

National Conference Awards 2008

The Rolls-Royce award for the school demonstrating achievement in sustainable engineering and manufacturing

The award will be presented to the school that can demonstrate outstanding achievement in sustainable Engineering and Manufacturing including innovative teaching methods, extra-curricular activities and examination results.

The MMM Award for Sustainable Learning, recognising innovation in the communication process

This award will be presented to the school that can demonstrate excellence in using the communication process to promote sustainable education. The school must be able to show:

- Evidence of the use of imagery and sound in the classroom
- Work must have been digitally produced e.g. sampling and digital enhancement of natural sounds or use of digitally created sound (electronic instruments, etc)
- Both media must be used and mixed in the most creative manner

The Chief Executive's award for the school that has made the most significant contribution to enhancing opportunities for it's family of schools

The award will be presented to the school that can demonstrate how, over the last 12 months, it has made a significant contribution to enhancing:

- Curriculum opportunities available to it's family of schools – primary and secondary
- Facilities available to its family of schools – primary and secondary

Outreach activities should be described:

- Identifying the schools you have worked with; and
- Outlining at least two initiatives undertaken during the past year

For each initiative:

- Brief overview
- What were the learning outcomes?
- How do you plan to build on this in the future?
- Key lessons for others

The Chairman's award for the school that has made the most significant contribution to sustainable education

Schools should demonstrate a significant contribution to sustainable education

- Brief overview
- What were the learning outcomes?
- How do you plan to build on this in the future?
- Key lessons for others
- How will it be maintained and enhanced?

The SSAT ICT System Redesign Award

The award will be made to a school which can demonstrate that an effective and innovative use of ICT has enabled transformation and system redesign.

- Brief overview of the particular ICT strategy employed to facilitate transformation
- How did this use of ICT contribute to, or enable, the reconfiguration to be implemented?
- What is the impact upon learning, and upon the curriculum?
- Key lessons for others

How will it be maintained and developed?



The RM School of Talent Award – for the school demonstrating a strategic and innovative approach to unlocking the talent of its students

In the 21st Century, the UK economy is more dependent than ever on leveraging innate talent and building a nation of highly skilled people. People are the UK's most important resource and the talent challenge programme is about recognising and harnessing the talent of young people, **all** young people. We are proud of the progress made in so many schools in recent years on attainment, but we also all know that talent cannot be measured solely by 5A*-C grades. Talent comes in all shapes and sizes. The Talent challenge programme seeks to work with schools to ensure that every child is given the opportunity to shine.

At the 2007 National Conference a group of 12 students delivered a presentation to delegates that explained their views on what 'talent' is and why it is important for teachers to work with students to recognise and develop their individual talents. This was followed up by students interviewing conference delegates around four questions:

- What does the word 'talent' mean to you?
- What are the most successful ways in which you unlock talent at your school?
- What more could be done and what are the barriers?
- Why is it important now?

The results of these interviews were recently published in the SSAT 'Talent Challenge' publication which was sent to all SSAT affiliated schools and all delegates who attended the 2007 National Conference.

At the 2008 National Conference we will build on this work by showcasing and awarding established best practice and innovative initiatives in the field of unlocking talent. The Talent Challenge Award, in partnership with RM and the Talent and Enterprise Taskforce, is to be given to the school that shows the most comprehensive and inclusive approach to unlocking the talent of all of its students. These schools will have clearly demonstrated how they are responding strategically to the significance and urgency of this issue.

Three distinct themes emerged from comments teachers made at last year's conference which are detailed in the 'Talent Challenge' publication. They were:

1. How schools are building on students' interests and talents outside of the curriculum
2. How schools are using student voice to unlock talent
3. How schools are using curriculum breadth and flexibility to recognise and develop a wide range of student talents.

We will be looking for examples of work in these 3 areas. However, you may feel that restricting your application to these areas does not adequately give you the opportunity to demonstrate the breadth or innovative nature of your work in this area. To this end we also

invite 'wildcard' applications. Tell us how your school unlocks talent and potential and why that is so effective.

Although there will only be one award-winner, we will be inviting up to 8 schools to present their work at this year's National Conference by leading a showcase session.

Teachers and students are invited to complete the attached application form. If you want to apply please bear in mind that there is requirement for the showcases at the National Conference to have a significant student-led contribution, as we want to hear first-hand from students how they feel their talent is being discovered and developed.

In addition, to further build on this important area of work, we will expect the selected showcase schools to host 'Open Doors on talent' sessions later in the year, where others seeking to learn from your excellent work can visit your school along with pupils.

**Talent &
Enterprise**
Taskforce

An HM Government programme

Unlocking talent

The Talent and Enterprise Task Force School of Talent Award

For the school demonstrating the most effective means of identifying and growing its staff talent pool.

Identifying the talent of staff and then helping them to grow and develop this talent is a challenging task. Schools are working in a variety of ways to develop their talent pool:

- Establishing structures that allow talented people to progress at a rapid rate
- Mechanisms for the early identification of talented staff
- Personalised programmes of professional development
- Allowing staff the opportunity to contribute to whole-school development work
- Bespoke programmes to respond to the unique opportunity offered by 'Generation Y' staff in the workforce

The Talent and Enterprise Taskforce and the SSAT seek applications from schools who take a strategic approach to developing the talent of all their staff. We would like to know:

- How do you identify talented staff?
- How do you grow and nurture their talent?
- What have been the results of this work for your school?