

# Professional Development Workshop

*Science, environment  
and entrepreneurship  
in eTwinning projects*



**Warsaw, Poland**  
**8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> October 2015**



*Contemnit  
procellas*

"It defies the storms"

# "From atoms to molecules and beyond - forming stable and sustainable project partnerships"

**Chris Williams**

British Council Ambassador

International School Partnership Specialist

Former senior leader at Lincoln Christ's Hospital School



# "From atoms to molecules and beyond - forming stable and sustainable project partnerships"

a.k.a. / trans

## What makes a good school partnership ?

Chris Williams





A brown leather football is positioned in the lower-left foreground on a green grass field. In the background, a blue goalpost stands against a clear blue sky. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

**Three goals in  
this session:**

- 1. Presentation  
on making good  
partnerships**
- 2. Ice breaking**
- 3. Exercise**

# **‘Lesson plan’**

**1. People**

**2. Partnerships**

**3. Practicalities**





# 1. PEOPLE

Who is your presenter?

Who is  
this man ?

## Chris Williams

### Currently:

Freelance consultant - **entrepreneur**

International School Partnership Specialist

British Council Ambassador

Comenius Expert >>> Erasmus+

Chairman of the Nettleham Woodland Trust - **environmentalist**

### Previously:

First degree (BA) in European Studies (History and French)

34 years in large secondary schools as History teacher, deputy head and acting head – **(social) scientist**

### At **Lincoln Christ's Hospital School**:

- 1986-2007 – full-time in senior leadership.
- 1990-2007 - International Co-ordinator
- 2007-present – part-time as Consultant



# Lincoln Christ's Hospital School (LCHS)

- Origins 1090; buildings 1907
- Present school 1974
- 11-18 all-ability academy
- 1400 pupils
- Urban-suburban-rural
- 13% non-English speakers
- International School Award  
1999, 2003, 2006,  
2009, 2012, 2015
- OFSTED inspection report June 2013:



*“Good with some outstanding features”*

# LCHS and pupil partnerships

*(1989-2000: link with USA – school band exchanges)*

1991-present: link with Belgium, Germany, Spain and the Netherlands (France to 2001) – conferences and football

1992-present: link with Czech Republic, Denmark (1996) and France (2001) – conferences, language visits

1997 - present: China – exchanges, teacher placements

2013 – present: India

*(Also for shorter projects: Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Finland, Guadeloupe, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sri Lanka and Turkey)*



A photograph of a sandy beach with a long, dark shadow of a person cast across it. The shadow is positioned in the lower half of the frame, extending from the left towards the right. The background shows the wet sand and the edge of the water with some small debris.

# Who is your neighbour?

Who are  
these  
people ?



