

# Abigail Town

**Assistant Headteacher**

**Trinity School**

**Early Years**

I have worked in a special needs setting for nearly 20 years – with pupils from nursery to year 14. During this time, I have taught the full range of subjects including taking pupils through Entry Level GCSE exams in PE.

I am Assistant Headteacher in the Lower Phase of Trinity School (Nursery to year 4) and have responsibility for organising the work of around 50 staff – and have supported them in gaining knowledge and skills in structured teaching for working with pupils with ASC and how to organise and deliver outstanding curriculum practice with children who have disabilities which fall into the PMLD / SLD range.

Our curriculum is based on the National Curriculum and the Early Years Foundation stage, and I lead regular work scrutiny exercises, as well as moderation training using p levels, within school and with mainstream colleagues.

I have designed and implemented an appraisal system for our classroom assistants across the whole school. I chair a working party which has developed an assessment package to better evidence progress for pupils with Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties – which is being piloted this year.

**Continual Professional Development**

I have extensive experience of training staff including teachers, middle managers, and mainstream colleagues through being involved in Sherborne Developmental Movement and Crisis Prevention and Intervention. I run regular training sessions in school to support staff in working with pupils with challenging behaviour and also provide specific advice and support for staff when pupils require physical intervention.

I am a mentor for a trainee following the School Direct route into teaching and work with them to ensure teachers standards are met through weekly target setting and professional dialogue.

I work to build good relationships with families, parents and carers during our admissions programme - through the use of effective home visits and by involving our school nurses and Speech and Language Therapists in this process. I also ensure that all new families are supported by our Home Intervention. In particular, I am able to advise on of the management of complex medical conditions within the classroom and ensure that all pupils have access to an inclusive curriculum.