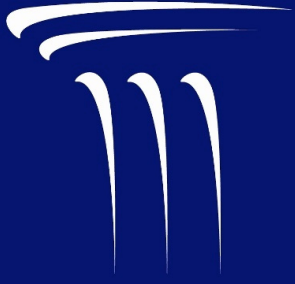


# SANDFORD AWARD



## Benjamin Smith

Benjamin studied History at the University of Birmingham where he was awarded the Edna Pearson Scholarship to undertake postgraduate research into twentieth-century British history and international relations. After training to teach at Queen Mary's High School in Walsall, he became Head of History at Lichfield Cathedral School, where he was also responsible for careers guidance. He was subsequently Head of History at Edgbaston High School in Birmingham before moving into the heritage sector as the Director of Education and Learning at Worcester Cathedral. He has worked as a History examiner for the AQA and has published historical research, including a monograph on British weapons technology before 1914 that received the Firestep Award from the Western Front Association. Benjamin is currently Head of History and Politics at Wrekin College in Shropshire and from September 2021 he will be Deputy Head (Academic) with responsibility for teaching and learning throughout the school.

Benjamin is a keen tennis player and coach and enjoys playing competitively, captaining a men's team at his local club. He is a frequent visitor to heritage sites and is the Co-Secretary of the Midlands History Forum, a voluntary organisation that serves schools and other educational providers throughout the Midlands.