

Alan Kinder biography

Alan Kinder is the Chief Executive of the Geographical Association, the leading subject association for all teachers of geography. Alan has undertaken a wide variety of roles within geographical education: geography teacher, school and curriculum leader, field studies officer, local authority adviser, PGCE tutor and consultant. His work has taken him from the south coast of England to South Yorkshire and from continental Europe to South-East Asia, giving him the opportunity to work with hundreds of schools from across the UK and further afield. Alan has written and contributed to a large body of professional and curriculum materials: books, CPD courses, newspaper and journal articles and website materials on behalf of organisations including the Geographical Association, Oxford University Press, Routledge, Prince's Teaching Institute, Times Educational Supplement, RGS-IBG and many others. He is, with John Widdowson, the series co-editor of the GA's award-winning Key Stage 3 Geography Teacher's Toolkit.



Alan has played a key role in advising government on curriculum matters over many years and has had a significant influence on the content and structure of the national curriculum for geography. He was a member of the Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency (QCDA) panel which advised on English national curriculum reforms (2008) and reformed A levels from 2008, and acted as a national advisor in the implementation of the Key Stage 3 curriculum in schools. In 2012, he joined the Department for Education's subject expert group which advised on the 2014 National Curriculum and GCSE subject criteria for geography; he was also a member of the A Level Content Advisory Board (ALCAB) geography panel, responsible for A level geography content

criteria from 2016. Alan has also advised the QCDA on national assessment initiatives and Ofqual, the qualification regulator, on specification regulation. He is currently a member of the Council for British Geography (COBRIG), the International Geographical Union Commission on Geographical Education (IGU-CGE) UK sub-committee and the Geography Expert Subject Advisory Group (GESAG) for the implementation of the 2014 national curriculum. In 2015 Alan was elected as a Director of the Council for Subject Associations (CfSA); he also contributes to SecEd (the 'weekly voice for secondary education') as a member of its virtual editorial board.

As a long-standing member of the Geographical Association, Alan served on the GA's Secondary Phase Committee between 1998 and 2008 (Co-Chair 2005-8), chaired its Education Committee from 2009-12 and served as a member of the Governing Body from 2009-12. Alan was appointed as Chief Executive of the GA in 2012.

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Quote

We are entering a period of greater complexity within the education system. Authoritative sources of advice and support have largely been replaced by a patchwork of formal and informal networks. The role of the GA must therefore be to act as the voice of geography and of geography educational professionals and to provide thoughtful and trustworthy advice and guidance at every level in order to ensure that every young person receives their entitlement to a quality geography education. Our 2014-9 strategic plan also emphasises the need for the GA to play a key leadership role in defining the purpose and value of geography in education and work in partnership with school leaderships and other organisations in order to make sure our authoritative subject voice is both heard and heeded.