

Innovation in promoting inclusive best practice in today's schools

Universal Design for Learning Network
Dublin - Ireland.



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One day my father—he told me,

"Son, don't let it slip away"

He took me in his arms, I heard him say,

"When you get older

Your wild life will live for younger days,

Think of me if ever you're afraid."

He said, "One day you'll leave this world behind

So live a life you will remember."

My father told me when I was just a child

These are the nights that never die

My father told me..... [Avicci](#)

Let's Take a moment...

- Today I would ask us all to consider both our Cultural and Philosophical perspectives.
- Our Cultural perspective - our way of thinking, Acting and Interacting.
- Our Philosophical perspective - inside each one of us- The Visible and Not Visible.
- The symbiosis of Both within each person here present. These are what make us perceive and act differently the whole world over.
- Each child is a unique genius and has the right to be treated equally.
- Children are not born with inbuilt cultural and philosophical beliefs.
- The essence of each child is beautiful and pure, inquisitive and loving.

What is UDL ?

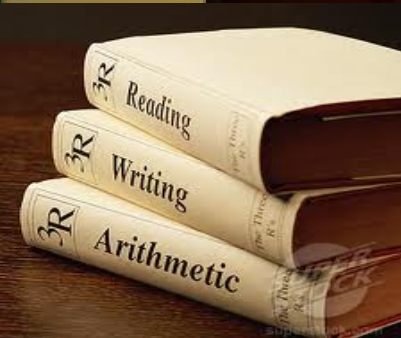
“Framework for designing educational environments that enable all learners to gain knowledge, skills, and enthusiasm for learning.”

<http://www.advocacyinstitute.org>

Insanity

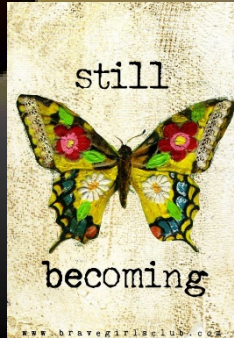
The belief that one can expect different results from doing the same thing over and over again. (Albert Einstein)





3 Rs V 3Cs?

Competence
Confidence
Completeness



Learning at ChildVision teaches children about life and living

They learn how to cope with a noisy, busy world. Step-by-step, day-by-day every child at ChildVision is discovering new things they can do. We celebrate each and every achievement. Whether it is taking a first mouthful of food, reading a little story, making a cake or riding a pony. Or maybe it's something as simple as accepting a hug and a cuddle for the first time....



ChildVision

National Education Centre for Blind Children



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Children are the SAME the World over

Great brains do NOT think alike !



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Who are we ?



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For all intents and purposes, i-learning is unambiguously defined as being, ‘innovative, inclusive, integrative, imaginative, inspired, inventive, intuitive and ingenious, sustainable learning’, which utilises all forms of MDiICTs to enhance encultured learning in real and virtual settings globally, (*Ó Murchú & Sorensen, 2009*).

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..... i-learning is regarded as being incitive by definition, as it challenges every educator to resourcefully and skilfully debate, transform and adapt all technology usage to enhance the multiply-intelligenced individual in transforming his/her meaningful and soulful learning and learning environment(s) in an encultured and authentic fashion, (*Ó Murchú, 2005, Sorensen & Ó Murchú, 2006, Ó Murchú & Sorensen, 2009*).

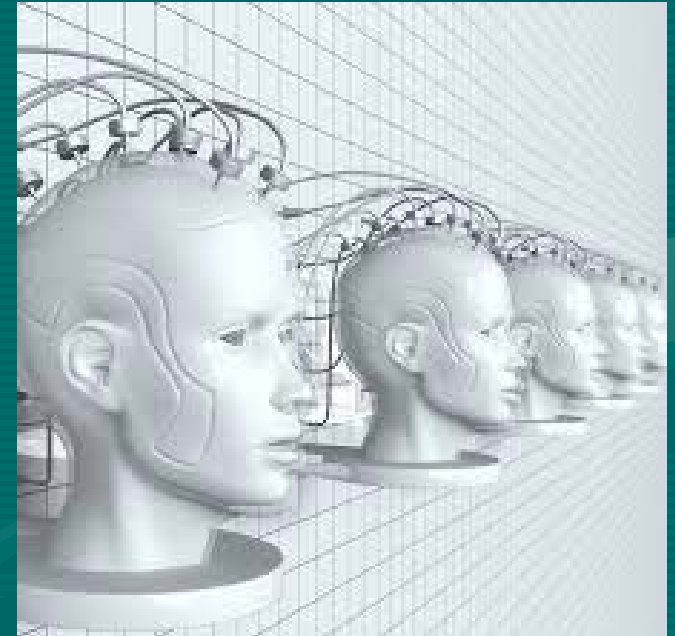
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Furthermore, encultured learning is defined as the facilitation of real and meaningful learning, which is unique, creative, complex and also produces authentic knowledge that is both transformative and transferable. These aspects are vital to ensure sustainability at any level of education, (*Ó Murchú ,2011*).

