



Reconfiguring HPE and Sport to Enrich Communities
14-16 January | AIS Canberra

Presentation: Monday 14 January 3:30pm, Australian Institute of Sport



David Geldart

The Bambisanani Partnership: Using the power of sport to change lives in one of South Africa's poorest regions

The Bambisanani Partnership emerged from a British Council/Youth Sport Trust initiative linking UK and South African Schools through physical education and sport. One particular link between St. Mary's High School in Leeds and Mnyakanya High School, which serves one of KwaZulu-Natal's most deprived rural communities, went on to become embedded in the lives of both schools, inspiring young people in many areas of the curriculum. Bambisanani is a Zulu word meaning 'working hand in hand' and aptly describes the work and vision of this inspirational partnership that uses sport as a catalyst to promote education, health, global citizenship and leadership. Twelve years on, and now a multi-award winning charity, the pioneering partnership has gained international acclaim for its work. Despite the most difficult of circumstances this project has not only been sustained it has grown and expanded to involve other schools and indeed universities. Significantly, the University of Leeds and Leeds Trinity University are now both heavily involved in the partnership and like St. Mary's School regularly have students out in South Africa to extend and develop the partnerships various programmes. A fundamental aim of the partnership has been to create genuine 'two way' learning between both countries with a key focus on 'working together and learning together'. The presentation will highlight examples of the partnerships development strands including 'Leadership through Sport', 'Cycling for Success' and also the use of sport to enhance other areas of the curriculum. The Bambisanani story is testimony of the power of sport to change lives and has served as a reminder to many just why they became a teacher.

Four critically acclaimed books by David Geldart have been published that chronical the remarkable journey and work of this partnership:

- Bambisanani: The First Five Years
- Bambisanani 2012: Faster, Higher, Stronger
- Bambisanani: The Power of Sport
- Bambisanani: Ten Years of Working Together and Learning Together



**Bambisanani
Partnership**

Working Together, Learning Together
www.bambisananipartnership.org

