

**Contribution by
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to

**Conference at University of Gdansk, Poland
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on

**‘School, Family and Community Partnerships
in a world of differences and changes’**

Presentation will be on Topic No. 8

**‘Impact of learning outside schools, especially lifelong learning
and home-learning’**

ABSTRACT

Provisional Title: ‘Partnerships in learning : in the interests of children, benefiting all’

A number of themes and areas which will be pursued, within this topic area which will be interlinked and interrelated, and these include, in approximate order:

- focusing on what ‘learning outside schools’ is, definition and scope; some key recent and current examples of family and home-based learning initiatives, mainly from within the U.K., contextualised within broader policy and theory perspectives
- proposing a model whereby parenting/being a parent is a core part of life-long learning and exploring this by looking at: the role and contribution of parents/carers in their children’s development and learning; how being a parent constitutes an ongoing learning experience with specific expertise being developed all the time
- broadening this model to encompass Reciprocal Life-long Learning, to include children and significant adults (such as teachers) into the ‘Learning Partnership’; how such interactive learning may be beneficial to all the ‘learners’ (adults and children). This is a triangulated approach which facilitates multiple perspectives
- considering some of the evidence for the impact and effectiveness of learning outside school on children’s development and achievement
- concluding by looking at some implications of the notion of ‘learning partners’ on possible emerging research and practice in parental involvement, particularly as regards involving parents and children more directly in planning, design and execution of out of school intervention/learning programmes and service delivery.

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