TheFuture is NOW yes?_



V



No one knows *anything*..but
The most profound technologies
are those that disappear. They
weave themselves into the fabric
of everyday life until they are
indistinguishable from it.

Elsendoorn & Coninx - 1993

*Our duty as educators is to prepare students for the
society which does not yet exist.*

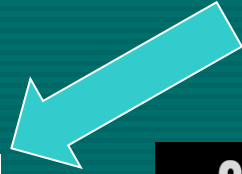
*“Humans are powerful
and technologies are
powerful, and together,
they are mathematically
powerful”*

(Tanguay, 1997, Ó Murchú 2009).



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What are the two constants in our Universe?



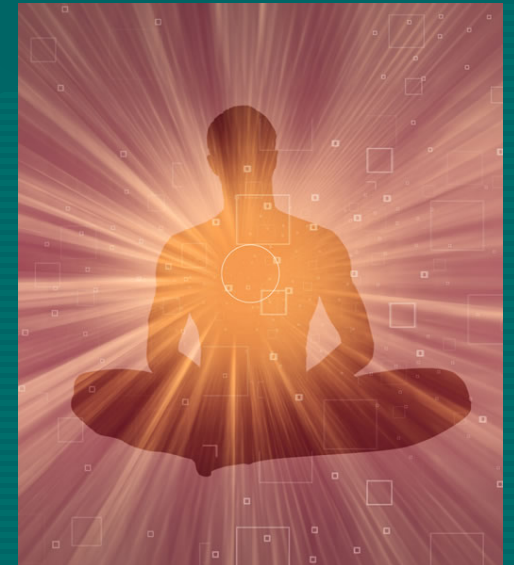
CHANGE IS THE
ESSENCE OF LIFE.
BE WILLING
TO SURRENDER
WHAT YOU ARE
FOR WHAT YOU
COULD BECOME.

BLOG.ZERODEAN.COM



What is a soul?
It's like electricity -
we don't really
know what it is,
but it's a force that
can light a room.

