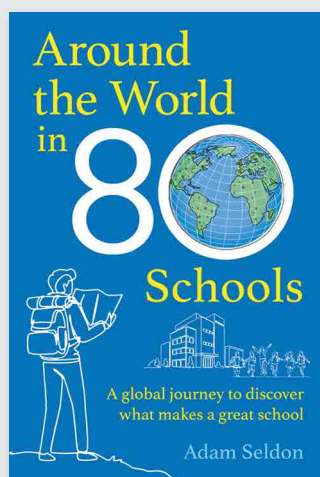


P R E S S R E L E A S E

"An original and gripping read that shows the power of travel and learning from other cultures to both inform and inspire."
Matthew Parris, journalist



Around the World in 80 Schools **A global journey to discover what makes a great school** **By Adam Seldon**

ISBN: 9781785837760

Price: £16.99

Published by: Crown House Publishing

Date of publication: September 2026

Adam visits schools across every continent revealing places where education is understood as more than academic outcomes or a step up the ladder. Instead, he explores how different cultures define what makes a good school.

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What Can We Learn from Education Perspectives Around the Globe?

This is the question Adam Seldon set out to explore when he decided to travel the world and visit 80 schools across every continent.

In the resulting book, *Around the World in 80 Schools: A Global Journey to Discover What Makes a Great School*, Adam offers a fascinating insight into the different ways schools around the globe educate, support and inspire young people.

He introduces us to different approaches to education, from Japan's focus on moral education and Australia's emphasis on wellbeing to community involvement in Thailand and greater pupil choice in countries such as the US and New Zealand. These schools challenge our assumptions about what education should look like and show us what we might learn by doing things differently.

His journey also raises important questions about our own education system. In a recent *Schools Week* article Adam argues that the GCSE system is no longer fit for purpose¹, highlighting how the emphasis on exams can limit opportunities for enrichment, personal development and community engagement.

Around the World in 80 Schools encourages us to look beyond our own experience and consider what we can learn from schools taking different approaches. It isn't about finding a single perfect education system, or simply copying what happens elsewhere, rather it is about opening our eyes to new possibilities and challenging the assumptions we take for granted.

For teachers, school leaders and anyone interested in the future of education, Adam's global journey offers inspiration, fresh perspectives and plenty of ideas to take back to our own schools.

Sometimes, in order to understand what makes a great school, we need to look beyond our own.

A fascinating and thought-provoking read for teachers, school leaders and policy makers.

¹ See here: <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/why-this-gcse-system-is-no-longer-fit-for-purpose/>

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"Read this book to understand what constitutes a great education and, as importantly, encounter practical inspiration for how it can be achieved."

Laura Hughes, Public Policy Correspondent, *The Financial Times*

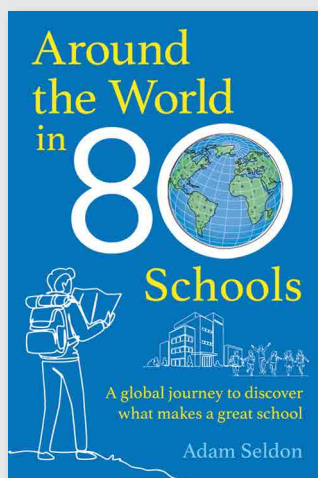
About the author

Adam Seldon is a teacher and school leader based in London. Since a young age, Adam has lived in schools and has not been able to get out of them since. His parents, Joanna and Anthony Seldon, were both teachers. After almost ten years in the classroom, he realised that British schooling needed a shot of perspective from beyond its borders.

Articles and interviews available

Adam is available for interview, expert comment or by-lined articles on a range of topics, such as:

- What high-performing and innovative schools are doing differently around the world
- What we can learn from different education systems around the globe
- Is there such a thing as a "best" school
- Which ideas could realistically be adopted in UK schools
- What education might look like in 10–20 years



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