Improving writing

Co-author 1: Fay Lant, Programme Manager, Young Writers Programme, National Literacy Trust, UK, fay.lant@literacytrust.org.uk

Co-author 2: Jesper Bremholm, Ph.D, University of Aarhus, JBRE@kp.dk

Writing is increasingly important for the twenty-first century learner who must be not just a consumer of information but a producer as well. Teachers as instructors, models, and advocates for literacy leave their mark on students and this symposium will bring together experts from the UK and Denmark to discuss and compare how writing is taught in both countries.

From a UK perspective, we will highlight a particular approach to improving writing, which builds children’s confidence in their ability to write, enables them to organise their writing and develops their metacognitive skills so they can improve their work. From a Danish perspective, we emphasize the importance of teachers having a didactical approach to writing, and we show how we encourage teachers to use writing as a tool for learning in all subjects.

It is hoped that an exchange of strategy and practice will highlight commonalities of what works and will provide practical insights that could be implemented to improve writing outcomes for children and young people, regardless of where they are in the world.