

# De Bono Centre of Expertise KWIC

## Kind of good practice

Creativity, innovation and 21st century skills

## Target group

Students, teachers, management

## Description

Dr. Edward de Bono is regarded by many as the leading authority in the field of creative thinking, innovation and the direct teaching of thinking as a skill. He is equally renowned for his development of the Six Thinking Hats technique and the Direct Attention Thinking Tool (D.A.T.T.) framework.

## Aims

Continuous innovation and preparing for the future by:

- Promoting curiosity.
- Consciously looking for alternatives.
- Suspending judgement.
- Looking at other persons' views / perceptions.
- Having fun.

The De Bono Centre of Expertise (DBE) initiates distributes and develops the legacy regarding creative, critical and metacognitive thinking aimed at education and personal development. The DBE mainly focuses on the development of an alternative way of thinking. A way which leads to exploring ideas, creating possibilities and which looks at a variety of correct answers instead of the one single correct answer.

The role of the De Bono Centre of Expertise is closely linked to the school policy of Koning Willem I College. Creative, critical and metacognitive thinking addresses all talents, is innovative and provides us a thinking framework for a better world and for providing better direction to Koning Willem I College as Community College.

Core activity of the De Bono Centre of Expertise is the implementation of creative, critical and metacognitive thinking at Koning Willem I College by means of training, facilitating, developing, researching/analysing and distributing. The DBE does this by offering its services to the various departments. The DBE provides education and training to employees of Koning Willem I College. And of course teachers can apply this again when working with students.

Creativity itself has three aspects: Knowledge, Skills and Attitude. We start off with knowledge and skills and at the same time work to instil a creative attitude. If you take a meteorological metaphor you can say that we change the temperature (knowledge, skills) in the hope, expectation of a different climate. Changes in temperature can take place in a relatively short time. However, climate changes and culture changes should be viewed over a longer period of time. As far as it is within our sphere of influence we develop the following creative / entrepreneurial competencies.

A creative person takes initiative and is willing to take risks; suspends judgment, judges constructively (as opposed to binary judgement); has perseverance; makes (unusual) connections; is cooperative; is curious; is goal orientated; keeps looking for alternatives; empathises and is able and willing to see other people's point of view and is decisive

Creative thinking and adaptability are also identified as one of the basic skill sets deemed necessary in today's workplace. If creative thinking is considered to be critical to professional success, and critical to success in one's personal life, then institutions of education must sincerely consider the degree to which classroom experiences promote or undermine students' creativity. In this fast-paced and ever-changing world we live in, creative thinking is not a mere luxury, it is a basic survival skill.