

Name: Ceri Hathaway

Current post: Headteacher, Brooklands Primary School, Long Eaton

Headteacher for: 9 years



Being a Head is a challenge but I love it. My philosophy is to make the right improvements in my own school that will offer the very best to our children and it is this philosophy of ongoing improvement that drives me to want to support other schools. In the words of Dylan Wiliam, “*Every teacher needs to improve, not because they are not good enough, but because they can*”. I believe that by working in partnership with other school leaders, change can happen, improvements can take place and our schools can become even better!

Having been a school leader for over 20 years, Ceri has seen many shifts in educational policy. However, throughout this time her focus has remained on ensuring the best possible outcomes for the children in her schools. Putting the children’s best interests at the heart of every decision remains her central philosophy and it is this moral purpose that drives her in wanting to support others.

Following three years as a successful head in an inner city school in Derby, Ceri’s commitment to school improvement led her to become Interim Head at an academy in the East of England. The school was in special measures and was in need of drastic change. Throughout her year at this school Ceri was able to affect positive change, supporting both the children and staff to make improvements needed until a permanent head could be appointed.

Ceri took up her current post as head at Brooklands Primary School in Long Eaton three years ago. Over this time the school has been on a journey of rapid improvement. After a year in post the school moved from ‘requires improvement’ to ‘good’. However, the journey is continuing and her vision for the future is to secure even better outcomes for all of the children at Brooklands.

As well as her headship at Brooklands, Ceri currently supports new and aspiring head teachers through her work with Inspiring Leaders. She believes that nurturing new school leaders and securing leaders for the future is vital to sustaining school improvement.