Keynote 3:

Sarah Oldfield, Vice Principal (Curriculum), Regent College, Leicester

Sarah has been teaching in Secondary and Sixth Form since 1996. She studied at De Montfort University for her degree then completed a PGCE at Leicester University. During her career she has continued to study and is about to commence her NPQH this October. Her current role at Regent College is Director of Curriculum and Learning. She has always enjoyed teaching as well as working with staff to improve their practice. At Riverside Business and Enterprise College she was responsible for the ITT and worked with the PGCE students, the NQTs and the GTP staff.

From Sixth Form to HE

Teaching Pedagogy has always been a thing of change and in the last 20 years the emphasis in schools has moved very distinctly from the teacher to the learner. What have they learnt? What do they know at the end of each session that they didn't know before? And how do we, the teacher, know?

Sixth Forms are traditionally seen as the stepping stone from School to University and hence have tried to develop independent learners who are equipped with the skills to progress to Higher Education. One of the key barriers faced by teachers at A Level is that examinations are so broad based they require significant levels of information to be delivered, which can restrict to the use of more active learning methods. The introduction of Vocational qualifications has therefore been of real benefit to learners. Specific assignments can be set, allowing learning to be focused and imaginative and develop the learner's independent thinking more effectively.

In Sarah's session, she will be present examples of how to introduce more active learning methods. Also, she will explore the transition of the learner from Sixth Form to Higher Education and the ways in which teachers and lecturers might work together to satisfy the learner whilst positively improving our own practice.