

A few words about Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

There are many things to consider before attending a CPD event.

Here are just a few of my thoughts on CPD:

1. Personal expectations we bring to a CPD event affect our personal takeaway. Ask yourself what personal expectations you have of your CPD experience?
2. Our personal assumptions, attitudes, and beliefs about learning and teaching affect our CPD experience. What assumptions, attitudes, and beliefs do you have about learning and teaching?
3. CPD means reflection and change. Ask yourself:
 - a. How have I done things in the past?
 - b. How am I doing things right now?
 - c. How will do things in the future?
4. Our personal past classroom experiences affect how we understand any CPD event. Additionally, your *classroom persona* developed from classroom experience will influence your CPD take-away.
5. Connect your CPD take-away to your teaching–learning context. Network with other teachers who share your teaching–learning context and compare ideas.
6. Everyone comes to a CPD event with different life experiences. What experiences can you share with others to add value to their CPD experience?
7. CPD requires open-mindedness to something different. Ask yourself how you could incorporate or innovate the ideas you’re learning at a CPD event.
8. Don’t be afraid to take risks and ask questions during your personal CPD experience. Go to a workshop or talk that has nothing to do with your teaching situation. Who knows? You may learn something new.
9. CPD can also mean adapting to market forces. Whether we like it or not, technology drives what happens in modern learning environments. How are you integrating technology into your lesson plans and learning cycles?
10. From what you’ve learnt at a CPD event, what actions will you take to improve the content and delivery of your lessons? How will you drive a learning cycle in the future?