



## Neuroscience and Psychology for Teachers

BrainCanDo is leading the way in harnessing the power of psychology and neuroscience to enrich education. Our focus is working with educational professionals to bring neuroscientific evidence based research in to educational practice, during the critical period of adolescence when the brain is most primed for growth and development. We do this by sharing best practice through research, training, publications and resources with already skilled teaching professionals, seeking to continually build their expertise.

### **Exciting Opportunity for Teachers 2020-2021**

We are currently developing a comprehensive training programme for teachers that aligns with a recognised need for robust workforce development within the teaching profession. This CPD will provide already qualified and experienced teaching professionals with further knowledge and skills to enhance teaching practice through the application of evidence-informed concepts from cognitive psychology and neuroscience

As part of this plan, during the next academic year 2020-2021, BrainCanDo have designed a suite of six one day workshops. Over the course of the year teachers will be introduced to a number of concepts from cognitive psychology and neuroscience and their application in the classroom.

We have a strictly limited number of 30 places for teachers to participate in this programme and expect participants to come from a wide range of schools. Successful applicants will need to:

- Have the full support of their head teacher
- Have enthusiasm for learning new strategies
- Have at least 3 years teaching experience
- Be available to attend all 6 workshops

The programme is to be led by a leading expert in neuroscience and will offer the highest quality CPD. Teachers will have the opportunity to network with like-minded professionals and share cutting edge best practice.

### **Venue**

The 6 workshops will be all delivered at Queen Anne's School, Henley Rd, Caversham RG4 6DX and run from 10 am to 5 pm each day. Free onsite parking will be available, and refreshments and lunch will be provided.

### **Cost**

BrainCanDo have secured funding for this pilot programme which will cover the costs of the delivery of all the workshops, assessments and associated materials.

The only financial commitment from the school will be to cover the travel expenses for their member of staff to the venue.

## **Programme Consultant**

The workshops will all be delivered by Professor Patricia Riddell on behalf of BrainCanDo

Professor Riddell is a chartered psychologist, Professor of Applied Neuroscience at the University of Reading and a Consultant Neuroscientist. She enjoys working at the interface between science and the worlds of education and business. She loves creating cutting edge training workshops that integrate and expand on the most recent ideas in neuroscientific and psychological thinking.

Patricia teaches on the MSc in Coaching and Behavioural Change where she brings her knowledge of Applied Neuroscience to the course. She also researches areas including learning and memory, motivation and leadership and have co-authored several books such as 'The Neuroscience of Leadership Coaching' published in 2017 and the 'BrainCanDo Handbook of Teaching and Learning' due to be published later in 2020.

## **Programme Content**

Before the workshop, participants will be provided with a series of videos outlining the basic neuroanatomy and functions of the brain. They will be asked to watch these before the first workshop and to answer some questions about their learning. There will also be a range of assessments participants will be asked to complete.

Between workshops, participants will also be encouraged to experiment with the material and begin trialling it in a school context.

Learning in each workshop will be tied directly to how this topic can be used to enhance teachers' own professional experiences.

The workshops will build to a final workshop in which participants will be trained to design an actionresearch project to investigate an area of specific interest. The final piece of assessed work will be a research project proposal.

The workshop topics and dates are as follows:

*Workshop 1 – Motivation and Engagement : Wednesday 16 September, 2020*

*Workshop 2 – Learning and Technology: Tuesday 10 November, 2020*

*Workshop 3 – Memory: Tuesday 19 January, 2021*

*Workshop 4 – Decision Making and Leadership: Wednesday 10 March, 2021*

*Workshop 5 – Mental Health and Well-Being: Tuesday 11 May, 2021*

*Workshop 6 – Managing Difficult People: Wednesday 16 June, 2021*

## **Next Steps**

If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity for any of your teachers, or would like to nominate and register one of your teachers onto this programme please contact Nancy Mulligan, Research Manager at BrainCanDo on 0118 918 7343 or [Nancy.Mulligan@qas.org.uk](mailto:Nancy.Mulligan@qas.org.uk)