Benjamin Bloom

Bloom's theory of learning involves 6 steps which build on the previous steps and are dependent upon them also, they support the next level of learning. Knowledge (be able to recall facts, key terms, basic principles), Comprehension (to rephrase ideas in one's own terms), Application (to apply principles in situations), Analysis (to spot errors and identify assumptions), Synthesis (To use elements in new settings) and Evaluation (be able to judge by inner and external criteria). By building on the steps greater understanding is obtained in an area which helps to build knowledge in other areas also. Everyone starts at the beginning when learning something new but then they progress up in their understanding in the topic.

Schools currently take this approach to learning in that the build on previous knowledge to inform the students of deeper thinking in the topic. You progress through the levels simply by getting older and completing the subject from a higher standard in the next year group.

Wood technology uses this techniques as all classes build upon one another until you progress to a major project in year 12, these skills and knowledge have been increasing since year 7 so they can only improve. Projects which continually build upon students knowledge and skills will help them to be more enthusiastic about the unit.

Howard Gardner

Gardner's theories concluded that every person has multiple intelligences which is why some people can pick up information faster than others but this process does depend on how the information has been delivered to the recipient. There are 8 intelligences which are Linguistic (sensitive to spoken or written word), Logical (maths), Spatial (see things visually), Kinesthetic (to use your body), Interpersonal (understand and perceive others), Intrapersonal (one's own emotions), Musical (understand and create music) and Naturalist (understand one's own environment). These intelligences help information to get to the senders but in order for this to happen efficiently all of them have to be presented.

Gardner's theories note that every intelligence must be used in the classroom so all students benefit from the lesson. This can be harder to do but must be tried so that no student is disadvantaged by not having the intelligence being used in the lesson. This explains why some students can excel in practical subjects but can struggle in theory subjects which come in a presentation form.
Wood technology classes would need to contain several of these intelligence to keep students interests in the subject during the lessons, while practicals are a part of the lessons theory must be present to the students to give them knowledge of why they are doing the project. This theory while traditionally teacher based must contain greater student interactivity.

**Edward De Bono**

Bono's theory of thinking has been to divide the thinking process into the use of wearing SIX hats of thinking. RED/White/Yellow/Black/Blue and Green which all serve an individual thought process without allowing the individuals personal bias to get in the way. A meeting would start and 6 people would put on these hats and resume those roles of thought, Red would rely on feeling, hunches and intuition. White uses information known or needed, Yellow uses optimism, Black uses judgement (pessimistic), Blue manages the thinking process and Green deals with creativity. Using this thinking process allows the meeting to be more efficient and productive.

Education currently doesn't use such thinking process as teacher instructs students what has to be completed, Bono's model would enable students to have greater control over what happens in their subjects. Students would be able to produce better projects when they are being peer assessed but having the emotional issues with this process removed.

Wood Technology projects that the students are involved in would be more efficiently conceived, peers would not be attached to the project so they could give better feedback on the project. In the initial stages of a project for the students that are not creative this process would force them to focus on just one train of thought not several which would stall their thinking.

**References**


