equity and excellence in education.</p>	Dawn Dickson Learning Consultant, Pearson
1:30–2:00	Closing Event	
2:00	Lunch and Networking	

Mike Thompson

DIRECTOR, YORK PRESS

Mike is a senior publishing executive with wide-ranging experience across international education. With a career spanning over 40 years, he has held senior positions at National Geographic Learning and Pearson, with a focus on expanding the use of modern teaching methodologies in classrooms around the world. A Henley MBA graduate who speaks Japanese and Spanish, he has travelled extensively and contributed publishing market sector surveys for the Publishers Association in Japan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia under the Global Publishing Information imprint. Currently as a Director of York Press, he is focused on helping to shape future educational publishing strategies in a rapidly changing educational environment.



Mike Thompson

Patrick Prendergast

B.ED, PGDP, MSC, YORK PRESS

Patrick Prendergast is an educational consultant with expertise in teacher training, curriculum reform and Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET). He brings a unique blend of experience from the education sector and engineering industries, having collaborated with Ministries of Education and organisations in Engineering, Manufacturing, Defence, and Oil and Gas. Patrick has led major projects in STEM education, digital learning and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), driving innovation in teaching and training across diverse sectors.



Patrick
Prendergast

Sean O'Brien

B.ED, PGDP, YORK PRESS

With over 10 years of experience in the education sector, Sean holds a Bachelor's Degree in Education and a Postgraduate Diploma in Special and Additional Learning Needs. Sean's diverse career has seen him undertake roles as a teacher, curriculum specialist, along with leading roles in framework development, teacher training and assessment development.

As an educational consultant, Sean has worked extensively across numerous Ministry of Education projects throughout the MENA region, particularly focusing on curriculum reform initiatives in the UAE. He has been instrumental in leading these efforts to modernise educational practices, ensuring alignment with global standards and fostering innovative learning environments.

In addition to his consulting work, Sean has delivered professional development for educators, providing training on inclusive practices, integration of technology in education and best practices in teaching. He has also been a keynote speaker at various international conferences, where he has shared his expertise on curriculum reform, inclusive education and the role of Artificial Intelligence in shaping the future of education.

Passionately dedicated to advancing Inclusive Education and Special Education Needs (SEN), Sean also maintains a keen interest in the integration of Artificial Intelligence in educational practices. His work continues to impact educators and students, driving forward progressive educational changes.



Sean O'Brien

NATALIA ARROYAVE

MANAGER OF INTERNATIONAL AND NEW MARKETS AT VISTA HIGHER LEARNING

Natalia Arroyave, Manager of International and New Markets at Vista Higher Learning, boasts 16+ years of experience in bilingual education in K12 and Higher Education.

Her academic background includes a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a focus on international business and a Master's degree in Linguistics applied to the teaching of a foreign language.

Natalia's experience in the classroom and corporate environment have led her to the following endeavors at VHL: the implementation of hybrid roles in inside sales and account management, customer success, Vista Academy, and most recently she has expanded VHL's brand visibility in Latin America through a growth of 155%.



Natalia Arroyave

GRANT KEMPTON

GROWTH INITIATIVES, EMEA, PEARSON

Grant Kempton has been involved in ELT for more than 38 years. During that time, he has been a teacher, tester, curriculum coordinator, school director and teacher trainer. From 2000-2006 he was a global teacher trainer and travelled the world training teachers. He received his MA in ELT from Reading University and wrote coursebooks for Pearson. In his current post, he works with governments and large educational organisations to craft solutions for language learners. He also has two teenage girls, both of whom act as advisers to him on what is 'in' with their age-groups. Little help it does him...

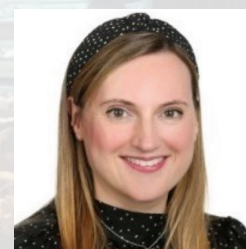


Grant Kempton

DAWN DICKSON

LEARNING CONSULTANT, PEARSON

Dawn is an experienced language professional with a passion for lifelong learning. Her early love for languages led her to a career in translation after university. With experience in translation, education, and learning consultancy, Dawn has thrived in diverse roles. As an international teacher, Dawn has taught in various settings worldwide. This experience has given her valuable insights into both the challenges teachers face and the learning experiences of students. This dual perspective informs her work in learning consultancy, where she effectively relates to the needs of educators and students.



Dawn Dickson



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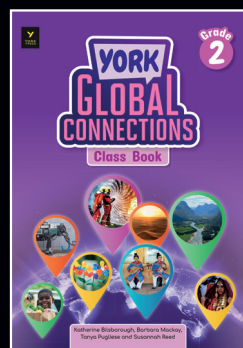
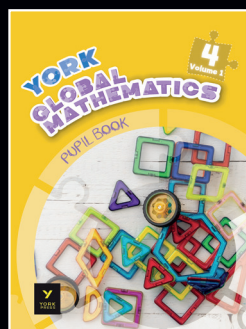
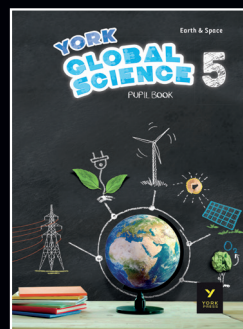


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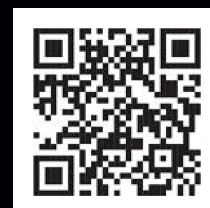
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