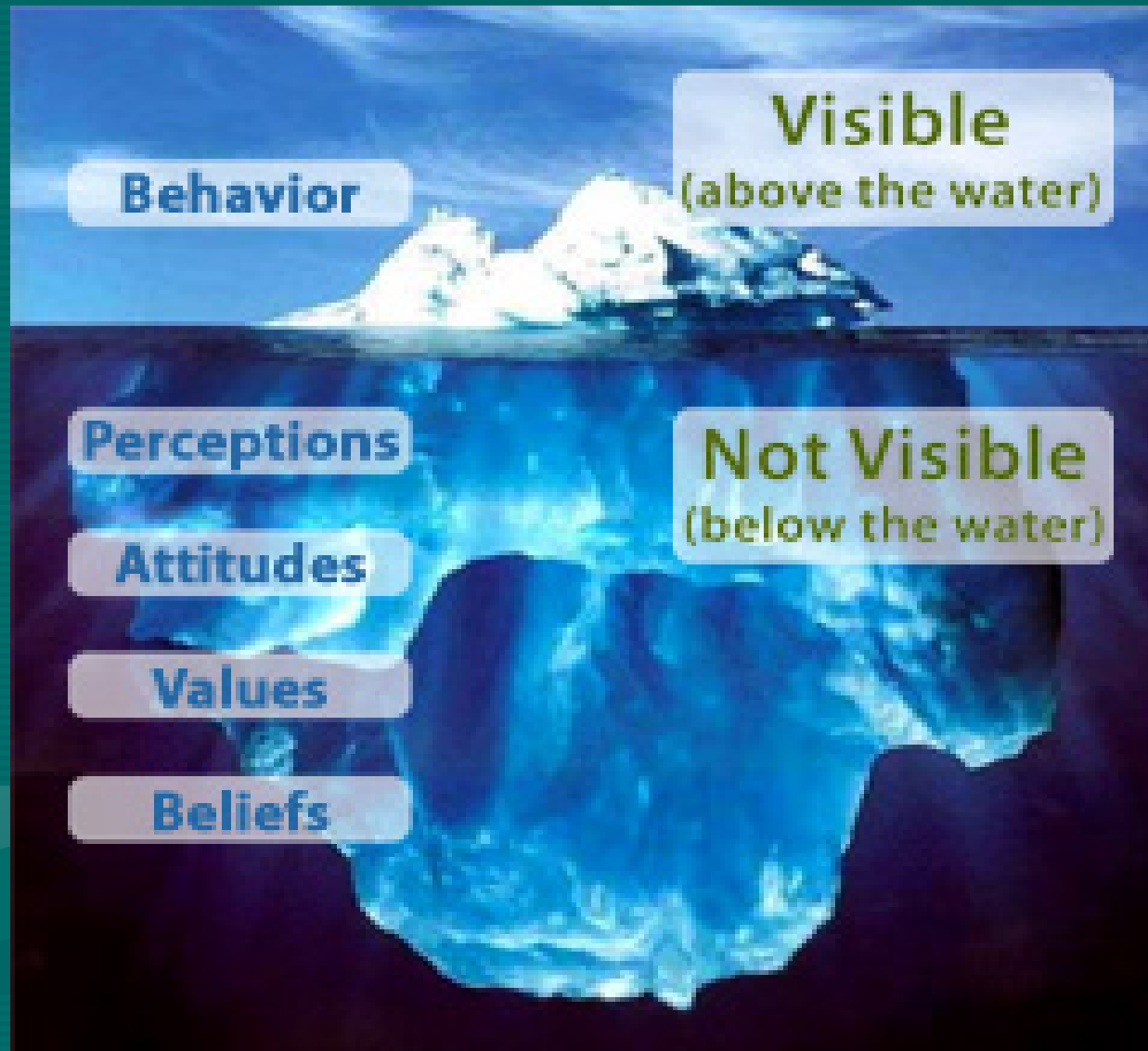
~Ray Charles



Culture ?

Culture is the way
you think, act, and
interact.

Philosophy – Inside Me



Carpe Diem – Joy/Fear?

Philosophy - Inside Me

Vision  Values

Mission

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START WITH
THE END IN MIND

CHALLENGE
OTHERS



THE SPIRIT OF
INNOVATION



TRUST IN
THE PROCESS

Quo vadis?

που πηγαίνεις?

Wo gehst du hin?

Mihin olet menossa?

Cá bhfuil tú ag dul?

waar ga je heen?

¿adónde vas?

Where are you going?



Quo Vadis UDLnet ?

