

Education Show 2016

- inspiring excellence in the classroom

Visitors to the Education Show, at the NEC Birmingham from 17-19 March, had the opportunity to get to grips with innovative new resources and join inspiring CPD-accredited training sessions. The Learning Through Technology Zone and Seminar Presentations were especially popular.

Topical sessions explored 'Preparing for Progress 8', 'What's great about autism?' 'Engaging the disengaged' and 'Bringing Sciences to Life.'

This year's show speakers included:

Dr Kevin Fong, honorary senior lecturer in physiology, University College, London; Monty Halls, writer, explorer and television presenter; Robert Winston, researcher, director, writer and broadcaster, Professor of Science and Society, Imperial College London; Rose King, storytelling activist and winner of Emmy Kid's Award and Nadiya Hussain, Great British Bake Off Winner.

EducationCity, was presented with an Education Resources Award in the 'Education Exporter of the Year' category.

EducationCity were highly commended for their exceptional service and support offered to schools across the world.

The judges said: "We were impressed with what appears to be a very hands on teaching, learning and assessment resource with flexible curriculum support."

In their 18th year, the Education Resources Awards are organised by the British Educational Suppliers Association, BESA.

Richard Whalley, managing director at EducationCity, said: "I am really proud of the whole team here at EducationCity. This award recognises our fantastic product and all the innovation and effort which goes into its continuous improvement."

Caroline Wright, director at BESA, said: "What makes these awards different is that they focus on the resources, services and people that really make an impact on learning and the day-to-day work of the teachers in the classroom. The UK education sector is currently in the unprecedented position of offering ever improving standards of excellence. Thousands of educators from across the world visit the UK each year to review and buy products from our suppliers because of the quality offered. We would like to congratulate EducationCity for its outstanding achievement."

In the specific Maths and Science theatre, Vanessa Pittard, assistant director in the curriculum and standards division, department for education talked about raising standards in Maths and English.

The role of technology in education has continued to grow, while opportunities for its application in assessment are only just beginning to emerge.

3P Learning showcased its range of innovative digital learning resources for maths, literacy and science for pupils aged from 4-16 (Reception - KS4) designed to make learning fun and engaging and recently proven to improve educational outcomes.

They also ran a workshop in the Maths & Science Theatre on using IntoScience to enhance practical classroom science.

This session demonstrated how to integrate technology into practical science lessons for Key Stage 2 and 3 and showed how blended learning approaches in science can improve engagement, support differentiation and help with assessment for learning.

The International Baccalaureate (IB)

Organisation showcased its new eAssessment model as part of the Middle Years Programme (MYP) for students aged 11 – 16 years, and staging live demonstrations of what the new model has to offer. In contrast to traditional examinations in the UK, just 25 percent of IB's assessment is based explicitly on knowledge and understanding, the rest focuses on inquiry, communications and critical thinking skills which, combined with an emphasis on conceptual learning, form the basis of the MYP.

The Education Show 2016 welcomed more than 300 exhibitors and among the new resources launched at the show, Tute Education, unveiled the Pebble – a new set of inspiring learning programmes covering a range of popular topics, tailored to meet the needs of primary school

teachers and learners.

Pebble is designed to work in harmony with the curriculum delivery in school. Qualified, experienced teachers provide a rich, online learning experience and engage Key Stage 2 students every step of the way. Four initial topics are offered at launch including Ancient Egypt and Exploring Space, but schools are also encouraged to take advantage of Tute's custom service should they wish to target a particular cohort or subject.

Vanessa Brown, director of teaching and learning at Tute, said: "Particular care has been taken to ensure that every resource created is suitably engaging for our younger audience. We wanted to make sure we grab the pupils' attention with dynamic themes but also build on important numeracy and literacy skills through cross-curricular application."

During the Education Show, KI Europe gave away a brand new Kindle Paperwhite with leather cover to a lucky winner.

To be in the running, visitors were invited to be a part of what KI call "Generation Postura" - one of the millions of people across the UK who have used Postura chairs since they were first introduced to the UK in 1996. Entrants had to Tweet @kieurope with the name of their school and the year they last attended, to enter the draw to win!

Postura+ chairs can now be found everywhere from educational institutions through to libraries and day care centres, and they were recently specified for the 2015 RIBA Stirling Prize winning Burntwood School.

One in ten children aged between five and 16 years old have a diagnosable mental health problem – according to a recent Task Force Report commissioned by NHS England. Drawing and Talking - a family-run business - offers pioneering training courses to adults who work with children of all ages. The company joined suppliers at the Education Show to demonstrate its low-cost yet effective solution for adults looking to help children affected by mental health issues.

EducationCity was recognised as Exporter of the Year at the Education Resources Awards

