

# Establishing Conditions to Learn Through Play with Richard Cheetham MBE

# COURSE

Explore how to create the right environment for learning through play, where curiosity, creativity, and connection drive student engagement and well-being.



## About This Course

Creating the conditions for students to learn through play is one of the most powerful ways to build connection, confidence, and curiosity in the classroom. In this inspiring session, Richard Cheetham MBE, leading educator, coach, and researcher, explores the science and art of play as a foundation for well-being and learning.

Through engaging examples and practical insights, educators will discover how play can transform their teaching practice, enhance student happiness, and create classrooms where both learning and laughter thrive.



## Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, educators will be able to:

**Understand the Essence of Play:**

Recognise play as a core driver of learning, creativity, and emotional development.

**Link Play and Well-being:**

Explore how playful learning supports happiness, belonging, and positive mental health.

**Design Playful Environments:**

Identify strategies to embed play into lessons, routines, and school culture.

**Reflect on Practice:**

Consider how play can reignite teacher enthusiasm and student motivation.



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## Why This Matters for Educators

Learning through play isn't just for early years, it's essential for all stages of education. By establishing playful conditions for learning, educators can:

- **Boost Engagement** – Create experiences that spark curiosity and ownership in students.
- **Foster Emotional Safety** – Build trust, confidence, and resilience through collaborative, low-stakes learning.
- **Promote Well-being** – Use play as a vehicle for joy, connection, and stress reduction in the classroom.
- **Reignite Teacher Passion** – Rediscover the fun and creativity that make teaching deeply fulfilling.

## About the Presenter

Richard Cheetham MBE is a Senior Fellow in Sports Coaching at the University of Winchester and a globally respected expert in play-based and experiential learning. With over two decades of experience, including work with Saracens RFC Academy, Fulham Football Club, and British Triathlon, Richard has pioneered innovative approaches to coaching and education. His research and workshops have inspired thousands of teachers and coaches to adopt playful, holistic methods that enhance both performance and well-being.

## Perfect For

Educators, school leaders, and coaches who want to:

- Integrate play into everyday teaching and learning.
- Strengthen student well-being and engagement through play.
- Build creative, inclusive environments that promote curiosity and joy.