



The National Association of
School-Based Teacher Trainers

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NASBTT Awards 2019: Surrey South Farnham SCITT duo win Trainer of the Year award

Dave Cole and Bob Twells, from Surrey South Farnham SCITT, have been named Trainer of the Year by the National Association of School-Based Teacher Trainers (NASBTT), the voice of school-led initial teacher training and development.

The duo beat off fierce competition from Carol Allen (Associated Merseyside Partnership SCITT) and Alison Brady (Associated Merseyside Partnership SCITT), who were runners-up in NASBTT's Trainer of the Year award. This category recognises inspirational trainers or facilitators whose best practice provision excites and motivates school-based trainee teachers.

In awarding the Trainer of the Year prize, the judging panel comprising of education and ITT experts said: "Many of the nominees were evidently inspirational trainers in diverse aspects of initial teacher education whose impact on the thinking and practice of significant numbers of trainee teachers is clearly apparent, but Dave and Bob are clearly a dynamic duo. As one judge commented: 'their sessions are described in such a way (and evaluated incredibly highly by a range of trainees past and present) that one wants to book to attend'. The SCITT leaders say in their nomination that: 'We have been inundated with nomination requests from past and present trainees'. As one grateful recipient's testimonial said: 'I just had to say how fantastic the behaviour management training was today. They were the perfect training duo – hilarious at times and with so much good content. I certainly left feeling uplifted and with plenty of strategies to try'."

Upon receiving the award, Dave said: "Firstly, Bob and I were incredibly touched that someone would even find the time to nominate us for our work with Surrey South Farnham trainees; to actually win the award took us both by surprise and we feel incredibly humbled. Having both worked in challenging schools we are acutely aware that effective strategies for behaviour management are the cornerstone for any effective classroom, and for a school for that matter.

At a time when behaviour is a national challenge our role is even more crucial. Our simple focus on rules, routines and relationships coupled with fun and a trainee-led approach, has really helped us to empower our trainees. We love our work with trainees and feel privileged that we can really help make a difference.”

The inaugural NASBTT Awards, held at the Union Jack Club in London on 11th July, were launched to celebrate excellence in school-based teacher education and recognise the exceptionally hard-working and talented professionals involved in driving the profession.

Sponsoring NASBTT’s Trainer of the Year award category was Anspear, a technology and publishing company whose mobile learning platform powers core curriculum courses for children, distance learning degrees, language learning, vocational training and CPD.

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