

Navigating Complexity: Designing a Collaborative Initial Teacher Training Course for Design and Technology Across Multi-Academy Trusts

Lightning Talk Short Paper

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Abstract

Constructing an Initial Teacher Training (ITT) course for Design and Technology (D&T) presents many challenges due to the subject's breadth and the varied pedagogical approaches across schools. These complexities were amplified when delivering the course across two distinct Multi-Academy Trusts, Co-op Academies Trust and Bright Futures Educational Trust, each with its expectations, priorities, and structures. This paper explores the key challenges encountered in aligning content delivery, assessment, and reflective practice within a shared ITT programme. A unified course structure was created through collaborative planning meetings with ITT leads from both Trusts and tailored resource development. Particular attention was given to meeting differing expectations around session reflection and Subject Knowledge audits. By embedding reflection points and bespoke Subject Knowledge checkers, the course ensures all trainees can meet the specific developmental needs of their respective Trusts while maintaining a positive training experience.

Keywords: Initial Teacher Training (ITT), Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs), Subject Knowledge Audit, Pedagogical Alignment, Educational Partnerships.

RECOMMENDED READING

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