



Welcome to the  
first edition of  
the Future  
Innovators

**newsletter!** Intended for anyone with an interest in nurturing the next generation of innovators, we hope this newsletter will be a useful source of news, resources and opportunities. In this issue, we focus on the question of how we can help young people to develop an informed and personally relevant understanding of risk-taking. If you have any comments or feedback, do get in touch [futureinnovators@nesta.org.uk](mailto:futureinnovators@nesta.org.uk)

### Learning is a risky business

*Dr Bill Lucas, an expert on lifelong learning, argues that it is smart to make mistakes and that there are practical things we can do to support young people to be better risk-takers.*

Life is full of risk. The world is changing faster than ever before. It follows that schools should help young people to understand how to judge risk for themselves.

We seem to be narrowing the frontiers of our thinking and forcing learners to regurgitate exactly what we tell them with little scope for creative responses. In short, we are spoon-feeding a whole generation of children when spoon-feeding, as EM Forster once told us, "teaches us nothing but the shape of the spoon".

[read more ...](#)

## Articles



### [Risk aversion is the enemy of innovation](#)

Roger Mullin, an authority on judgement and decision-making, offers a personal view on why we need to move away from the "risk industry" that permeates every area of our lives and start developing a better understanding of risk.



### [Risk-taking in the real world](#)

We provide a brief overview of some recent initiatives developed to promote risk-taking, such as the RSA's Risk Commission, plus resources for teachers to explore risk-taking with their students.



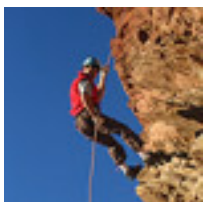
### [Taking a leap](#)

Earlier this year, we invited organisations to submit their proposals for pilot projects aimed at inspiring enterprising attitudes and behaviours towards risk-taking. From over a hundred ideas submitted, we have chosen five to be piloted.



### [Creating space for innovation](#)

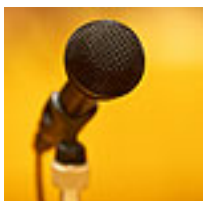
Space Unlimited is enabling young people to build confidence in their own ideas and talent by working on a real-life problem posed by a business. NESTA is supporting Space Unlimited to develop a project as part of our new 'Taking a Leap' portfolio.



### [What's the biggest risk you've ever taken?](#)

"The biggest risk I took was making a complete career change at an age when I already had personal responsibilities. It was the best thing I ever did..."

Take part in our one-click opinion poll on risk taking.



### [Young people's views](#)

We asked young people from Harefield Academy in London about their views on risk-taking. Listen to what they had to say in these video vox pops.



## Events



### [Planet SciCast](#)

Planet SciCast is a new project that is challenging anyone with a flair for science to make a short film of an exciting science experiment. To get inspired, sign-up to one of our free seminars.



### [Get connected](#)

Entrepreneurs, educators and young people can share experiences, advice and inspiration at our speed-networking event. Each participant is guaranteed to meet 12 people in one hour.

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You can also visit the [NESTA web site](#).

If you have any suggestions, or anything else that you think would be of interest, please [email us](#).

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