

**Title:** **Pedagogy and Practice: embedding ways of learning and teaching into physical learning spaces - what's actually happening!**

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## **Abstract:**

### **Session Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this session, delegates will be able to:

- Recognise how learning and teaching practices can be embedded into physical learning spaces
- Articulate aspirations for physical learning spaces to support learning and teaching practices

### **Session Outline**

Key issues to be addressed are:

The importance of physical learning spaces has been identified by HEFCE, JISC and the HEA. Much University capital is spent on refurbishing existing building stock and building new facilities (SMG).

This discussion paper is based on current research into physical learning spaces (Temple 2008). It proposes that the physical 'place' of a university is important in describing the opportunities of the student experience of learning. This was explored initially by considering how universities flag their physical places for example on web sites (Graham 2009).

The research has developed to examine the new generation of learning spaces being developed across the UK. Field research of these learning spaces which range from social spaces, learning spaces, circulation spaces considers how these spaces reflect pedagogy and approaches to teaching practice. It looks at how learning and teaching pedagogy might be embedded in university estates/facilities strategies and building procurement processes through consultation with the users (academic staff and students).

The research considers the impact of virtual learning spaces in developing approaches to teaching practice in physical learning spaces and how this is changing the design of new learning spaces.

Finally the discussion considers how we use the spaces we are given; how we can be creative and flexible in our approaches to teaching practice.

### **Session Activities and Approximate Timings**

#### **First 15 minutes:**

Considering how students are introduced to learning spaces: what are university aspirations for learning spaces; discussion and noting key aspirations

**Second 15 minutes:**

Qualities of new generation learning spaces: consideration of some examples; discussion around social, virtual and physical learning spaces: identify key qualities

**Final 15 minutes:**

Discussion: using our current spaces to meet aspirations of learning practices: some guidelines and objectives for using spaces better

**References**

Graham, H (2009) An Invitation to our place, unpublished, EdD paper 2009

SMG Space Management Group <http://www.smg.ac.uk/> UK Higher Education

Temple, P (2008) Learning Spaces for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,  
[http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/projects/detail/lr\\_2007\\_temple](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/projects/detail/lr_2007_temple) Higher Education Academy