

Professor John West Burnham's earlier work focussed on the different modes of learning which explored Shallow, Deep and Profound Learning. His more recent work focusses on the broader question of what makes effective learning.

He identifies that effective learning is most likely to occur when:

- There are high quality social relationships characterised by emotional intelligence, interdependence and high trust.
 - The learner lives in an effective community in which there are shared values, high aspirations and security.
 - The learner enjoys physical, psychological and emotional well-being underpinned by actions which ensure a healthy and balanced lifestyle.
 - The learner understands herself/himself as a learner, i.e. is aware of their distinctive profile as a learner and is able to engage in Deep and Profound Learning activities.
- There is awareness of the need to maximise neurological effectiveness (e.g. attention span and concentration, motivation, emotions, memory, etc.).
 - School, community and family focus on the social aspects of learning, e.g. ensuring access to mentoring and working in effective groups.
 - There is a strategy to enhance the potential of each person in terms of a model of intelligence which reflects a scientific and humanistic approach rather than social prejudice.

Source: West-Burnham, J. & Coates, M. (2005). 'Personalizing Learning.'