

Local Leader of Education Pen Portrait

Headteacher Name: Gary Newman

School: Skelton

Brief overview of Headteacher experience, areas of expertise and experience of school to school support.

Over 20 years of school leadership experience in large town and small rural schools.

Headteacher at Skelton School for the last 11 years. Achieved outstanding in 2013.

School to school support: Involvement in School reviews, LASL, Excellence in Eden

Areas of interest/expertise: Small school headship in the 21st Century, School partnerships far and near, Team building for school success, Global learning.

Brief overview of your school

Skelton School is a small (NOR 86), rural school in a village about seven miles from Penrith. Although it continues to serve the immediate village and surrounding hamlets, it is also a popular choice with many families who live some distance from the school catchment area.

Our mission is to develop *confident, capable learners in a caring community*. We provide a wide range of opportunities for personal development and teamwork through, for example, sport, drama and outdoor activity. Underpinning this, we have an experienced and flexible teaching team who are able to personalise learning to a high degree. This complementary approach is the main reason why pupils make great progress and achieve highly.

We work hard to get and keep our parents and families on board too and see this as an essential factor in our success. As village facilities diminish, the school plays an increasingly important role in the future of the wider local community. This means us getting out and involved in the community around us as well as bringing the community into the school. This local focus is balanced by our involvement in wider partnerships with schools nationally and globally, enabling Skelton pupils and staff to stretch their horizons and be active members of the global community.

Contact details:

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