About the editor

David Barlex

David Barlex is the editor of "Design & technology - for the next generation".

In 2006 Nick Baldwin of the Technology Enhancement Programme approached David with the idea of a legacy work that celebrated the huge achievement of design & technology in the National Curriculum in England, but put that development in the context of the wide range of research concerning technology education that had been carried out in different parts of the world over the past 20 - 30 years. So the stage was set for writing a collection of provocative pieces that would stimulate reflection and curriculum innovation amongst those entering the profession.

David has directed the Nuffield Design & Technology Project since 1990 and has combined this activity with building a related research portfolio as part of his work at Brunel University where he is a senior lecturer in education. Through this scholarly activity, often in collaboration with others, he has published widely in international academic journals concerned with technology education and attended many conferences in different parts of the world. This has enabled him to build a wide range of contacts with colleagues who are highly regarded and have acknowledged expertise across the emerging discipline of technology education. David was able to call on these colleagues to write the chapters that form this publication.

David is an acknowledged leader in design & technology education, curriculum design and curriculum materials development. He taught science and design & technology in comprehensive schools for 15 years before becoming a teacher educator. In 2002 he won the Design & Technology Association Outstanding Contribution to Design & Technology Education award. David's research activity stems from his conviction that there should be a dynamic and synergic relationship between curriculum development and academic research and include pedagogy that develops design ability and creativity and the professional development of teachers. He currently pursues this activity through partnerships with researchers in the UK, Canada and Sweden. He is cross-appointed as an adjunct associate professor at Queen's University. He is a member of the scientific committee of the Swedish National Graduate School in Science and Technology Education Research, FontD, which advises a consortium of eight Institutes of Higher Education on doctoral studies in science and technology education. Most recently (2007) he has been appointed as the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) consultant to the Design & Technology Association.

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