

David Crossley, Director of Achievement Networks

David is Director of Achievement Networks at the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust and a passionate exponent of the “by schools, for schools” ethos of the Trust.

David's vision, and belief in school led system leadership drove the development of the government funded Raising Achievement Transforming Learning (RATL) project that has had measurable impact on raising standards and student achievement in the secondary specialist sector. The RATL methodology has been described by Professor Andy Hargreaves as **“one of the most distinctive, promising and successfully impactful reform models to emerge in the recent history of educational change and school improvement.”**

The “by schools, with schools, for schools” approach of the project offers peer to peer support and challenge and **has “created and implemented a unique and sophisticated model of change, improvement and intervention that has yielded early and measurable benefits in pupil achievement.”**

As Director of Achievement Networks, David leads the teams delivering RATL, the Leading Edge Partnership Programme and a range of short and longer term projects and initiatives. He is passionate about the transformation agenda which looks at linking school design, ethos, new technologies and workforce modernization.

“Learn to Transform” is David's first publication and reflects the RATL approach to challenge, motivate and inspire schools to embrace the transformation agenda. “Learn to transform” describes generic solutions to transformation, firmly grounded and intelligently informed by school practice with evidenced success – echoing David's optimistic and empowering “can do” approach to school improvement.

David began teaching History in 1978 and gained his first headship in 1991 at Cirencester Deer Park School - one of the early Technology Colleges and one of the first schools in the country to be accredited as an Investor in People. In 1997 he was invited to be Principal of a new 2-19 international school in South East Asia which had almost unparalleled access to leading edge technology. In May 2000 he took up the post of Principal of Kings College in Guildford a major school regeneration project managed by 3Es which was highly praised by HMI, Ofsted and the wider community.