

CANTARNET (Canterbury Action Research Network)

CANTARNET was established in 1996 to support teachers' leadership of enquiry-based development work. Initially, it brought together participants on a school-based MA programme through regular conferences offering keynote speakers, workshops to support enquiry and scholarship and opportunities for teachers to share ideas and discuss issues relating to their leadership of school change. A journal, 'The Enquirer', was launched to publish teachers' accounts of their work.

A 'Community of Masters' within the Education Faculty, has developed around CANTARNET, providing a forum for participants, tutors and alumni from different programmes to meet and learn together. Conferences are also open to consultants, advisers and colleagues of MA participants. Recently we have begun to see stronger links with other disciplines such as health and social care.

The CANTARNET journal, 'The Enquirer', is written by and for teachers and others involved in school improvement and is available online. The 32nd edition was published in autumn 2008. Recurring themes are: leading change; curriculum, learning and pedagogy; professionalism; reflection and enquiry; school cultures, environments and communities; local, national and international perspectives on school improvement; learning networks and partnerships; inclusion; social justice; creativity; student and teacher voice.

CANTARNET's conferences and journal nourish the University's school-based MA programmes and provide a forum for a wide range of people interested and involved in improving schools and educational experiences for children and young people. CANTARNET enables participants to engage critically with

- contemporary theory (through the University's teaching, consultancy and research);
- current policy (including initiatives such as the DfES Best Practice Research Scholarships; the National College for School Leadership's Networked Learning Communities; Creative Partnerships with the Arts Council);
- changing practice (through active participation of the network's membership).

Membership of CANTARNET and the wider Community of Masters is inclusive for all MA and EdD participants. Their colleagues and head teachers from schools supporting MA groups, tutors and associate academic staff, are warmly invited to attend conferences. Organisational and individual membership is also available independently.

Please visit our website:

http://www.canterbury.ac.uk/education/departments/professionaldevelopment/centres/education-leadership-school-improvement/cantarnet.asp

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