

CURRICULUM VITAE – DAVE STRUDWICK

If your life were a speech what would it say?

PERSONAL INFORMATION

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My Passion is for learning and community. I have been privileged to have a wide range of teaching, advisory and leadership positions during my career. I have a number of strengths including leading schools, developing teams and individuals, educational innovation, learning to learn, perceptual neuroscience, coaching and learning spaces. My approach creates conditions to change perception, practise and outcomes.

QUALIFICATIONS

M.Sc (equivalency) Teacher Education Walden University School of Management 2019

National Professional Qualification for Headship 2005

B.Ed (Hons) 2 ii Rolle College Primary Education – specialism science

Torquay Boys Grammar School 1978-1985 A-Levels Maths Grade B, Chemistry C, Physics D,
10 O-Levels inc English and Maths

South Devon College of Art and Technology 1986 Pure Maths A

Effective Exercise of Leadership UCLA 2018

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Consultancy January 23 onwards

Writing a book with Steve Wheeler on Educational Innovation

Online PD for educators linked to inquiry, leading in times of uncertainty, developing learning spaces

Creating resources to support perceptual neuroscience in schools

Creating resources and an impact evaluation system to support science inquiry in schools

Designing and running online science programmes in Australia and Canada for primary and high school students where they created an original science experiment working at degree level

First Principal at REAL School Budapest July 2020 to December 2022

Developed our distinctiveness in relation to Art, Entrepreneurship and Sustainability via a project based approach linked to the Sustainable Development Goals

Successfully established a new school gaining a permit from the Hungarian Government

Gained full COBIS Patron's accreditation

Gained COBIS beacon school status for well-being and sustainability

Worked with Ukrainian displaced families at our school and supported a Saturday School linked to play activities, health, adult learning and wider services
Teaching Maths 10-16, One term teaching a KS2 class 0.5 FTE
Left due to the health of my Grandson and Father

Consultancy January 2019 to June 2020

Working with disadvantaged youth in Middle and High Schools in Detroit / Michigan
Elementary school curriculum design
Leading a team delivering an American High School Diploma in a Chinese International School
Developing the Educational offer of Forever Day One Berlin
Innovation project using Augmented Reality to engage a school community in a local park during a pandemic
Left for Principal role

First Headteacher at Plymouth School of Creative Arts January 2013 to December 2018

Successfully planning and opening a brand new school for children aged 3 to 16 in the first centile of need nationally. This included new systems, an improvement cycle, partnerships and strategic development which was judged good by Ofsted in 2015 and referred to as a Beacon of Hope by the Edge Foundation in October 2018.
Direct involvement in the design of an award-winning building
Growing the school from 80 to over 1000 students
Innovation around AI and technology, curriculum design and pedagogy linked to making and Project Based Learning.
Left due to burnout

Consulting August 2010 to December 2012

This involved working with a range of schools providing professional development
Working with Olympic Champion David Hemery on the *Be The Best You Can Be* programme.
Developing the middle years curriculum at an all-through 4 to 19 school
Co-created, with a neuroscientist, the i,scientist curriculum for students aged 6 to adult where participants created their own original experiments at the National Science Museum.
Founded the UK's first Trauma Informed School - School for Inspiring Talents. This included accessing investment and developing the school's strategic direction as a director.
Worked with Gleeds and Plymouth College of Art to develop a new school - Plymouth School of Creative Arts which I went on to lead

Co-Executive Headteacher of Our School Federation Sep 2010 to April 2011.

Set up a new small federation in 2009 of three schools with new governance, staffing structures, systems and improvement cycle.
Involving young people in the leading of learning using an arts-based approach that led to the running of training days for several hundred staff from 6 schools.
Ofsted Inspections Stoke Fleming Outstanding, East Allington Good.
Left to expand the consultancy at the science museum

Headteacher Blackawton Primary School Sep 2005 to Aug 2010.

School removed from school causing concern category. SENDCo and teaching Head.

Developing a whole school approach to inclusive learning (9% EHCP) and an associated creative curriculum at Blackawton Primary that was judged outstanding by Ofsted. Ofsted Inspector reported on “the exceptional drive and ambition of the headteacher” and that writing the report was like trying to paint a Rembrandt on the back of a postage stamp
Created Blackawton Bees with neuroscientist Beau Lotto – the world’s youngest published scientists. Royal Society Biology Letters
Changed role to lead the Federation we established

Deputy then Acting Headteacher Bradley Rowe Middle School Sep 2002 to Aug 2005
Teaching Year 6. The school was removed from the local school causing concern category
The strategic direction of the school, improving standards - achieved best-ever results
I was acting Headteacher for two years which included closing the middle school, supporting a new PFI build and reopening it as a primary.

SENCO at Lanscore Crediton Sep 2001 to Aug 2002
SENCO, cover teacher across the school and school governor
Supported transition of school due to serious illness of Headteacher
Left the school to become Deputy Headteacher.

Healthy Schools Project Officer for Devon Curriculum Services
Apr 2000 to Aug 2001
Set up Devon’s Healthy Schools Programme with PSHE adviser
Created joint roles between health and education linked to mental health
To return to a school setting, to aid my ability to lead a school

Advisory Teacher for Behaviour – Devon County
Jan 98 to Apr 2000
Provided direct work for individual students, supported schools through PD, and worked alongside teachers to develop their skills.
Left to focus on a proactive systemic approach

Teacher at Pinhoe Combined C of E School
Sep 93 to Dec 97
P.E. Leader and SENCO, Year 4 and Year 5 teacher.
Creating a flexible and responsive nurture provision and curriculum for children excluded from at least one school.
Left to pursue advisory work

Supply teaching and working in France setting up an adventure-based residential centre
Aug 92 to July 93
Supply teaching at Pinhoe inspired me

Teacher at Montgomery Combined School
Sep 1990 to Aug 92
Y5 teacher, PSHE Lead, Y7 games
Left to develop a residential centre

Other roles have included:

- **President of Widening Advancements of Youth** a not-for-profit that oversees the work of a number of schools for vulnerable youth in a range of school settings in Michigan from 2020 onwards.
- **Founder and Director of School for Inspiring Talents** Opened 2015 - a school in Devon for vulnerable young people on the Autistic Spectrum, suffering from trauma or who have been excluded. UK's first trauma-informed school.
- **Director of Naming Elephants CiC.** May 2010 to Sep 2012. A community interest company involved in developing community well-being.
- **Trustee of Young Devon** January 2012 May 2014 – supporting the needs of vulnerable young people.
- **Chair of South Hams Children's Trust** 2008 to 2010 - Development of shared projects, including research to inform inequalities around funding and commissioning.
- **Teacher Editor** of Devon's sustainability newsletter 1994-95
- **Radio DJ** for Phonic FM 2009-2012

PUBLICATIONS

Planning Learning Spaces - Section on spaces as a provocation - Terry White, Murray Hudson. Laurence King Publishing 2019

Educating Children with Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties: inclusive practise in mainstream schools. Routledge Falmer. 2002

Creative Encounters: New conversations in science, education and the arts. Chapter - Using illusions to teach children about the science and art of seeing 2009

Blackawton Bees Royal Society Biology Letters December 2010

Various articles in journals

Speaking Engagements

The Arts in Learning - Learning Planet Annual Conference online 2022

Inquiry-Based Learning ADI Innovation in Education Conference Bologna 2022

Power of Discovery COBIS International Schools Annual Conference London 2023

Various podcasts

INTERESTS

§ Music

§ Sport and keeping fit

§ Time with family

§ Travel

§ Neuroscience