

Introducing Dr Rebecca Kitchen Secondary Geography



Rebecca is the Head of Professional Development at the Geographical Association, the subject association for all teachers of geography. Becky taught for sixteen years at Aylesbury High School before joining the Geographical Association as a member of staff in September 2015. During her time as Head of Geography, the department achieved the Secondary Geography Quality Mark Centre of Excellence on three occasions. Becky was also awarded Chartered Geographer status in 2008, the Royal Geographical Society Ordnance Survey Award for excellence in teaching geography in 2009 and the Geographical Association Award for excellence in leading geography in 2014.

Becky has written and contributed to a large body of professional and curriculum materials: books, CPD courses, newspaper and journal articles and website materials on behalf of organisations including the Geographical Association, Collins, Cambridge University Press, Pearson, Teachit, RGS-IBG, SecEd and Teach Secondary. She also has an interest in Geography Education Research; in 2017 she completed a doctorate at the University of Cambridge exploring ethnic minority representations of geographical knowledge and linking these with post-14 subject choices. As a result of her work in this area she currently sits on the Geography Education Research Collective (GEReCO) with IGU-CGE UK sub-committee.

Becky's role at the GA involves leading and managing all aspects of professional development. A specific aspect of her work is leading on the Geography Quality Marks which aims to enable subject leaders to raise the standards of geography in school, supporting the teaching of quality geography and promoting department leadership and management. She has also worked with a number of organisations and external partners. For example, she worked as an international expert on curriculum reform in Croatia, project managed a DfE funded programme focusing on critical thinking for achievement in geography and science and designed bespoke training for organisations including STAR Institute, The National College and the Creative Education Trust.