

## **Endgame: a self-improving school system**

David H. Hargreaves

*Cambridge University, UK.*

Professor David H. Hargreaves is Fellow Emeritus of Wolfson College, Cambridge. He was educated at Bolton School, Bolton and Christ's College Cambridge. He has served for many years in teacher education, and has been Professor of Education in the University of Cambridge and Reader in Education at the University of Oxford. He has also been Chief Inspector of the Inner London Education Authority, Chief Executive of the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, Chairman of the British Educational Communications and Technology Agency, Associate Director (Development and Research) of the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust, and senior associate of the think tank Demos. He is a Foundation Academician of the Academy of the Social Sciences. Professor Hargreaves has published books, articles and pamphlets, mainly in the fields of social psychology and sociology applied to education and medical education. His most recent work is a series of think-pieces on a self-improving school system for England's National College of School Leadership.

### **Abstract**

As responsibility for professional development and school improvement in England is transferred to headteachers and their governing bodies, the building block of the school system is no longer a free-standing school but a cluster of schools in partnership. Some of the prerequisites of a self-improving school system are being established, but other features of the education service are inhibiting this project. For many schools the task of establishing and maintaining deep partnerships and strategic alliances with other schools is proving to be a major challenge. The presentation and its supporting materials explore the nature and consequences of this profound change for the teaching profession, for local education authorities, for inspection systems and for university schools of education and research centres.

## Paper

Professor Hargreaves draws delegates' attention to the following publications published by the UK National Council.

- Hargreaves, D. (2010). *Creating a self-improving school system*. National Council.
- Hargreaves, D. (2011). *Leading a self-improving school system*. National Council.
- Hargreaves, D. (2012). *A self-improving school system in international context*. National Council.
- Hargreaves (in press for publication late 2012). *A self-improving school system: towards maturity*. National Council.

All publications are available at: [www.education.gov.uk/nationalcollege](http://www.education.gov.uk/nationalcollege)