

Supporting risk-taking cultures in teachers and learners - lessons learnt
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This presentation , drawing upon 7 years as an e-portfolio teacher and mentor, will explore how the metaphor of Chutes and Ladders, as an analogy for e-portfolio/technology adoption and embedding, might be usefully extended to consider the need for (sometimes underground) rhizomatic roots and shoots (Deleuze 1976) to develop cultures supportive to e-portfolio-based learning (JISC 2008). It will go on to illustrate the role of the parachute safety net in supporting other teachers and their learners to take risks and experiment and offer a version of the ladder that is wide enough to accommodate others on the same rung as well as above and below. As Jim (2004), one of my first ever e-portfolio learners reflected, climbing is not an individual pursuit - there is a collective responsibility involved in passing on the baton and supporting the group.

Biography

Julie Hughes is Head of Department for Post-Compulsory Education in the School of Education at the University of Wolverhampton. Julie's practice and research explores the role of Web 2.0 technologies such as e-portfolios and blogs, and their attendant dialogic pedagogies. She is particularly interested in how these hybrid learning and teaching practices might support transitions into the University/HEness, in the case of Foundation Degree students and into the workplaces of new teachers.

Julie is a Higher Education Academy National Teaching Fellow (2005) and is an Academic Consultant for [ESCalate](#).

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