

Candida Hutchinson – Assistant Director of Primary Education

Career Progression

Candida joined Drove Primary School as a year 2 teacher and SENCO in 2002. By 2012, when The White Horse Federation was founded, she had filled the position of assistant head at Drove and interim deputy head at Mountford Manor. As such, the federation earmarked Candida as the perfect educator to fill the teacher in charge role at its first sponsored academy, The Croft Primary School. Upon the school achieving an 'outstanding' Ofsted rating in 2014, Candida was made principal.

Since 2014, Candida has continued to progress, moving onto secondment to St Mary & All Saints Primary School, and then being named assistant director for primary education within the school improvement team at The White Horse Federation.

Federation Support

Candida recognises the support she has received from the federation, as well as being given access to middle and senior leadership training and development opportunities. She was given the chance to work alongside another trust in the review of a new school that opened in a similar fashion to The Croft, demonstrating her expertise in an external environment. Over the last five years, before joining the school improvement team full-time, Candida gained experience working with the team one day a week, supporting other schools in the trust. Her involvement in supporting newly onboarded schools and the setup of a brand-new school afforded Candida great experience.

What They Say

"I have always been supported by The White Horse Federation - especially Dr Nick Capstick - with my aspirations and continuing professional development. This also included support as a working mum, and when we had our youngest daughter, Dr Capstick supported me in taking a step back from leadership for a year."