

GROW

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Enhancing the quality of conversations in education communities

UNVEILING THE POWER OF INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING

Ever wondered what lies within the heart of 'instructional coaching'?

Two seemingly big, fuzzy words that might not mean anything to us.

At the heart of it, instructional coaching is about the partnership between a coach and a teacher, a collaboration that ignites potential and transforms learning and teaching experiences.

Back when I was a classroom teacher, I remember facing the challenge of a group of students who seemed disengaged and reluctant to take risks. Okay, they didn't seem disengaged...they were blatantly disengaged and distracting others.

One would even throw her books around - or at me.

I was well into my teaching career and I found myself at a crossroads.

I thought I should have known everything by this point (we all know that's never the case!). I had previously been great with building relationships, hooking students into learning, and boosting students' engagement in maths - in fact, I love doing so.

However, during this year, with this group, all my strategies hadn't worked yet.

It was during this time that I experienced the power of instructional coaching - and a great coach. My coach helped me navigate uncharted territories.

Through our partnership, I first discovered "The Impact Cycle," a framework crafted by Jim Knight, that resonated deeply with my teaching philosophy.

But it wasn't just about following steps; it was about understanding my students' needs, my strengths as a teacher, and the delicate dance between the two. Armed with the coaching support I needed, I ventured into my classroom with renewed enthusiasm.

Imagine my surprise when those once-disengaged students began to lean in, ask questions, and eagerly share their thoughts. The atmosphere transformed as a sense of curiosity and exploration filled the room. What's more, I tried out strategies I'd never considered before - from interactive discussions to project-based learning - all tailored to reach this unique group of learners.

(I'll honestly never forget literally counting the number of smiles that broke out on one particular student's face as she was more engaged, willing to share ideas, and throw herself into maths tasks she previously never would have).

This journey taught me that instructional coaching is a dynamic partnership, a catalyst for uncovering the best ways to reach our students.

Just as importantly, it highlighted the importance of playing around with strategies, realising it takes time and a willingness to just give them a go, and that a big positive difference can come from small tweaks...if we're willing to give it a go.

(And our coach uses those partnership principles to supportively challenge us!).

What about you? When has an instructional coach or a partnership changed the trajectory of your teaching or career?

How did it impact your students' engagement and willingness to take risks?

By Dan Steele, Director

Growth Coaching International

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Short Read





INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING GROUP

Not just a merger, a true meeting of minds.

The Instructional Coaching Group (ICG) and Growth Coaching International (GCI) are joining forces.

Two companies who are leaders in the field, coming together.

FULL ANNOUNCEMENT HERE



Following the huge success of the Australian Instructional Coaching Institute in 2023, Dr Jim Knight is coming back by popular demand! The Institute is a focused and intensive professional development opportunity based on 20+ years of research. It provides a big-picture view of instructional coaching covering the key topics presented in Jim Knight's best-selling books and research.

This 4-day intensive event is the best professional development you could do as an instructional coach, mentor or leader. Secure your place quickly for the opportunity to learn with a renowned world leader in Instructional Coaching.



Be sure to check out our YouTube channel to watch testimonials on success stories from various school leaders and teachers.

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MARK NATOLI: GREENVALE SECONDARY COLLEGE



Click here to listen to our latest episode with Mark Natoli. In 2022, Mark opened the doors to a brand new school – Greenvale Secondary College in Melbourne Australia with a motto "Dream, Believe, Achieve". In this episode Mark speaks on how coaching has impacted the early years of this brand new establishment.

Our Coaching In Education Podcast, hosted by Richard Reid is now available on YouTube. We are excited to finally share our Podcast in video format as this now includes the benefit of subtitles. We value all of our listeners and hope that those who are hearing impaired will now also benefit from the wisdom we graciously value from our guests.

You can subscribe to our podcast via Apple Podcasts, Spotify and now YouTube. All of our episodes are available on our website.

TOWARDS A 'WAY OF BEING'

By Christian van Nieuwerburgh

In this article, I will outline some ideal attributes for coaches based on a loose understanding of Rogers 'way of being' (1980). Each represents a lifelong journey of development. These attributes can be considered aspirational goals for coaches. Self-awareness is important as you consider each point. You may already possess some of these attributes, others may require a lifetime of learning and development. We must be honest and humble when deciding on whether or not we need to invest time in any of the points below...

Read the full article here on our website.

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COACHING ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Our flagship coach training course with Prof. Christian van Nieuwerburgh, delivered fully ONLINE over 6 months with a GLOBAL cohort and a pathway to individual European Mentoring and Coaching Council (EMCC) credentials.

Our next cohort commences 2nd October 2024!

Click here to secure your place now



Click above to find out everything about this course through the interactive Flipping Book.



Facilitators Claudia Owad and Christian van Nieuwerburgh discuss the upcoming cohort of this course.

INTRODUCTION TO LEADERSHIP COACHING

The Introduction to Leadership Coaching course provides an exceptional entry level to coaching in education. It's the course for leaders and teams wanting to amplify and cascade a positive, strengths-based, studentcentred learning culture at every level in their school or educational organisation. Not through just one conversation at a time, but many conversations at a time. Conversations that inspire joy, teamwork, purpose and self-belief.

"Thank you for an informative program

Jane Neary, Head Teacher, Chifley College - Shalvey Campus NSW

UPCOMING COHORTS:

Brisbane - 26th & 27th Aug 2024 Launceston - 30th Aug & 13th Sep 2024 Central Coast - 29th & 30th Oct 2024 Perth - 31st Oct & 1st Nov 2024 Hobart - 6th & 7th Nov 2024 Melbourne - 6th & 7th Nov 2024 Sydney - 6th & 7th Nov 2024

Be sure to click on the dates to visit the

A COACHING APPROACH TO MANAGING CHALLENGING CONVERSATIONS

Managing Challenging Conversations develops skills and confidence to effectively lead the different types of difficult conversations such as managing under-performance, giving sensitive feedback and change management. It is particularly suitable for those in leadership and managerial roles seeking to develop skills to effectively manage challenging workplace conversations.

Be sure to **click on the dates** to visit the registration pages!

"The facilitators were clear, knowledgeable and happy to share insights. They were welcoming and made the course today feel as though we as leaders can take this on board and succeed."

Kay Manni, Teacher Sydney Catholic Schools

UPCOMING COHORTS:

Perth - 2nd Sept 2024 Brisbane - 5th Sept 2024 Sydney - 29th Oct 2024 Melbourne - 20th Nov 2024

ADVANCED COACHING PRACTICE

Advanced Coaching Practice is for experienced coaches who are interested in taking their practice to the next level. It is designed to support active reflection on your current coaching practice leading to new insight and awareness.

UPCOMING COHORTS: 3 x 2hr fortnightly online workshops

Online - 29 Oct, 12 & 26 Nov 2024



Click above to hear our Consulting Professor Christian van Nieuwerburgh talk about this course.

FIND ALL OTHER OPEN-ENROLMENT COURSES ON OFFER BY CLICKING HERE

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Have you seen the latest issue of GCI Insights?

Our latest issue of GCI Insights was our biggest issue yet! Featuring over 30 pages of thought provoking articles from a wide variety of voices in our education space.

As in previous issues, it has been created as an interactive Flipping Book, featuring video interviews with leaders in the field and links to other useful resources for coaching in education.

We hope you enjoy this issue of GCI Insights as a companion to your coaching journey.

Click here to read our latest GCI Insights

