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Areas of support

- School improvement planning, development and review
- Self-evaluation.
- Independent advice for governors on Head Teacher performance management.
- Individual leadership support/coaching/development.

BIOGRAPHY

I graduated in 1981 from Royal Holloway College, London University, with a BSc in mathematics. After taking a PGCE, my first teaching post was at King Edward VI Sixth Form College in Stourbridge where I taught A' Level physics and mathematics. Part-time teaching followed the birth of my children as did a move to Wolverhampton Girls' High School where I moved from my post as a part-time physics teacher to being Curriculum Deputy Head via roles as Head of Science and Head of Sixth Form. I took up my post as Head Teacher at Queen Mary's High School, Walsall, in September 2009.

Further study has always been my passion and I graduated in 1999 with an MEd in Management and Policy Studies, pursued on a part time basis with the University of Birmingham. After completing my NPQH I then decided to embark on an EdD in Leaders and Leadership in Education and graduated in July 2013, my thesis being on the theme of work-life balance.

In March 2015 I was designated as an NLE and since then I have been seconded to Walsall LA for one day per week to develop and drive forward a Leadership Strategy for both the primary and secondary sector. This is already having a positive impact locally and has involved organising training together with a conference, as well as identifying opportunities for school to school support. In addition, I carry out research on behalf of the LA to ascertain and report the views of Secondary Heads and to identify where improvements can be supported.

I have also worked with schools in a SIP role as well as acting as an external consultant for head teacher performance management. More recently I was asked to take on a role as Chair of a local primary school.

My career thus far has prepared me very well for a role in supporting school improvement. Particular strengths are working with head teachers in identifying strategies for raising achievement and deploying resources effectively to achieve optimum outcomes as well as advising on effective leadership strategies. As the current Chair of our local Secondary Heads group, I have developed positive working relationships with colleagues, gaining a wealth of knowledge in how a wide range of schools operate.