



Specialist Leader of Education



Name:	Alison Betts
School:	Exeter Children's Federation
Position	Head of Inclusion
Phase:	Primary
Specialism:	SEND

About Alison

I am currently Head of Inclusion across the Exeter Children's Federation which includes Montgomery Primary School, Wynstream Primary School and Chestnut Nursery School. I qualified as a Teacher 20 years ago after an 8 year career in banking where my focus was as a Training Officer. My degree is in Teaching studies and Environmental studies with a Specialism in Early Years. I started my teaching in London and Surrey before moving to Devon in 2003. I taught across the age phases in my first school and have since taught in Key Stage One and EYFS. In 2006 I started at Wynstream as the Nurture Group Teacher. I have always enjoyed supporting children with additional needs to reach their full potential. I took on the role as Wynstream School SENCO in 2011 and studied for and gained the National Award for SENCO qualification shortly after. During my time at Wynstream I have also had the opportunity to be Head of Teaching and Learning at Chestnut Nursery school. My main specialism as SLE is in the area of Special Educational Need and within this area specifically support for children with Social, Emotional, Mental Health.

The role of the SLE

SLEs are outstanding middle and senior leaders and have a successful track record of school improvement. SLEs support leaders in other schools. They have excellent interpersonal skills, are able to work sensitively and collaboratively with others and have a commitment to outreach work. They understand what outstanding leadership practice in their area of specialism looks like and can help other leaders to achieve it in their own context. The SLE role is about developing other middle and senior leaders so that they have the skills to lead their own teams and improve practice in their own schools. This may be done through one-to-one peer coaching or facilitated group support and could involve a variety of activities, such as data analysis, coaching or joint action planning.

For more information or to get into contact with an SLE please call: 01392 927171