

Redbridge Education Partnership

Realising Everyone's Potential

Annual Conference 2026 ***‘Thinking Ahead’***



**for Headteachers and Senior
Leaders**

**Down Hall Hotel, Spa & Estate
29th and 30th January 2026**

Welcome to ‘*Thinking Ahead*’

Dear Colleagues,

Thinking Ahead is a two-day leadership conference designed to equip school headteachers and their senior leaders with the insight, tools, and inspiration to lead with foresight in an ever-evolving educational landscape.

Through visionary keynotes, hands-on workshops, and collaborative dialogue, participants will explore how to anticipate future challenges, foster innovation, and build resilient strategies for their schools.

This conference is ideal for those in senior leadership roles who need time away from reactive decision-making to embrace proactive, strategic leadership. Whether you're leading a single school or a multi-academy trust, *Thinking Ahead* offers the space to reflect, reimagine and renew your leadership journey.

Warm regards,

Sue Blows

Chair of Redbridge Education Partnership (REP)



Annual Conference 2026 – ‘Thinking Ahead’

Agenda – Day One **Thursday 29th January 2026**

9.00am – 9.20am	Registration and Welcome Arrival, networking and refreshments
9.20am – 9.30am	Opening Remarks Welcome from the Chair of REP
9.30am – 10.45am	Overcoming the challenges of the multigenerational workplace Alex Atherton Keynote followed by Q&A
10.45am – 11.15am	Break Refreshments and networking
11.15am – 12.15pm	Ofsted and the new framework Nick Turvey (HMI) Keynote followed by Q&A
12.15pm – 1.15pm	Lunch Buffet lunch and networking
1.15pm – 2.45pm	Strategic Thinking Ahead A facilitated session for reflection on the content, impact and strategic implications of the morning sessions for your school
2.45pm – 3.00pm	Break Refreshments and networking
3.00pm – 4.00pm	Still Human – Supporting the wellbeing of staff in education Menopause awareness and stress management
4.00pm – 4.30pm	Still Human – Mindfulness An optional session for delegates
4.30pm	Close
7.00pm	Evening Meal Meal, drinks and informal networking for overnight delegates

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Agenda – Day Two Friday 30th January 2026

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| 9.00am – 9.30am | Welcome
Morning refreshments and networking |
| 9.30am – 10.45am | Angi Gibson, President of the NAHT
An update on the national picture from the National Association of Headteachers |
| 10.45am – 11.00am | Break
Refreshments and networking |
| 11.00am – 11.45am | TeachMateAI
A resource designed to help teachers successfully streamline everyday tasks and to create engaging and bespoke curriculum content |
| 11.45am – 12.00pm | Closing remarks and farewell |
| 12.00pm | Lunch
Buffet lunch and networking |





Alex Atherton

Alex is an award-winning keynote speaker, experienced educator and leadership coach. His professional background was in education. He spent 25 years working in inner-city comprehensive secondary schools, of which over 20 was as a senior leader and over half as a headteacher in London.

Alex is a qualified, accredited and experienced Leadership Coach, passionate about empowering others to thrive in their working lives. He supports leaders from the public, private and voluntary sectors to achieve beyond their wildest expectations and work together with seismic impact.

He works with senior leaders, CEOs and those seeking to be either. Every member of a leadership team benefits from bespoke support to overcome their most significant challenges.

Alex is an authority on Gen Z. He is the former secondary school headteacher who heard the word 'snowflake' once too often to describe his former students and decided his own generation needed to hear a different message. He spent over a decade immersed in the mindset of this misunderstood generation, getting to the core of what makes them tick.

He talks to decision makers in organisations about understanding, engaging, recruiting and retaining Gen Z. He also talks about the challenges of the intergenerational workplace, helping organisations turn a multigenerational workforce into an asset to drive productivity rather than a hindrance which impacts on the bottom line.

Alex equips leaders and managers with proven strategies to overcome generational divides and effectively recruit, develop, and retain top young talent.



Nick Turvey, Senior HMI

Nick is a qualified teacher and has taught in a range of schools. Prior to joining Ofsted, Nick held various senior leadership roles including 14 years as a primary school headteacher and as an executive headteacher in a multi-academy trust. Nick has been an accredited local and national leader of education and Ofsted inspector. He has completed a Master's degree and the National Professional Qualification for Headship.

Nick's main specialisms are in English and humanities as well as in leadership, governance and school improvement. Nick has extensive experience of inspecting primary, secondary and independent schools as well as initial teacher education and ECF/NPQ providers and local area SEND.

Nick is a senior HMI in the London region and is the link inspector for Redbridge as well as 5 other local authorities. He leads on Ofsted's work with academy trusts in the London region.

still human

Still Human delivers workshops to staff in education on a range of health and wellbeing topics, sharing evidence-based knowledge and practical strategies that make being a human a little easier.

Because working in a school is a high energy job and often requires staff to go above and beyond. To be not just educators, but also motivators, caregivers, storytellers and entertainers. Not to mention first-aiders, event planners, counsellors and role models. Superhumans? Undoubtedly. But still human nonetheless.



TeachMateAI

Our Mission

Born out of first-hand experience and a deep understanding of the challenges teachers face, TeachMateAI's mission is simple:

“Equip every teacher with the transformative power of AI to reduce workload and enhance learning.”

TeachMateAI is an expanding suite of AI tools that improve task efficiency and personalise educational resources to promote learning and inclusion. We help teachers be the best version of themselves, both in and out of the classroom.

Our Values

Three values underpin everything we do:

Quality: We develop rigorously tested AI tools that deliver high-quality, highly relevant outputs for teachers, informed by the latest policies, research, and best practices.

Responsibility We build technology that ensures the responsible adoption of AI in education and are committed to educating our community of users on best practices.

Trust: We adhere to stringent data compliance standards, ensuring schools can adopt TeachMateAI with complete confidence.

By teachers, for teachers – we are here to reduce your workload and make your teaching more effective.



Angi Gibson, NAHT

Angi Gibson is the head teacher at Hadrian Park Primary School in North Tyneside and president of NAHT (she will be president of NAHT in September 2025). Throughout her career, Angi has been driven by a simple, powerful belief: every child matters, every day. Inclusion is the foundation of her work – in her school, in the wider community, and now on the national stage.

Originally from a working-class background, Angi's values of hard work, honesty and determination were shaped by her family and community. After beginning her career in engineering, she moved into teaching out of a desire to make a difference where it matters most. She believes passionately that education must help children see beyond their circumstances – and that opportunity must never depend on a postcode.

Under Angi's leadership, Hadrian Park has become known for its commitment to equity, kindness and inclusion. She has championed bicycles as a symbol of equality – helping children connect with their community, stay active and experience freedom regardless of their background.

As NAHT president, Angi will lead with heart and fire, focused on meaningful action rather than titles or photo opportunities. Her priorities are clear: to reform inspection and accountability, improve pay and funding, address recruitment and retention challenges, secure investment in safe school buildings, strengthen SEND support and tackle workload so that staff and children can thrive. She says: "These aren't wish lists – these are non-negotiables."

Angi's presidency will be a call to action — to fight for the best for every child and to ensure that no child is left behind.