

Assessment Horizons Conference 2025

Programme

Day one: Tuesday 29 April	
Morning theme: <i>AI, digital and assessment – where are we now?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunities and challenges• The developing landscape• AI malpractice and security issues	Afternoon theme: <i>The value of assessment literacy</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment and AI literacy amongst learners• Assessment literacy amongst other stakeholders – parents, HE and schools
Day two: Wednesday 30 April	
Morning theme: <i>Towards authentic assessment and future skills</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessing informal learning• Competence based assessment• Future skills and how to assess them	Afternoon theme: <i>Maintaining validity through inclusive assessment</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EDIB and assessment• Digital accessibility and inclusion• Holistic assessment and wellbeing

Tuesday 29 April

Time	Session	Speaker/s	Location
8.30 – 9.15	Welcome, sign in and refreshments		Triangle Reception area and Seminar space
9.15 – 9.30	Welcome	James Beadle , Senior Professional Development Manager and Simon Child , Head of Assessment Training, Cambridge University Press & Assessment	Seminar space (rooms 1,2&3)
9.30 – 10.10	Using better assessment design to tackle potential AI threat to academic integrity	Liz Hardie , Director of The Scholarship Centre for Innovation in online Legal and Business Education for the Faculty of Business and Law, The Open University, and Jonquil Lowe , Senior Lecturer in Economics and Personal Finance, The Open University and Gray Mytton , Assessment Innovation Manager, NCFE	Seminar space (rooms 1,2&3)
10.20– 10.50	Breakout presentation sessions: please choose one		
1	Using AI to mark free-text responses to science questions: auto marking	Tom Sutch , Principal Data Scientist, Cambridge University Press & Assessment	NW-G1
2	Effects of Large Language Model use and note-taking on reading comprehension and memory: A randomised experiment in secondary schools	Pia Kreijkes , Senior Researcher, Sylvia Vitello , Senior Researcher and Martina Kuvalja , Senior Researcher, Cambridge University Press and Assessment	NW-G2
3	Generative AI-aided responses to non-exam assessment: challenges, opportunities and solutions	Tony Leech , Senior Researcher, Cambridge University Press and Assessment	NW-G3

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10.50 – 11.10	Refreshments and break (20 minutes)		
11.10 – 12.10	Workshops: please choose one		
1	Digital assessment: opportunities and challenges	Sarah Hughes , Head of Research and Yasin Karatay , Senior Research Manager, Cambridge University Press & Assessment	In person only
2	Are Learning and Assessment ready for Artificial Intelligence?	Andrew Field and Natalia Sobrino-Saeb , Cambridge University Press and Assessment	In person only
3	Implementing sustainability principles in assessment design and delivery	Vicky Evans , Head of Sustainability and Clare Williams , Senior Assessment Manager and Cambridge University Press & Assessment	In person only
Online workshop session	E-assessment of speaking	Nick Glasson , Senior Research Manager and Andrew Mullooly , Senior Assessment Manager	Online only
12.10 – 13.30	Lunch (one hour)		Ground floor and first floor
13.30 – 14.10	Keynote: The student voice on AI and assessment	Jennifer Keenahan , Associate Professor in Civil Engineering, Mairead O'Reilly , Educational Technologist and Amy Lawrence , 4th year Structural Engineering with Architecture Student - all from University College Dublin	Seminar space (rooms 1,2&3)
14.20 – 14.50	Breakout presentation sessions (please choose one)		
	Student perceptions of fairness and validity	Kirsty Parkinson , Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply	NW-GI

