

# Alan Kinder, Advisory teacher - Geography

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Alan Kinder is an Advisory Teacher for Geography for the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. He was awarded Chartered Geographer (Teacher) status in 2008. Here's what he says about being a Chartered Geographer (Teacher)...

## **Why did you decide to apply to become a Chartered Geographer (Teacher)?**

I have a genuine commitment to CPD in geography and felt this meant that I should put a bit of time and effort into applying to have this recognised by the RGS-IBG.

## **How did you find the application process?**

I found the experience absolutely fine. It certainly made me reflect on what I'd been doing in recent years and which activities/articles best exemplified what my work is all about. I enjoyed writing the application and have no complaints about it.

## **What sort of experience and activities did you include in your professional self evaluation report?**

Broadly three categories I think: my ongoing CPD work (face to face conferences etc) for various organisations; my 'consultancy' work (for the GA, QCA etc) and a selection of articles and publications.

## **How have you benefited personally from gaining the accreditation?**

I have been pleasantly surprised at the number of people who have congratulated me! It's nice to have the accreditation acknowledged in GA magazine as well as the RGS newsletter etc. Chartered Geographer seems to have gained a bit of currency and even my employer was impressed!

## **How has your department benefited from you gaining the accreditation?**

I reported the accreditation to my senior leaders and it was duly noted.

**As the CGeog (Teacher) network grows, what would you like to see happen / be available to you?**

I'd like to see this group of people be a pro-active part of the geography community. If the accreditation is for commitment to CPD, then CPD opportunities within geography will hopefully be extended to all CGeogs and they hopefully 'give something back'.

**Any words of advice for aspiring Chartered Geographer (Teachers)?**

If you are really committed to 'going the extra mile' then applying for CGeog won't be a problem for you!