



Philosophy for Teachers (P4T) - Developing new teachers' applied ethical decision making

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September 7, 2016 (Wednesday)
16:30 – 17:45
Room 205 Runme Shaw Building, HKU
(Chair: Dr Liz Jackson)

Abstract

Teaching is a relational practice in which ethically complex situations arise and to which teachers need to respond. Hence, alongside pedagogical skills, teachers need to develop personal qualities, knowledge and understanding to navigate these successfully. 'Philosophy for Teachers', or 'P4T', is one promising approach to teachers' pre-service professional preparation piloted in England and adapted from the more familiar idea of "P4C" (Philosophy for Children). Drawing on the model of learning through dialogue, a "community of practice" is established, comprising new teachers, teacher educators and philosophers. The teachers are supported in thinking ethically about dilemmas faced in their early experiences of classroom practice. The pilot suggests that a philosophical perspective on behaviour management is important; and that there is an urgent need among teachers for space and time to reflect away from the 'busy-ness' of daily practice.

About the speaker



Janet Orchard is a Senior Lecturer in the Graduate School of Education, University of Bristol and former Programme Director of the Secondary PGCE programme. She takes a particular interest in the professional education of school teachers and school leaders, co-authoring "The Contribution of Educational Research to Teachers' Professional Learning – Philosophical Understandings" for the BERA/RSA Teacher Education Inquiry in 2014; and "What training do teachers need? Why teachers need theory" IMPACT 22 (November 2015). She co-edited Learning Teaching from Experience: Multiple Perspectives, International Contexts (2014) with Viv Ellis and "Philosophy for Teachers (P4T) - Developing new teachers' applied ethical decision making" (2016) with fellow philosophers Ruth Heilbronn, UCL Institute of Education and Carrie Winstanley, Roehampton University.

~ All are welcome ~

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