Soul

Culture & Philosophy

Innovation

Inclusive best practice



To Be The Best We Can Be

When Insanity Stops...Imagination Begins



Ima**G**ination Begins

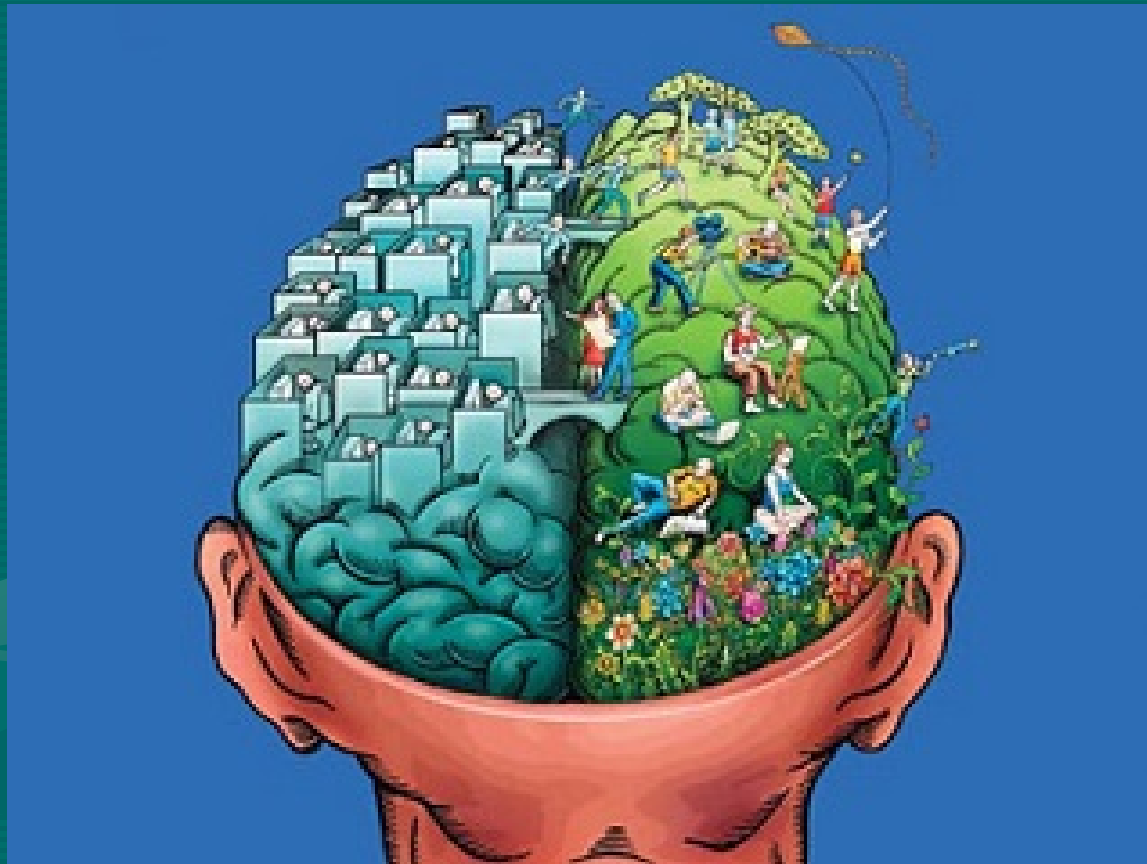
Nous sommes
l'imagination

Our
responsibility
begins with our
imagination.

Haruki Murakami

- This inner and global challenge to create a culture of Innovation in promoting inclusive best practice in today's schools requires us to embrace Joy and Fear, Success and Failure into our experiences and those of our community of practice.
- In this way, all engagement becomes authentic, meaningful and soulful in creative and innovative ways.
- It requires identifying our belief systems and oftentimes shifting them to allow for transformative growth processes.

Question the conventional



Reveal Conflict



Seek an open debate



Be guided by transformative vision



Unmask traditional practice



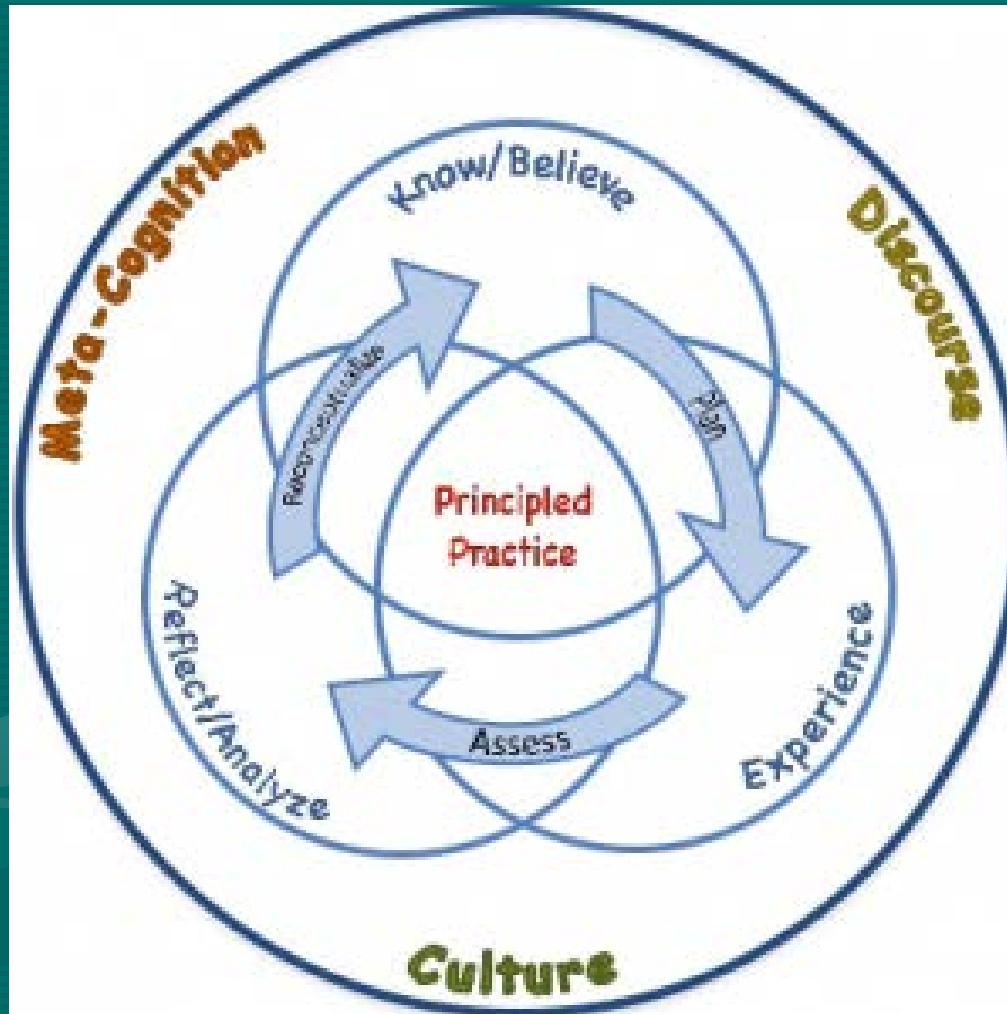
Avoid Profound “TRUTHS”



Trace broader structures in the local situation



Create new concepts



Stimulate new practice



Embrace inclusion, innovation, autonomy,
co-operation, solidarity, stimulation, democracy
and freedom.



