

# ALAN THOMPSON: LEADING GET AHEAD INTO A BRIGHT FUTURE

For more than twenty years, LiftED Literacy and Leadership has walked alongside Get Ahead, helping us build schools that nurture potential and change lives. It is a partnership rooted in trust and shared purpose and together we have seen remarkable growth. Looking ahead, the role of guiding Get Ahead into its next season of growth belongs to Alan Thompson, current Head of Get Ahead College and incoming Executive Head in 2026.

Alan joined Get Ahead at a pivotal time. Stepping into the role of Head of College, he quickly became a source of inspiration and reassurance for students, teachers and families alike. His leadership style is grounded in humility, listening and a quiet determination that allows others to flourish. He is deeply committed to the belief that every child should feel a sense of belonging and worth, and his daily work reflects that conviction. Under his stewardship, Get Ahead College's reputation has grown among independent schools, opening doors for future academic alliances and student exchanges.

As Alan prepares to step into the role of Executive Head in 2026, he carries with him a vision that is rooted in three interwoven commitments: excellence, belonging and sustainability. He is determined to strengthen academic rigour, broaden curriculum offerings and invest in teacher growth, ensuring that every student has access to an education that opens doors. Just as importantly, he believes that Get Ahead must be a place where every child feels worthy and validated, nurturing a culture of inclusion, mentorship and student voice. Alongside this, Alan is deeply focused on building long-term stability by fostering partnerships and securing the resources that will allow our schools to thrive well into the future.

For him, 2026 is not about beginning anew but about consolidating the momentum already underway, stepping into a role that will allow him to think more strategically, deepen collaboration and rally staff, students and partners around a shared vision for growth.

For the LiftED community, Alan represents continuity and fresh energy all at once. He honours the legacy of those who came before him, while charting new directions that will ensure sustainability and growth for years ahead. His leadership is a reminder that true education is not only about classrooms and curriculum, but about people—students who feel seen, teachers who feel supported and communities that feel uplifted.

As we look to 2026, we are excited to walk this journey together. With Alan Thompson at the helm and with the continued support of LiftED, the future for Get Ahead shines brightly. The seeds planted over the past two decades are bearing fruit and together we are building a legacy of hope, excellence and opportunity for generations to come.