



WORKSHOP: Developing Teachers as curriculum leaders

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Introduction

Capabilities are not 'competences'

1. We all know about teaching competences to children. These are specific outcomes, like cooperation and teamwork.
2. This project is about capabilities. These are *not* specific or predetermined.

Capability requires thinking

1. The capabilities approach is about human potential. Ultimately it is about human freedom - for a person 'to be' and 'to do'.
2. Human beings are more free when they are able think in specialized ways: for example, so that they can make distinctions of merit and form healthy allegiances.
3. In other words, they have ways to make good judgments and choices about information, arguments and facts.

Thinking requires specialized knowledge

1. All knowledge is socially constructed. But some knowledge is more reliable than other knowledge. Even though it is contested and is dynamic, powerful knowledge has been tested in social communities called disciplines.
2. All students need introducing to these specialized ways of thinking because this gives them ways to better knowledge and stronger arguments.



1) How does teaching specialist knowledge in your subject help students to think beyond their everyday experience? Please give an example if you can.

2) Do you think the capabilities approach can enhance the teaching of your subject? Please give an example if you can.