

# Andrew Ryan

BA (Hons), PGCE, MA Ed.Mgmt. NPQH

Head of Junior College

Brighton College Al Ain



Committed to ensuring creative opportunities for students in environments that foster their personal development and strength of character, an international outlook and a commitment to fulfilling their academic potential. With 24 years of experience in international education including headships in 3 different schools. I have provided inspirational leadership throughout my career, not least during the challenges of the COVID 19 pandemic. I ensure academic excellence, develop outstanding teachers, encourage leadership at all levels of a school and involve students in our decision making. I work effectively with School Boards and parents who are involved on a daily basis with decision making and accountability at the highest levels of government and business, communicating with integrity. Ethical values are at the heart of my leadership and I was proud of receiving the International Schools Award for 'Ethical Values Education' in 2020. I was selected by peers across schools in the Middle East to take on the role of district representative for IAPS in June 2021.

## Career

**Head of Junior College, Brighton College Al Ain**

Dec. 2023 – Present

Responsible for leading two thirds of this school with almost 1000 students and a member of the Whole College Leadership Team. Mandated to improve academic achievement, increase school roll and secure an outstanding BSO accreditation in the school's first inspection in early 2025. Ensuring that learning creatively meets the needs of a complex cohort of children in line with the expectations of ADEK whilst aspiring to the high standards of our sister school in the UK.

**Head Teacher – British Embassy School Ankara**

Sept. 2017 – Dec. 2021

Responsible for the leadership and direction of the entire school and maintaining the 'Excellent' BSO status secured for the first time under my leadership in 2022. Ensuring high academic expectations are met, maintaining staff and pupil wellbeing and leading the school in the strategic direction agreed with the Governing Board. A key element of this role at BESA was maintaining the school's outstanding reputation amongst diplomatic missions to retain BESA's position as the school of choice in Turkey. Responsible for achieving improved financial performance and sustainability of the school during my tenure despite COVID and an significant economic downturn in the local economy.

**BSO Team Inspector – Independent Schools Inspectorate**

May 2022 - Present

Team member of both regulatory compliance and educational quality BSO inspections in Europe, Africa, Central Asia and the Far East.

**Head Teacher – Panaga School, Brunei Shell Petroleum**

Sept. 2014 – Aug. 2017

Deputy Head Teacher (Acting Head)

Sept. 2013 – Aug. 2014

Responsible for the leadership of the Junior and Middle Years sections of the school. Focus primarily on pupil achievement, staff development and appraisal, resource management and purchasing and local community engagement in line with school and company KPIs.

Mile Post 3 Leader – Panaga School

Sept. 2010 – Aug. 2013

Teaching commitment in KS2 and 3 with leadership responsibility for Years 5 – 8 and whole school management of International School Assessments (ISAs).

## Education

MA Education Management (Merit)  
Kings College London  
Sept. 2002 – July 2004

PGCE  
Leeds Metropolitan University  
Sept. 1995 – July 1996

BA (Hons) Humanities 2:1  
University of Hertfordshire  
Sept. 1990 – July 1993

‘A’ Levels & GCSE French  
Ashton Sixth Form College  
Sept. 1987 – July 1989

‘O’ Levels  
Trinity Independent School  
Sept. 1980 – July 1987

## Professional Development

Advanced Safeguarding (Refresher)  
COBIS/Safeguarding Alliance  
May 2023

ILM Level 7 Executive Coaching  
IAPs/Love my Coaching collaboration.  
Jan.2023 – May 2023

NPQH  
Institute of Education  
Jan. 2020 – Aug. 2021

Residential Visits Coordinator  
Hertfordshire Education  
January 2020

BSO Inspector Training  
Independent Schools Inspectorate  
October 2019

Think Tank on Global Education  
Harvard Graduate School of Edu.  
May 2018

The Future of Learning Institute  
Harvard Graduate School of Edu.  
June 2014

## Career cont.

**Deputy Head Teacher – British Overseas School Karachi** April 2004 – Aug. 2007  
Sept. 2008 – Aug. 2010

I joined the BOS as a KS2 teacher and English Lead in 2004. During two spells at the school I led the KS2 department and then the whole primary section under the leadership of a whole school principal. I additionally took one cohort of students through the final year of their Computer Science GCSE, with all students achieving an A-C grade. I was responsible for introducing the use of the IPC in the school during my tenure as Deputy Head Teacher.

**KS2 Phase Leader - Benchill Primary School, Manchester** Dec. 2007 – August 2008  
During a return to the UK for family reasons for a year I was actively recruited by Benchill to teach their Year 6 class, lead KS2 and develop their curriculum provision across the school resulting in a significantly improved OfSTED outcome.

**Senior Teacher – Yeading Junior School, London** Sept. 2002 – Mar. 2004  
Whilst studying for my MA, I took on responsibility for ethnic minority achievement alongside teaching two Year 5 classes. I introduced a more able program within the school impacting primarily through the establishment of a regional girls’ soccer league and a performing arts program featuring ethnically diverse dance and music.

**Teacher – St. John’s Junior School, Manchester** Jan. 2001 – Sept. 2002

**Teacher and Science Coordinator - El Alsson School, Cairo** Sept. 2000 – August 2001

**Teacher, IT and Assessment Coordinator - Manston St. James Primary School, Leeds**  
September 1996 – August 2000

## Additional Relevant Skills and experiences

L7 Executive Coach with experience coaching leaders in Shell, NGOs and schools. I currently coach 3 fellow heads across the IAPs network.

High level of IT skills including: Go4Schools, iSAMS, MS Teams, Google Apps, Schoolbase, CPOMS

Teacher development with British Council and NGO Groups

Qualified Bikeability Instructor