



6th March 2008

Queens Park Community Schools, as Brent's Full Service Extended School, has worked closely with **Marilyn Devonish of Trance Formations for over 3 years.**

We have partnered Marilyn in offering creative and innovative teaching in order to raise the quality of teaching and learning. The 3 courses Marilyn has delivered have been to 2 cohorts of 25 Year 7 and 8 Gifted and Talented students and to a smaller group of 6th Formers as an enhancement of their PHSCE course.

PhotoReading uses NLP techniques which are stimulating and motivating to the students. She combines relaxation methods and a study skills approach, to accelerate learning in an enjoyable manner. Marilyn is an excellent teacher who is able to motivate and stimulate her students. Her classes were very popular and the fact that they were continually well-attended speaks volumes for their efficacy. As someone who spent a lot of time in the lessons it was impressive to see a real joy of learning and discovery so beautifully combined with a real sense of purpose and lots of fun.

We continue to work with Marilyn and also to tell others of the pioneering work she is doing. I am grateful for our extended services funding stream to allow us to "fly a kite" with this course and would recommend it to others. Indeed I recently hosted a Learning Visit by 16 other schools to QPCS as part of our Specialist Schools work and had no hesitation in asking Marilyn to do a workshop for them. The evaluation gave her an 80% rating of "excellent".

There is a certain amount of scepticism about US imports and NLP work in this country. I see PhotoReading playing a key role in promoting the individualised learning agenda in schools and commend it to others as a tool to be seriously scrutinised to promote effective learning.

Barrie Birch
Deputy Headteacher



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