



Specialist Leader of Education



Name:	Lauren Stone
School:	St Nicholas Catholic Primary School
Position	Assistant Headteacher
Phase:	Primary
Specialism:	Early Years

About Lauren

I am currently Assistant Headteacher at St Nicholas Catholic Primary School and have been in post since January 2012. During this time I have led the improvement of the Early Years Foundation Stage at St Nicholas and have worked as part of the Senior Leadership Team to bring about rapid and sustainable change moving the school from a category to Good in 3 years.

Throughout my 14 years in teaching I have taught extensively across the Foundation Stage and Key Stage One. In my role as AHT I am responsible for the strategic leadership of the Early Years and Key Stage One and in addition lead on the quality of teaching across the school, curriculum development and CPD. I am a strong advocate of the power of coaching as a tool to develop and improve the quality of teaching and regularly work alongside teachers throughout the Early Years and Key Stages One and Two.

As a passionate early years practitioner I am ambitious for all children in the Foundation Stage and strive for excellence in all aspects of early years provision. I strongly believe in the effectiveness of school to school support and have been fortunate to work collaboratively with other schools. I have facilitated moderation activities with other early years practitioners, supporting the validation of their end of Reception year judgements, and have worked with teachers to write early years development plans to improve provision and outcomes for all children in their schools.

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