

Associate

## DAVE SMITH

*“It was like a breath of fresh air, real and from concrete experience”*



There seems to be two ways to be a particularly outstanding headteacher these days. Play the game very well or else turn everything upside down and don't the play game at all. Dave is definitely the latter.

After leaving school with one O-level (he thought one was better than none) he has worked his way up the ladder the hard way with time as a junior at Liverpool FC en route. It is with insights such as these that help him know how to get into the mind of some of the hardest to reach children in school and help schools design a curriculum that really helps them excel.

As Headteacher of a northern UK primary school situated in the third most deprived borough in the country, Dave has taken the school through two Ofsted inspections, in 2005 and 2008, gaining “Outstanding” in all areas on both occasions.

The school was named as one of the top 200 performing schools in the country, performed in the top 10% of all schools for the last five years, placed number 50 in The Sunday Times top 300 high performing schools and has now been recognised as a Leadership Development School.

Dave is currently a Local Leader of Education (LLE), supporting schools in improving standards, progress, leadership and management and has recently seen one of his schools move from good to be judged as ‘Good with outstanding features’.

As part of a Teaching School Alliance, he also delivers leadership and management training, is chair of the Southern Area Collaborative of 22 schools working together for improvement and is very active in the School Improving School System (SiSS) process.

To add to this busy life, he also holds a Postgraduate Certificate in Process Consultancy from Manchester CEL and is currently contributing to the Middle Leadership Development Programme Qualification, Senior Leadership Development Programme Qualification and the new NPQH.

Recent feedback on Dave's work includes:

- Real life reflection
- Inspirational keynote speaker - related well to school situations
- A super day, just what we were looking for to get us started
- Thanks Dave for a super day, I now know we can succeed
- Humour, insight and a whole load of tips, much appreciated
- Inspirational, what a day! We can't wait to get started on the new curriculum

- For all that we have heard and are inspired to be -thank you
- I just loved it. I now remember why I came into teaching
- We can see clearly now that you have delivered the training

What's more, despite all his success across the full spectrum of school improvement, leadership and training, Dave never loses sight of what it is all about:

*‘I'm determined that no child leaves my school uninspired or untouched by learning’.*

Dave has been with Independent Thinking since 2009

All Independent Thinking Associates are DBS checked

See our website:  
[www.independentthinking.co.uk](http://www.independentthinking.co.uk)  
for Dave's up-to-date prices.