

Rebecca Stephanie WHELAN, BEng (Hons), PGCE

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Professional Overview

A former engineer and now a creative teacher of digital & product design working in the international schools sector. Experience in automotive product development, metrology, prototyping helping Bentley, Nissan and Land Rover develop and launch world class vehicles into the market. Since switching careers in 2007 to become a qualified teacher, I now use my wide industrial experience and expertise to develop a challenging yet engaging curriculum within an international educational setting. Since 2010 I have helped transform the Design curriculum through the implementation of established technologies such as 3D Computer Aided Design (CAD), robotics, and emerging ones such as 3D printing. Currently I am working on developing our Design curriculum further with the integration of micro: bit controllers, and harnessing the potential of Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality (AR/VR) in the classroom. I am looking for a new and exciting position, preferably within another international school, where I can push the boundaries further of what is possible in order to enhance students' experience of Design and Engineering.

Key Skills

- British Qualified Teacher Status (DfES number:0543082)
- Teacher of Design and Technology in both GSE and MYP systems
- Teacher of Design and Technology in both A-level and IB Diploma to High Level
- Ability to plan, deliver and assess lessons that ensure students are learning at their full potential
- Exceptional verbal and written communication, professional yet friendly body language, and the ability to really listen
- Good motivational skills and excellent ability to keep students engaged and on task
- Confident in attending school meetings and meeting parents as and when required
- Ability to create strong working relationships with both students and colleagues
- Able to adapt communication style to the needs of different students depending on age, culture, language & learning ability
- Fully qualified Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineer with 20 years industrial experience

Professional experience

[The International School of Paris](#) (Fee paying Trust School in France) (2010 – present)

- **Digital & Product Design Teacher:**
- *Developed and modernised the existing Design curriculum to include new technologies*
- *Participated, as one of the pilot schools, in the MYP Design curriculum review (2013),*
- *Develop the Diploma curriculum to begin offering Design Technology at Higher Level,*
- *Created and taught many design projects that were both engaging and challenging and well resourced for the largely non-native English speaking international students.*
- *Coordinate extracurricular activities.*
- *Organise local field trips and co-organise trips further afield to London and within the French regions*
- *Volunteered to help chaperone a group of students from the school to work on community projects overseas in Ghana and Namibia ([Sustainable Development Project](#)).*

The Cherwell School, Oxford, UK (State Secondary School) *-(2007– 2010)*

- **Product and Graphical Product Design Teacher** - Taught Key Stage 3 Design & Technology covering Electronics, Graphic Products and Resistant Materials, Key Stage 4 (GCSE) Product Design and Key Stage 5 (A-level) Graphic Products. Coordinated a design and robotics extracurricular club..

Studley High School, Studely, UK *-(2006 – 2007)*

Design & Technology Teacher - *In this role, I developed an appreciation for the place of problem solving in the development of young people and of the place of design within the wider curriculum.*

- [Brose](#), Metrology Engineer *-(2004–2005)*
- [HPL Prototypes](#), Quality Engineer *-(2004–2005)*
- [Dura Automotive Systems](#), Metrology Engineer *-(2001–2002)*
- [Land Rover Vehicles](#), Product Development Engineer *-(1993–2001)*
- Leyland DAF Vehicles, Product Development logistics controller *-(1992–1993)*
- [Royal Air Force](#), Junior Engineering Technician *-(1988–1992)*

Qualifications

- Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) 2007
- PGCE Secondary Design & Technology, University of Wolverhampton, UK 2006
- BEng (Hons) 2.1 Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering, University of Birmingham City, UK, 2002
- HNC Mechanical & Production Engineering, Bedford College of Higher Education, UK, 1991
- City & Guilds Part II Cert Mechanical Engineering Craft Studies, Royal Air Force School of Technical Training (HM Forces), 1989
- City & Guilds of London Institute "Class A" Amature Radio License, 1986

Professional Development

- IB MYP Design CAT 3
- IB Diploma Design Technology CAT 3
- Building Learning Communities® conferences and workshops with Dr Alan November
- Differentiation Implementation with Dr Fran Prolman
- EduCare - A Practical Guide to the GDPR for Education - Level 2
- EduCare - Child Protection for International Schools Level 2

Additional Information

Outside of work: *I have had a strong interest in running since my days at school, middle and long distance. In the last 10 years I have competed in many half-marathons and several [marathons](#) in various countries. I am also a keen traveller and enjoy seeking out rich, global cultural experiences around the world.*

Languages Spoken: English (native language); French (intermediate comprehension of oral, written and conversational spoken).

References

Mr David Henry (Director of Schools) International School of Paris Paris, 75016, FRANCE dhenry@isparis.net	Mr D Kerr (Secondary School Principal) International School of Paris Paris, 75016, FRANCE dkerr@isparis.net	Dr Elizabeth Sutherland (Learning Continuum Director)(Head of Design) International School of Paris Paris, 75016, FRANCE esutherland@isparis.net
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