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2	The 'marginal gains' of assessment literacy in schools.	George Vlachonikolis , Assistant Head (Teaching and Learning), Headington School, Oxford	NW-G2
3	What do parents need to know about assessment to support their children's learning? From engagement to action	Simon Child , Head of Assessment Training, The Assessment Network, Cambridge University Press & Assessment	NW-G3
15.20 – 16.20	Assessment Innovations Carousel	Hosted by Gwyneth Toolan , Digital Adoption Lead, RM. Featuring Bek Genery , Researcher and Developer Neuro and Physical Diversities, ARU, Matthew Dean , Head of Assessment Design, Assessment Reform, Cambridge University Press & Assessment, Louise Gilbert Senior Assessment Manager, and Lina Loxley , Senior Research & Data Analyst, and Mark House , Product Manager, and Nick Hope , Innovation Manager from RM.	Seminar space (rooms 1,2&3)
Open from 16.20 – 18.30	Drinks and networking reception		Cass Centre, Cambridge University Press & Assessment

Wednesday 30 April

Time	Session	Speaker	Location
8.30 – 9.15	Welcome and refreshments		Triangle Reception area and seminar space

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9.15 – 9.30	Welcome to day two	James Beadle , Senior Professional Development Manager and Simon Child , Head of Assessment Training, Cambridge University Press & Assessment	Seminar space (rooms 1,2&3)
9.30 – 10.10	Panel discussion: Towards authentic assessment and future skills	<p>Chair: Paul Ellis, Head of Thought Leadership – Education Futures, Cambridge University Press & Assessment</p> <p>Speakers: Rebecca Dowbiggin, Education Consultant and PACES: Educational Assessment tutor, Dee Arp, Chief Quality Officer at NEBOSH and James Beadle, Senior Assessment Manager, Cambridge University Press & Assessment</p>	Seminar space (rooms 1,2&3)
10.20– 10.50	Breakout presentation sessions: please choose one		
1	“Learn to live the unexamined life”: What can we learn from the arts as we look to promote student wellbeing and develop competence and skills-based assessments?	Rebecca Dowbiggin , Education Consultant and PACES: Educational Assessment tutor	NW-G1
2	Authentic Assessment and the Challenges of Open Book Examinations	Dee Arp , Chief Quality Officer, NEBOSH	NW-G2
3	From Policy to Practice: Lessons from a transition to Competence Based Education in Uruguay	Verónica Floretta , Educational Assessment Consultant	NW-G3
10.50 – 11.10	Refreshments and networking break (20 minutes)		

11.10 – 12.10	Workshops: please choose one		
1	Question Writing for Effective Assessment – a taster	Nancy Sneddon , Educational Assessment Consultant	In person only
2	Practical tips for improving the accessibility of assessment items: highlights from our ‘Embedding EDIB in assessment course’	James Beadle , Senior Professional Development Manager, Cambridge University Press & Assessment	In person only
3	Validation for beginners	Simon Child , Head of Assessment Training, Cambridge University Press & Assessment	In person only
Online	Assessment data culture maturity: A collaborative exploration	Vicky Merrick , Founding Director of Merrick-Ed Limited	Online only
12.10 – 13.30	Lunch (1 hour)		
13.30 – 14.20	Keynote session: How does HE assessment work unevenly for students of colour and what can we do as practitioners to measurably reduce the ‘wicked’ inequities?	Paul Ian Campbell , Associate Professor in Sociology of Race and Inclusion, University of Leicester	Seminar space (rooms 1,2&3)
14.30 – 15.00: Breakout presentation sessions – choose 1			
1	How well are they? The relationship between wellbeing and assessment	Stuart Shaw and Isabel Nisbet , Education Consultants and co-authors of Educational Assessment in a Changing World: Lessons Learned and the Path Ahead	NW-G1
2	Why Oracy Matters in Assessment	Paul Ellis , Global Head of Education Futures, Cambridge University Press & Assessment and Laura	NW-G2

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		Kahwati , Education Futures Manager, Cambridge University Press & Assessment	
	Including Indigenous Knowledges in low stakes assessments for primary school: a case study	Jackie Greateorex , Principal Researcher, Cambridge University Press & Assessment	NW-G3
15.00 – 15.40	Refreshments and networking break (40 minutes)		
15.40 – 16.20	Closing session from Tim Oates	Tim Oates CBE , Group Director of Assessment Research and Development, Cambridge University Press & Assessment	Seminar space (rooms 1,2&3)