

## Alan Kinder

### *Chair of the GA Education Committee*

#### **Biography**

Alan has worked as an advisory teacher for geography with the London borough of Barking and Dagenham since 2003. Prior to that, he worked for 12 years as a teacher of geography, Head of Geography, Field Studies Officer and Head of Humanities across London, south east England, the south of France and Malaysia.

He served on the GA's Secondary Phase Committee between 1998 and 2008 – the last three years as Co-Chair of the committee. Key achievements during this time included the role he played as a QCA stakeholder in devising the revised KS3 Programme of Study and GCSE subject criteria. Alan is the author of a number of articles and web materials relating to issues in geographic education and is the series editor of the GA's *KS3 Geography Teacher's Toolkit* (with John Widdowson).

He now acts as an assessment project co-ordinator for the Qualifications and Assessment Authority (QCA) and as a regional subject adviser for the Centre for British Teachers (CfBT) project to support the implementation of a new key stage 3 curriculum in England. Alan's commitment to professional development was recognised by the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) in 2008 with the award of Chartered Geographer (CGeog) status.

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#### **Quote**

Geography teachers are currently facing an almost unprecedented series of challenges in terms of curriculum planning – with recent or upcoming changes being made to all phases and key stages of the curriculum. The new key stage 3 Programme of Study, for example, is intended to “introduce greater flexibility and allow the development of a 'local curriculum' within a national framework”.... This 'One Programme, many geographies' approach is more challenging than earlier versions as it is less prescriptive and returns responsibility for detailed curriculum development, quite rightly, to teachers.