

Chris Wood

- Educator, social researcher, evaluator and writer
- My core values: clarity, creativity and vision
- Clients find me: insightful, thought-provoking and fair
- Favourite pastime: Lakes and mountains and reading F Scott Fitzgerald

I'm an experienced and versatile consultant, trainer, social researcher and writer with over 20 years working in education, local government and the civil service. At the start of my career, I enjoyed a decade working in schools as an English teacher, department head and senior leader. In charge of continuing professional development, I oversaw performance management, in-service training, induction, and mentoring for newly qualified and trainee teachers.

As a local authority improvement adviser, I helped raise academic standards across 65 schools; coaching leaders and staff, developing training packages, and running seminars, conferences and workshops. I was also a quality mark assessor for the Basic Skills Agency, working tirelessly to champion improvements to literacy and numeracy skills.

As one of Her Majesty's Inspectors, I mentored leaders in struggling schools to bring about sustained transformation to provision and outcomes. Specialist adviser to the Chief Inspector, I was responsible for drafting insight briefings and advice notes to the Secretary for State. I led multidisciplinary research and evaluation teams, contributed to leading think tanks and collaborated with the NHS and CQC on major surveys. I also authored several influential reports, presented at national and international conferences, and contributed evidence to parliamentary inquiries.

I now work as a freelance consultant, supporting leaders to develop and implement improvement strategies and produce high quality research and insight. Recent projects include evaluation reports for housing associations, charities, universities and museums. I have a PHD in training and development and a master's degree in management studies.

I have a passion for all things Italian and love a great espresso. Living on the south coast, I enjoy kite surfing, reading, going to gigs and amateur dramatics. I'm married with two teenage children.

