

CORNWALL EDUCATION & SKILLS FESTIVAL

WED 08 JUL 2026, 9-4

FAL BUILDING, TRURO COLLEGE, COLLEGE ROAD, TR1 3XX

Keynote Speakers

Amjad Ali (Try This Teaching)

What is needed for some, benefits all



Claire Badger (InnerDrive)

Effective questioning

Anna Round (Youth Futures Foundation)

What is the evidence base for youth unemployment?

Ruth Sparkes (Creator of the Teachie app)

AI confidence for teachers and students



Dr Tanya Ovenden-Hope (The Pretty Poverty Report)

Student experiences as a result of rural deprivation

Beth Brooks (Southwest Social Mobility Commission)

What are the most current trends and data saying about disadvantage and social mobility in Cornwall?

Stacey Sleeman & Ann Vandermeulen


LSIP strategy



HIGH-IMPACT, EVIDENCE-INFORMED CPD FOR ALL EDUCATORS IN CORNWALL

Cornwall's first county-wide Education and Skills Festival, hosted by Truro and Penwith College and delivered in partnership with EEF.

 Wednesday 8 July 2026

 9.00am–4.00pm

 £15 per delegate (including lunch & refreshments)

This is about something bigger than a conference.

Cornwall's geography and rurality mean that too often, accessing high-quality CPD involves long travel times and significant cost. We want to change that.

This Festival will bring together educators from primary, secondary and Further Education, alongside colleagues in SEND, apprenticeships, skills and careers, for a day of:

- High-quality, bite-size, evidence-informed CPD
- Cross-phase collaboration
- Practical strategies that translate into real classrooms
- A celebration of the excellent practice already happening across the county

The strands running throughout the day:

- Digital Technology
- SEND & Inclusion
- Disadvantage & Social Mobility
- Teaching, Learning & Curriculum
- Apprenticeships, Skills & Careers

This is a genuine opportunity to shape a new, collaborative professional learning space for Cornwall – and to showcase the strength of practice across our education system.



If you would like to attend, contribute, or know someone who should be involved, please register using the QR code or get in touch:

cornwalleduskillsfestival@gmail.com

Let's make this something Cornwall is proud of.

Teaching, Learning & Curriculum



Claire Badger (InnerDrive)

Effective feedback

No more off the shelf CPD (Dr Martin Hoskin & Dr Richard Poole)

Building practitioner research communities (Dr Martin Hoskin & Dr Richard Poole)

Leading small coastal schools (Jo Luxford - CELT)

Teaching and learning (Lucy Gambier & Doug O'Brien - CELT)

Learning and development culture (Hayley Bissenden & Rich Baker - CELT)

Reading for pleasure (Simon Pollard - CELT)



T Levels - A chance to share best practice (Ryan Bowles - Truro and Penwith College)

The reality of partnerships (Emma Kerr - CAPH)

Favill Gill (YGAM)

How to safeguard young people from gambling and harm



Metacognition & inclusion (Britt Duff - Truro and Penwith College)

How teaching for creativity prepares young people for the modern workforce (Sarah Childs - Penryn College)

SCITT



CODE Maths Hub



Disadvantage & Social Mobility



Dr Tanya Ovenden-Hope (The Pretty Poverty Report)

Engaging all educators in what they can do to support place-based equity in their practice

Amjad Ali (Try This Teaching)

What is needed for some, benefits all

What to do with the data you have to bridge the gap (Anna Round – Youth Futures Foundation)

Enhancing engagement among post-16 learners, especially in GCSE resits
(Rachel Arnold – Solihull College & University Centre & University of Cambridge)

Supporting refugee, asylum-seeking and new arrival young people through best practice
(Natalie Parr – Cornwall Council)

Helen Urbanowicz (EEF)

An overview of EEF's disadvantage network



Education
Endowment
Foundation

Applying enterprise skills in the real world (Young Enterprise)

Poverty proofing & disadvantage (Caroline Keech – Truro and Penwith College)

Engaging with messy problems through systems thinking (Jay Maund – Truro and Penwith College)

John Rogers (Cornwall Research School)

Educational isolation



Cornwall
Research
School

Supported by the Education Endowment Foundation

Disadvantage & social mobility (Tanya Coleman – CELT)

Inclusion for whom? Rethinking access, curriculum & disadvantage
(Ben Christophers – Falmouth School)

Financial wellbeing & support (Paul Fox – Money & Pensions Service)

Beth Brooks (Southwest Social Mobility Commission)

What are the most current trends and data saying about disadvantage and social mobility in Cornwall?



SEND & Inclusion

Dr Kim Collett

Inclusion – Why one approach never fits everyone –
Research from Cornish schools



Mindfulness in school initiatives (Laura Howard)

Universal relational approach (Chris Lore – Spaghetti Bridge School)

Dr Joanna Grace (Sensory Stories)

Girls & autism

Benefits of sensory engagement for everyone

Hidden sensory differences within neurodivergence



Attachment-aware practice (Dr Kit Savage – Truro and Penwith College)

Trauma informed practice (Angela Thompson – Truro and Penwith College)

Understanding PMLD through sensory experience (Beth Gilchrist – Truro and Penwith College)

Dr Sarah Mosely

Making inclusive practice work from the start: Universal Design for Learning
(UDL) in action



Apprenticeships, Skills & Careers

GEL / Cornish Lithium / Cornish Metals

Emerging industries



Careers in the curriculum (Carrie Childs & Tim Moody – Truro and Penwith College)

Defence & space (Jamie Williams & Babcock & Ross Hulbert)

The power of skills (John Brown & Eric Nicholls)

Visitor economy (Veryan Palmer & Mark Lewin & Visit Cornwall)

The value of apprenticeships (Hayley McKinstry & Charli Styles)

Construction (Mark Jones – Cornwall Council)

Digital Technology



Belinda Waldock (Being Agile)

A practical introduction to Agile as a popular method for managing work

How digital pedagogy is embedded across the Trust (Kate Jones & Bex Leech – TPAT)

Can online networks raise outcomes in education? (George Kirkhead – Kings College)

Ruth Sparkes (Creator of the Teachie App)

AI confidence for teachers



How teachers can link curriculum learning to careers
(David Pollard & Sarah Ableman – Cornwall Careers Hub)

Use of AI and digital technology in teaching (Shardul Bhogle – Truro and Penwith College)

The impact of social media and short video form upon attention and memory
(Claire Tarrington – Truro and Penwith College)

John Rodgers (Cornwall Research School)

How digital technology can improve learning when used with purpose



