

Ian Golding - Pen Portrait



Ian was born in Birkenhead and pursued a career in Art and Design, completing a Degree in Three-Dimensional Design at Manchester. After graduating, he worked as a designer in London. He completed a PGCE in Design & Technology and ICT in 1992 and started his teaching career at the prestigious Tiffin School, a grammar school in Kingston-upon-Thames. Ian then held a number of middle leadership roles in different schools in South-West London before securing his first senior leadership role in Croydon. At the same time, he completed a Master's Degree in Education with the University of Surrey. After three years as an Assistant Head teacher responsible for curriculum and assessment, he was promoted to the post of Deputy Head teacher and successfully completed his National Professional Qualification for Headship. His next post was Senior Deputy at a large 11-18 school in Wandsworth, an urban school with significant challenges.

In 2007, Ian was appointed as the founding Principal of Oasis Academy Lord's Hill in Southampton. The school was formed from two failing schools that were to be merged together. The Academy was launched in September 2008, operating from two sites and serving an area of significant socio economic disadvantage. The road to improvement for Lord's Hill led to significant changes in outcomes, attendance and reduced exclusions. Admission numbers to the Academy improved and in 2012 they moved into a purpose built building. Ian was fully involved in the design and development of the new building.

In March 2016, the Academy was inspected by Ofsted and rated as 'good'. Ian is a governor at a local sixth form college and recently became trustee of the multi academy trust that has emerged from its merger with another college. He has served the local secondary heads group in a variety of roles: Schools' Forum; Local Childrens Safeguarding Board; SACRE; 0-19 early intervention review and many other committees.

Ian has been happily married for 26 years; he has two daughters and an adopted son who was an Afghan refugee. He is a keen walker, loves cinema, the theatre and live music. He enjoys painting and one day hopes to play the guitar again. Ian has twenty-five years' experience of education in different schools in a variety of contexts and has a passion for improving the outcomes of all young people.