

Tim Oates CBE



Tim Oates provides policy advice on curriculum, assessment and reform to governments in the UK and around the world. He chaired the Expert Panel leading to the revised national curriculum in England in 2014, chaired and participated in a number of government panels on educational materials, and most recently has been an international panel member for the curriculum in Flemish Belgium and in North Ireland. His work spans general and vocational education, and from early years to professional learning. His policy work has led to major reforms in assessment in England at primary and secondary phases, and in national science qualifications. Work on the quality of educational materials has influenced national policy in a number of nations including Sweden. In 2015 he was awarded a CBE for services to education. He is a fellow at Churchill College Cambridge.

Dr Mick Walker



Mick's teaching career extended over eighteen years including work in secondary, sixth form and Further Education institutions as well as work in Higher Education as an external examiner. He has worked as a local education authority advisory

teacher and as a general adviser working with primary and secondary schools. Throughout his career, he has been closely associated with the assessment system holding the posts of chief examiner, senior moderator, and external university examiner.

As a former Director of the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, (QCA), and Executive Director of Education at the Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency (QCDA), Mick was accountable for National Curriculum assessments, regulating and supporting the delivery of general, technical and vocational qualifications and oversight of the National Curriculum. He was an adviser to the Department for Education (DfE) Expert Group on Assessment, the National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) Commission on Assessment and the DfE Workload, Educational Technology and Data Policy Teams. Mick has advised the Welsh Government, the Punjab Examination Commission, and was a member of the Pearson Future of Qualifications and Assessment Expert Panel. He was a member of the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) Commission on Malpractice in Public Examinations and is currently the President of the Chartered Institute of Educational Assessors (CIEA), Chair of the Evidence Based Education Advisory Board and an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Leeds. He is also chair of the Assessment Committee at the Institute of Directors (IoD). Mick has chaired and presented to numerous conferences and delivered training on education and assessment to a range of organisations in the UK and abroad.

Mick holds a PhD in educational assessment from the University of Leeds and degrees at Master's and Bachelor levels. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, a Founding Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching, and a Fellow of the CIEA. He is passionate about education and aligning the aims of national high-volume assessment and testing systems with the aims and realities of everyday teaching and learning in schools, colleges, and the workplace to benefit society and to support each individual learner to reach their true potential.

Mr Garry Matthewson



Mr Matthewson is a former primary school principal. He has worked as an assessor with the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS), an associate inspector with the Education and Training Inspectorate as well as being a member on various working groups with the Department of Education, CCMS, the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) and the Education Authority. In addition, he holds the position of chairperson of the Northern Ireland Nurture Group Network, an educational advocacy group for the introduction and expansion of nurture provision in schools in Northern Ireland. He is also an associate of the Association of Education Advisers and an associate of CCMS. He is a member of the Board of the Education Authority and a member the Board of St Mary's University College, Belfast.

Mr. Matthewson has a particular interest and expertise in school improvement, assessment and special educational needs.