

## Woldgate School Alumni

Pocklington and District Local History Group - WOLDGATE SCHOOL HISTORY

We will be trying to fit the history of Woldgate into the context of the development of education nationally since 1945 and locally (the East Riding). We are hoping that the personal accounts and memories that you provide will illustrate these national and county developments on a very local scale.

**Name** Ian Wight

**Date** Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Please answer the questions below about your past time at Woldgate School

**Date or year you started at Woldgate** September 1975

**Date or year you left Woldgate** March 2010

**My role at Woldgate**

### Please enter your highlights of your time at Woldgate

On my first day I felt like "the new boy" although I think there were 8 new staff that day. I had no idea what to expect, but I had prepared plenty of lessons for the first week, although I had very little idea of what level of pupils to expect in my lessons and no knowledge of the pupils who were to be in my form. I had also a range of subjects to teach (see below) which kept me on my toes.

Pupils who stand out in my memory are Tim Pearson, who ran the annual cross country race in his wellies because he had forgotten his PE shoes, and Michael Woods, who went on to play professional football.

Education changed significantly whilst I was at Woldgate. GCE and CSE became GCSE, Vocational courses were introduced and became my responsibility as Head of Vocational Faculty. We began with a BEC General Diploma in Business link with Beverley College and later added CPVE/DVE as part of a Beverley based Consortium (of which I became Chairman and which also led to a Channel 4 documentary programme featuring our Students and Teachers) and then latterly in my time we ran BTEC First and National Diplomas in a range of subject areas, in conjunction with York College, for which I was the overall Coordinator.

On appointment I taught PE, Maths, Economics, Commerce and General Education. Later I added Business Studies, ICT and various roles within the Vocational subjects. My roles included Head of Frobisher House, Head of Business Studies, Head of Vocational Subjects, Daily Cover Organiser and School/College Timetabler.

When I retired from Woldgate I took up a part time post working with vulnerable adults at the Avalon Group, based at the York office until I finally retired in December 2015 and moved to Garforth in January 2016.