



## Specialist Leader of Education

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<b>School:</b>	St James School, Exeter	
<b>Position:</b>	Assistant Headteacher, Head of MFL	
<b>Phase:</b>	Secondary	
<b>Specialism:</b>	Leadership of Curriculum MFL	

nt Headteacher and Head of Modern Foreign Languages at S James School, Exeter. Within my role as an Assistant Head, I have responsibility for Pupil Premium, Most Able, the Curriculum Leadership Team (Heads of Department), SMSC and PSHE and Careers. I am also the Head of the MFL department where I lead a team of four other teachers who teach French and Spanish

I am a passionate advocate for my subject and have supported other schools to develop their MFL department and improve outcomes for their students. St James' EBACC results were the best in the city in 2016 and this is partly due to the rapid improvement in languages results. For us the key to this is consistent high quality teaching and high expectations. Target language plays an important part in our success and we are currently developing listening skills with our students. The new GCSE presents us with both challenges and new opportunities and I look forward to welcoming the era of no controlled assessments and engaging students in more cultural opportunities.

For me, a good Head of Department is many things. It is partly about leading by example, but I believe putting teaching and learning at the heart of all our work is key to driving progress. Meetings should focus on primarily how to improve the learning opportunities of our students. I also know that the management element of our role is crucial- organisation and communication and key to keeping good morale and making sure the everyday things are well planned and managed.

### **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**