

FOUNDER and CHIEF EXECUTIVE

## IAN GILBERT

*“Children who have been taught to read and write in order to ‘reread and rewrite the world’ are the greatest gift we can give the future”*

Ian is an award-winning author and editor, a leading educational speaker and entrepreneur and a man who the IB magazine named as one of its top 15 educational ‘visionaries’.

Since leaving languages teaching in 1993 – a job he was doing as a stepping stone to his work with on motivation with young people and because his then mother-in-law told him he needed a trade and what good was a French degree from Durham if you couldn’t mend a leaking tap - Ian has built Independent Thinking into one of the most inspirational and effective educational organisations in the UK and beyond.

He has also established himself as a leading educational speaker, practitioner, innovator and an award-winning writer, helping teachers teach so that children can think and learn.

From motivation, neuroscience and enterprise skills to creativity, learning and thinking, he has developed tools and ideas that genuinely make a difference to what goes on in the classroom, at the same time directly influencing the approach that many school leaders take to bring out the best in young people and staff alike.

He established Independent Thinking in 1994 as a platform for leading practitioners to share their work in bringing the best out of all children.

Currently based in Rotterdam, he has lived and worked in the UK, South America and the Middle East and so has a special perspective on classrooms and systems, what works and what definitely doesn’t.

He is the author of several best-selling books including *Essential Motivation in the Classroom* and *Why Do I Need a Teacher When I’ve Got Google?* (spoiler alert – you need good teachers now more than ever), is the man behind the *Thunks*® phenomenon and has also edited many books for the Independent Thinking Press.

### A selection of books written by Ian Gilbert:

- *The Working Class* (editor)
- *The Compleat Thunks® Book*
- *Gilbert Filbert and his big MAD box*
- *There is Another Way*
- *Why Do I Need a Teacher When I’ve Got Google?*



*“It’s about love, life and death - all else is admin” - Independent Thinking*

- *Independent Thinking*
- *Essential Motivation in the Classroom*
- *The Little Book of Bereavement for Schools*
- *The Book of Thunks®*

### Feedback from recent events include:

*“Ian Gilbert treated us to a very entertaining and inspiring talk. It was all that we had hoped for - and more!”*

*“Ian covered in 90 minutes what most speakers would have taken a whole day to cover, and his presentation was so vibrant and upbeat that I never lost the will to live (as I do on most training sessions) Fabulous - thank you SO much!”*

Ian founded Independent Thinking in May 1994.

All Independent Thinking Associates are DBS checked.

See our website:  
[www.independentthinking.co.uk](http://www.independentthinking.co.uk)  
for more information.