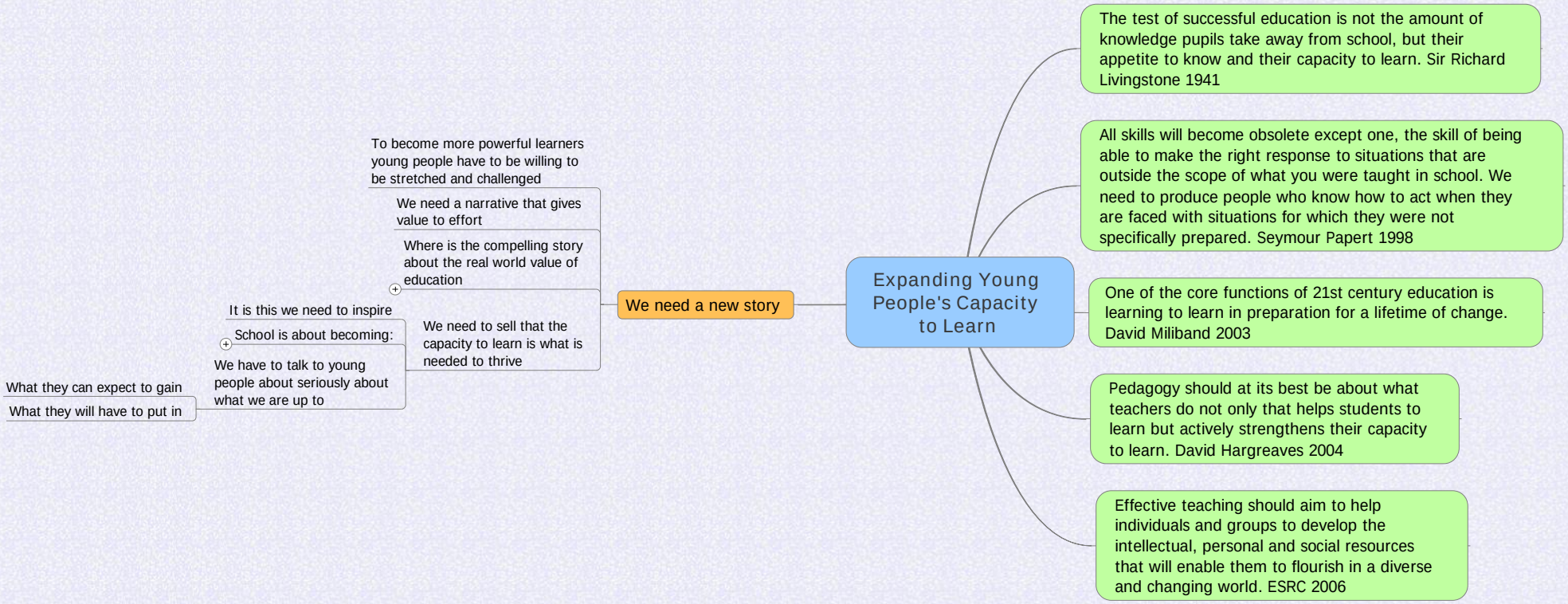
Expanding Young People's Capacity to Learn
The test of successful education is not the amount of knowledge pupils take away from school, but their appetite to know and their capacity to learn. Sir Richard Livingstone 1941
All skills will become obsolete except one, the skill of being able to make the right response to situations that are outside the scope of what you were taught in school. We need to produce people who know how to act when they are faced with situations for which they were not specifically prepared. Seymour Papert 1998
One of the core functions of 21st century education is learning to learn in preparation for a lifetime of change. David Miliband 2003
Pedagogy should at its best be about what teachers do not only that helps students to learn but actively strengthens their capacity to learn. David Hargreaves 2004
Effective teaching should aim to help individuals and groups to develop the intellectual, personal and social resources that will enable them to flourish in a diverse and changing world. ESRC 2006
We need a new story
To become more powerful learners young people have to be willing to be stretched and challenged
We need a narrative that gives value to effort
Where is the compelling story about the real world value of education
We need to sell that the capacity to learn is what is needed to thrive
It is this we need to inspire
School is about becoming:
We have to talk to young people about seriously about what we are up to
What they can expect to gain
What they will have to put in