## **2. PARTNERSHIPS**

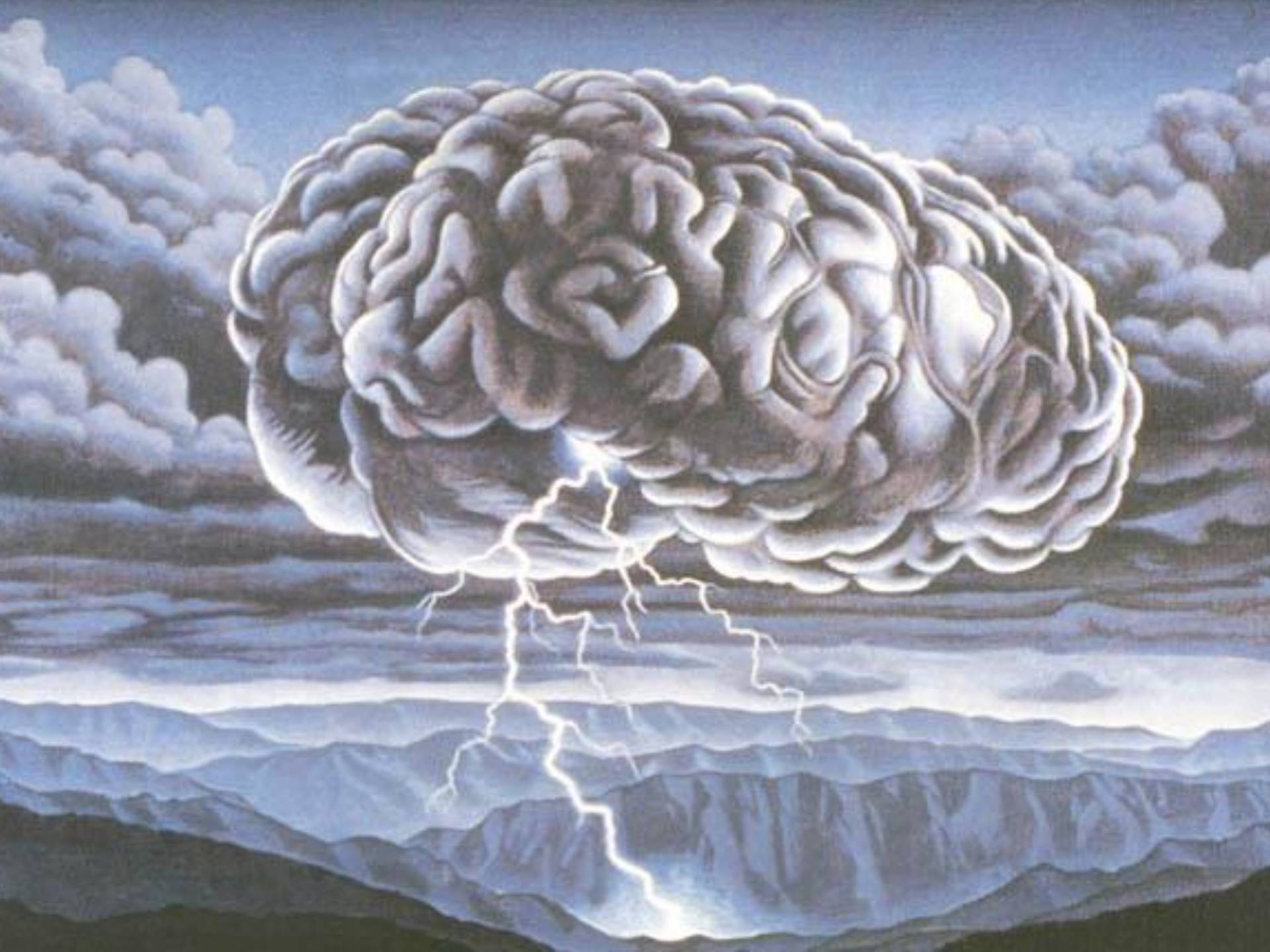
**No two partnerships are identical**





**What will make a partnership fail?**













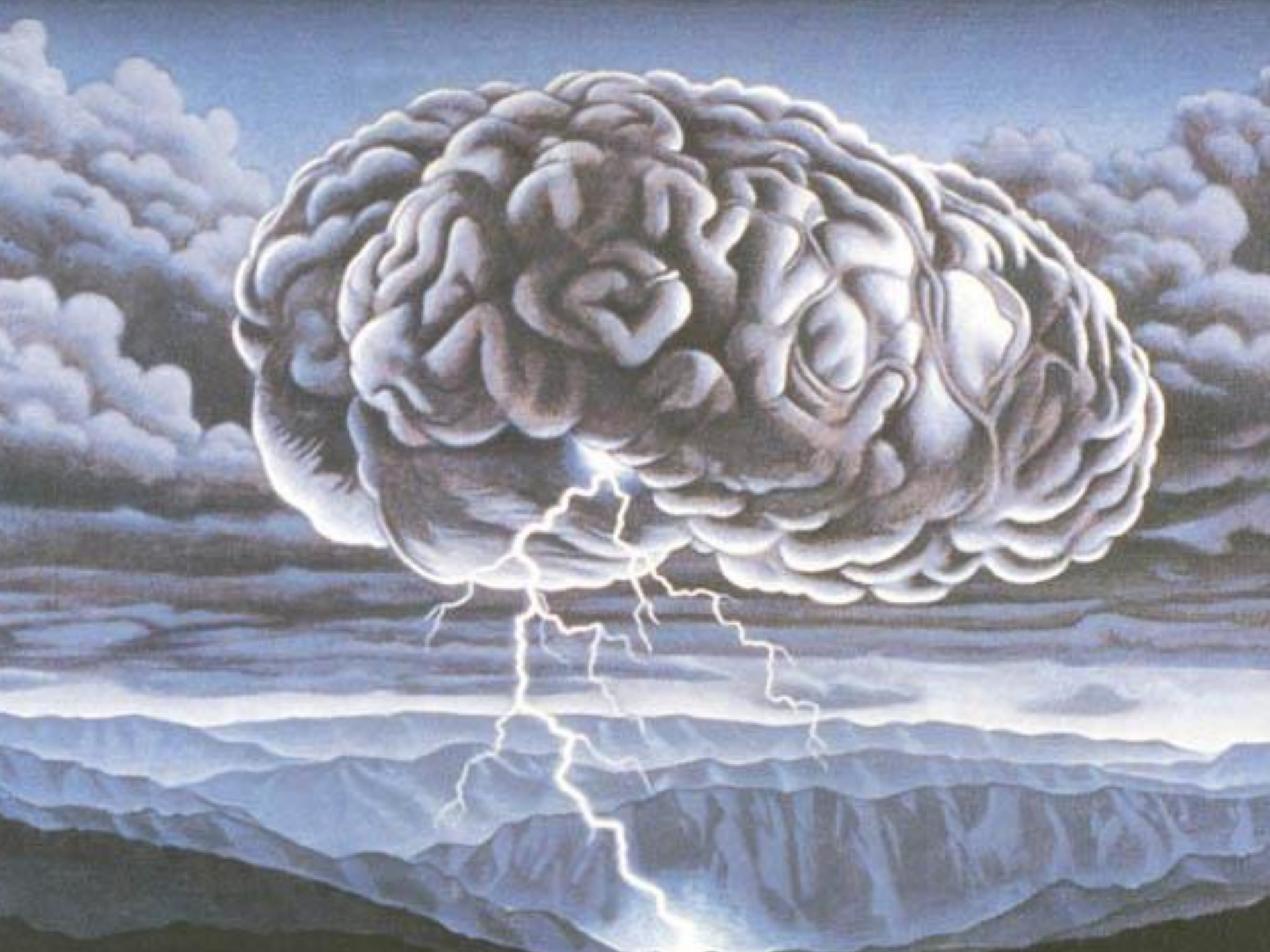
# Why one LCHS partnership ended



**What makes a good partnership ?**











# Why LCHS partnerships succeed ?

- Support from senior leadership
- Trust between partners
- Succession planning
- Shared purpose
- Simplicity



### 3. PRACTICALITIES



# GOAL SETTING

S

SPECIFIC

M

MEASURABLE

A

ATTAINABLE

R

RELEVANT

T

TIME-BOUND

**SMART  
targets**

**This is what  
someone else  
said**

**Someone else also said, “Kiss”  
.....”Keep it simple, stupid”**





# What makes a good partnership ?

- Communications
- Respect
- Achievability
- Flexibility
- Time

= CRAFT





# And now the practical CRAFT lesson



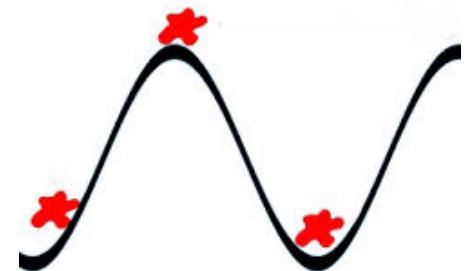
# C for Communications (or Contact)

- Have at least two different methods of contact with your partner(s)
- Have at least two people in each school able to lead the project
- Exchange school calendars
- Identify pressure points e.g exams
- Identify quiet times e.g. holidays



School calendar 2014/15

Calendarpedia  
Your calendar for children



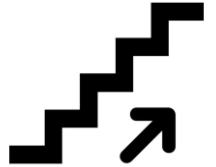


# R for Reliability (or Respect)

- Do what you agreed
- Don't ignore your partner
- Consider your partner's needs



# A for Achievability (or Attainability)



- Start with something simple and quick

e.g. 'The view from my window'; 'A day in my school'; 'Our school meals'

<https://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/classroom-resources>

- Build up in stages e.g. British Council resources go from 'Our school' to 'Our local community' to 'Our wider world'
- For greater impact and relevance in schools
  - Involve more than one class if possible.
  - Link to wider curriculum if possible.



# Snowflake before snowball

Photoshop PSD file download - Resolution 1





Acorn  
before oak  
tree





# F for Flexibility (or Fortitude)

- Things may have to change – be flexible.



- Be strong and brave  
- show fortitude



# T for Time

- Respect the schedule
  - better a half-finished product on time than something late
  - the other partner needs you to be punctual





# T is also for Trust

- Learn to trust your partners



# Our journey today - summary

**1. People**

**2. Partnerships**

**3. Practicalities**



# Our learning today - revision lesson

C = ?

R = ?

A = ?

F = ?

T = ?





ANY  
QUESTIONS  
?

# Further information

Classroom resources for international projects:

<https://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/classroom-resources>

In-service training providers:

<http://interprimair.eu/>

<http://globallearningassociation.org/>

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