



## **Saira Uppal**

### **Director of Development & Social Impact**

#### **Dragon School**

Saira has spent 20 years in the educational development sector, predominantly at Oxford University as a Director of Development at St Catherine's College, before joining the Dragon School in 2019. From starting her career as a telethon caller for her own Alma Mater, she is an experienced international fundraiser who has worked on multi-million-pound appeals for unrestricted endowment, (yes, it can be done), bursaries and buildings. From tripling participation rates, increasing income 6-fold, and welcoming record levels of attendance and engagement across events and through publications, she is supported by a small but high-performing team who forgive her many sins.

Dragon School, Oxford, is currently the only Prep School in the UK that was part of the 'A Group' of schools in the recent IDPE Benchmarking Survey, a statistic she is passionate about changing, and has undertaken various advisory roles at other prep and senior schools. Dragon School won the IDPE Engagement Campaign of the Year in 2022.

**#IDPE2023**