

Name: Jon Crocker jon.crocker@newburyhall.com Job Title: Principal

Website: <https://joncrocker.me/>

My work within education stretches back to 1992 and I have spent time both overseas in Madrid and in various UK locations including Bournemouth, Bristol and London. I have been a Principal with the company since 2007 and at Newbury Hall since late 2013.

My role is to keep pushing us forwards, always seeking ways to improve and opportunities to innovate. The goal is always the same - success for each student based on their personal definition of what that means.

I work with a remarkably dedicated and enthusiastic team and their energy and passion for the job never stops impressing me. My function is to enable each of the people working here to make the most of each day, to enjoy their work and to take satisfaction from knowing that they are having a genuine, positive impact on the lives and futures of our students.

Our mantra of gusto, grit and growth is something I wholeheartedly support, because these are qualities that will prove essential in all aspects and at all stages of life. Although we all have these characteristics to varying degrees, I think we have a responsibility here to help each student develop them as far as they possibly can. School is not only about academic progress in my view, but also about developing character such as optimism, zest and curiosity.

I believe it is vital to understand that we are not here to just spoon feed facts and data. We are also not here to fill heads with facts simply to pass an exam. We are here to ignite a spark that means our students see a reason to learn (and then keep on learning throughout their lives).

Away from school, I have my family and a great deal of my time is spent with my son either being made to look foolish by him on the football pitch or enjoying an afternoon of archery with the nagging sense that he will soon be far better than I am at that, too. I continue to enjoy learning and am normally participating in a Coursera programme or reading a book on a topic of interest.

I am extremely grateful to be working at Newbury Hall, to have the colleagues that I work with and to see the students who so often come here lacking confidence or direction, leaving here with belief and clear goals that I have every confidence they will reach.

What we offer here is genuinely different and is capable of changing student lives for the better. Please contact me if you would like to find out more (jon.crocker@newburyhall.com) and we always welcome visitors to the school, should you wish to come in and talk to us.