

Susan Walker



A teacher, consultant and coach specialising in supporting others to achieve their highest potential by recognising and learning how to manage their own thinking - about themselves, others and their circumstances.

Qualifications

Over 25 Years in Education

Across the country and across Primary, Secondary and 6th Form 1998-2024

Tony Robbins RPM Training 2026

NCFE Cache Level 2
Counselling Skills 2025

Results Coaching

Tony Robbins 2022 to present including his Unleash the Power Within Events

Time to Think Coaching

Nancy Kline 2022

Introduction to The Chimp Paradox/Coaching

Prof Steve Peters and his team - 2013

Counselling Skills Level 2

Wakefield College 2010

Level 3 Safeguarding

Wakefield MDC 2019

Person Centred Planning

Rotherham BC - 2019

Building a Resilient Workforce

Barnsley BC - 2019

Emotion Coaching

Barnsley Inclusion Team - 2019

Sensory Training for Children on the Autistic Spectrum

Rotherham BC - 2019

Developing Healthy Minds, Anti-Bullying, Managing Anger, Aspergers, Social Skills

National Autistic Society Courses from 2010 onwards

PGCE Primary Teaching

University of Leeds - 1996

BSc Managerial & Admin Studies

Aston University (2.1) - July 1992

Work Experience

The thinking coach

June 2024 - Present

Founder.

Coach Primary, Secondary, 6th Form students; SEND students on the autistic spectrum; students transitioning to University; students struggling to attend school (and their parents); teachers and school leaders and private clients. Run bespoke Thinking Workshops in schools and facilitate school improvement on a consultancy basis.

DCHS, Alnwick

Jan 2023 - June 2024

Academic Coach and Mentor in the 6th Form Learning Support Assistant for SEND team.

New College, Pontefract

Aug 2019 - Jan 2023

Senior Progress Tutor - led a team of 3 progress tutors and over 800 6th Form Students, on the Safeguarding Team, oversaw all of the children in care at the college and coached vulnerable and SEND students; ran weekly 'time to think' support group for teenagers.

Woodsetts Primary School

Sept 2018 - June 2019

Interim and Substantive Headteacher.

I went in as the school improvement lead - the school was struggling so it was a total overhaul of all systems, procedures, ethos, culture, learning environment, governance.

JMAT

Jan 2018 - Sept 2018

Literacy Consultant.

Another school improvement role coaching and mentoring teachers, demonstrating literacy teaching at all ages, looking at school learning environments and enhancing access and inclusion for all - staff and children.

Academics and Barnsley County Council

June 2017 - Dec 2017

Supply assignment to support a school whose Year 2 teacher had left suddenly ahead of SATs and then employed by Barnsley County Council to write EHCP's for SEND Department - urgent ahead of Ofsted Inspection.

Shafton Primary Academy

Sept 2013 to June 2017

Deputy Headteacher and Head of Teaching and Learning.

Shafton was a failing school and I was one of three new leaders to be recruited to turn the school around (see Ofsted Report - 2015).

Storymakers

2011-2013

Founder.

I was invited into schools to ignite children's love of literacy, particularly boys. Storymakers used powerful children's stories and small world play to engage all - children, staff and also parents. Ran parent workshops and holiday clubs. I was asked to speak at two North Yorkshire County Council Training Days for all schools in the region and also at Early Excellence, Huddersfield - sharing good practice.

Horbury Primary School, Wakefield

1999-2011

Primary Teacher, Leading Literacy Teacher and Literacy Co-ordinator. Taught across all age groups.

Sue Walker - Testimonials

School Consultancy
Primary Headteacher
North Yorkshire

'Sue supported us to look at our provision through fresh eyes. Her careful use of questioning facilitated really productive contributions & deep thinking. Her approach created a safe space for this to take place & the flexibility to take on its own direction. We will definitely be taking time to explore the themes more widely'.

1-2 Personal Results Coaching
Joyce (Parent) and Leon (Year 6)

'My son Leon struggled when he started middle school. Things got so bad at the beginning of this year he refused to attend school. In June, Leon started coaching sessions with Sue each week. These helped him to interact with others and the Lego therapy was a winner! Through these sessions Leon began to engage more. This helped my son's anxiety, and it's helped me understand his needs better. The good news: Leon is now in week 3 at his new school, part time, but I must say if he hadn't attended these coaching sessions he would have found the transition back into school much harder'.

1-1 Personal Results Coaching
Sophie (age 17)

'For me, coaching has helped change the way I think completely - I'm more self aware, I'm more curious and I'm able to manage negative thought patterns that I've struggled with for years. Coaching is a breath of fresh air in that it's very client-led, instead of the practitioner being the one who's asking you questions (although they are always there if you do need that extra support), you're the one who gets to interrogate your own mindset and freely express your thoughts - you're the one making the progress, and at the end of it, you're the one who gets to feel proud of yourself'.

1-1 Personal Results Coaching
Katya (age 17)

'My coaching sessions helped me to go through a process of decision-making that led me to who I am now. Coached sessions are useful in the way they lead you to understand your doubts and help you to get a clear image of the situation you are in. They helped me to develop greater confidence and self-awareness. I am more motivated and less worried about my future and life in general. In my opinion, the best bit of coaching is that you can express your thoughts without interruption or judgement. That helped to clear my head from the mess I've created from my thoughts'.

1-1 Personal Results Coaching
Lily (age 20)

'Coaching for me was a truly eye opening experience. Exploring my emotions in such a positive way really helped me to understand more about myself. I really looked forward to my sessions and appreciated the comfortable and safe space Sue helped to provide. I also enjoyed the form of the sessions - we focused on what I wanted to focus on and I found it such a supportive environment. I would highly recommend coaching as an approach to anyone and everyone who would love to find out more about themselves'!

1-1 Personal Results Coaching
Yasmin (age 17)

'Coaching has been really helpful in helping me tackle my negative thinking and making me realise that I CAN do things - instead of me assuming that I can't. I am putting what I have learned towards an interview and I will take the skills learned into the rest of my life. Thank you so much for the opportunity, I am truly grateful'!

1-1 Personal Results Coaching
Marc (age 39)

'Sue was patient and understanding. I felt that I could talk about anything I wanted to - from work to personal grief, which I have struggled to open up about in the past with people close to me. I never felt uncomfortable, which I have done previously when speaking to others. It was emotional and valuable and I would highly recommend Sue and her coaching'.

1-1 Personal Coaching
Sarah, Assistant Headteacher

'Sue's coaching style is supportive and caring - it was transformative to me. It helped me to develop the ability to find clarity and solutions in the challenges I faced at work. It built my confidence and our sessions were the perfect outlet for me to challenge my ways of thinking and assumptions. I loved the process and found the sessions highly valuable. They helped me realise what I wanted to achieve in my personal life and I am really grateful for Sue's expertise'.