

Mark Cottingham: Personal Profile

I have always wanted a career through which I could make a positive contribution to society and after a spell of volunteering at a youth club in Sheffield I decided that I wanted to help young people make the most of their opportunities through education. I didn't set out to become a Head Teacher but have always enjoyed taking on new challenges and each new role I have taken has provided plenty of those! Each time I have felt myself getting 'comfortable' in a job I have looked to make a change and whilst this doesn't make for an easy life it does keep me enthusiastic and energized. I love my job as Principal at Shirebrook Academy and combined with my role as a governor at Langwith Bassett Junior Academy I feel that I am fulfilling my goal of making a positive contribution to this fantastic community and helping young people take control of their own lives.

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Arts (B.A. Hons): Economic & Social History, 2:1
University of Sheffield 1989
- Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE): History & Humanities
University of Sheffield 1991
- National Professional Qualification for Head Teachers (NPQH), 2007
- Master of Science (MSc): Education Leadership,
University of Leicester 2011

Selected Research & Publications

- 'Developing Literacy through the teaching of history', TTA funded research project and publication 2001
- 'Dr Black Box or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Assessment'
Teaching History 2002
- 'Developing spirituality through literature and art in history teaching'
International Journal of Children's Spirituality, 2004
- Germany 1870-1945 A Level text book published by Causeway Press, 2004
- Contributed several chapters to, 'Into Teaching' - publication for trainee and new teachers 2005/6

Employment History

- 1992-94: Teacher of Humanities, Campsmount School, Doncaster
- 1994-96: Teacher of History, Wath-upon-Dearne Comprehensive, Rotherham
- 1996-99: Head of History, Northcliffe School, Doncaster
- 1999-2003: Head of Humanities, Eckington School, Derbyshire
- 2003-2005: Lecturer in Education, University of Leeds
- 2005-2007: Assistant Head Teacher, Dearne High School, Barnsley
- 2007-2011: Deputy Head Teacher, Clifton Community School, Rotherham
- 2011-2015: Head Teacher, da Vinci Community School, Derby
- 2015-Present: Principal, Shirebrook Academy