Contents

Foreword vii
   Clyde Chitty
Acknowledgements viii

Part 1 Beyond ability-based teaching and learning 1
1 Ability, educability and the current improvement agenda 3
2 What's wrong with ability labelling? 16
3 The Learning without Limits project: methods and approaches 44

Part 2 Accounts of the teachers' practice 55
   Introduction 57
   Anne's approach: they all have their different ways to go 59
   Claire's approach: a thinking classroom 68
   Alison's approach: an open invitation 78
   Narinder's approach: the promise of tomorrow 89
   Patrick's approach: only connect 105
   Nicky's approach: step back and look at the children 117
   Yahi's approach: raising the level of trust 128
   Julie's approach: access, security and success 137
   Non's approach: the bridge between values and practice 148

Part 3 The core idea of transformability 163
   Transforming the capacity to learn 165
   Purposes and principles in practice 194
   Young people's perspectives on learning without limits 210
   Framing learning without limits teaching: contexts and retrospectives 224
   Towards an alternative improvement agenda 244

Bibliography 275
Index 281