National Evidence Institute: Some Initial Ideas

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AARE Schools and Education Systems SIG Mid-Year Event
25 July 2019
A National Evidence Institute that ....
1. Focuses on use as well as evidence
‘We see less activity in the “adopt” category than for “generate” and “translate”.

There is also predominantly a research production (push) approach to the use of research.’

(Gough et al., 2018:7)
2. Supports quality of use as well as of evidence
‘To improve the use of evidence in policy requires an explicit engagement with the question of what constitutes better use from a political perspective.’

(Parkhurst, 2017: 170)
3. Frames everything around improvement
‘Social scientists tend to ask:
‘How can we increase the use of research in decision making?’ ...

... rather than: ‘How can we make wiser decisions and in what ways can research help?’

(Weiss, 1978:78)
4. Follows an ethos of ‘less is more’
Digital Minimalism

‘A philosophy of technology use in which you focus your online time on a small number of carefully selected and optimized activities that strongly support things you value, and then happily miss out on everything else’

(Newport, 2019: 28)
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