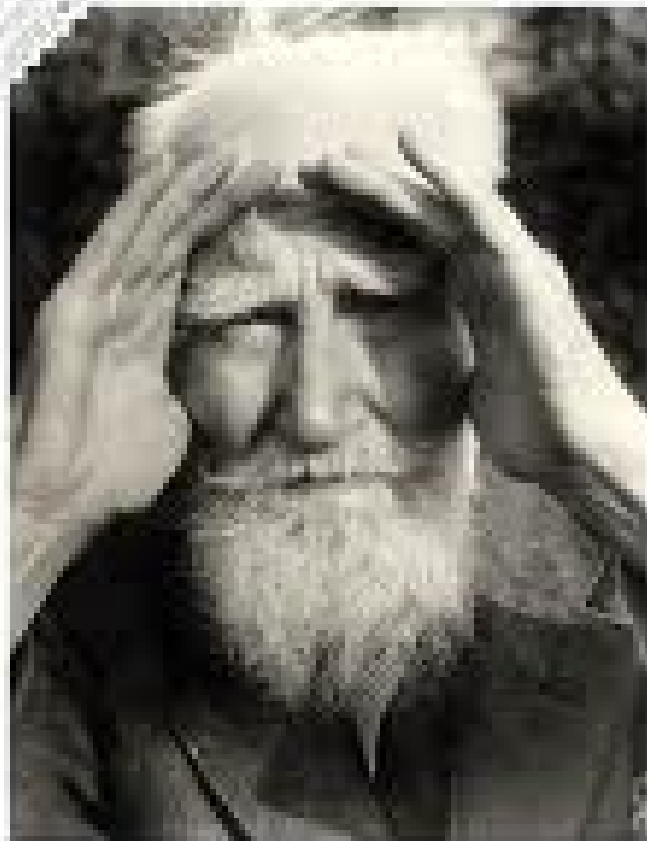
When Insanity Stops..Imagination Begins



~Embellished Minds~

"Limitations only exist in our *minds*.
But if we learn how to use IMAGINATION,
the possibilities of our world become limitless."

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**"Imagination is the beginning
of creation.**

**You imagine what you desire,
you will what you imagine,
and at last,
you create what you will"**

- George Bernard Shaw

Twinkl.com

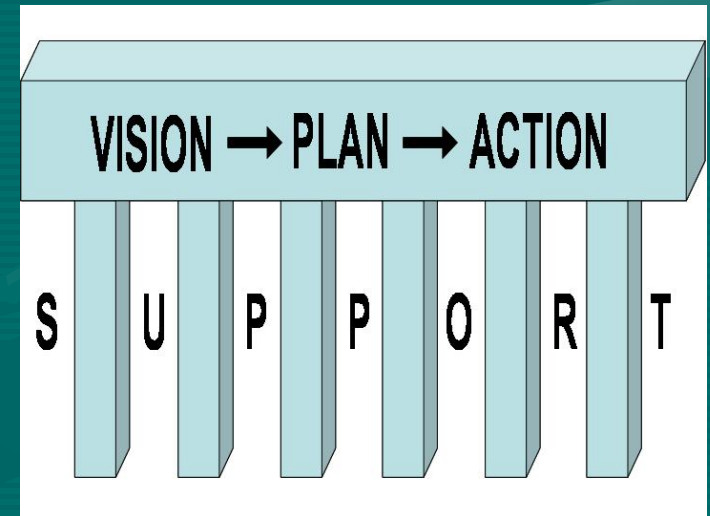
Creating a culture of innovation and excellence



No one knows *anything*



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YOU JUST HAVE TO USE YOUR



IMAGINATION

So.....

- In considering both our Cultural and Philosophical perspectives.
- Our Cultural perspective - our way of thinking, Acting and Interacting.
- Our Philosophical perspective - inside each one of us- The Visible and Not Visible. Behaviour / perceptions, attitudes, values, beliefs.
- The symbiosis of Both within each person here present.
- Do our education systems and curricula design for inclusive learning or just design learning?
- What can YOU / UDLnet actually do?

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