



Specialist Advisory Teaching Service

A children first service, designed to improve access to learning

By Kathy Lockyear, Principal Service Lead for Specialist Advisory Teaching Service



I'm very proud to lead the Specialist Advisory Teaching Service (SATS). We are a group of approximately 80 dedicated colleagues with different specialist knowledge and skills, and we provide advice, training, support and challenge to predominantly mainstream schools to promote inclusive provision and practice.

All teams within SATS are pupil-focused, supporting the Graduated Approach, and promoting the use of reasonable adjustments to unlock positive outcomes. Our work is preventative and proactive, developing school staff, and focusing on access to learning. We work with all children and young people, whether they have an identified SEND need or not, with or without a diagnosis.

The service is divided into five teams, each with a different area of specialism:

Autism and Social Communication Team (ASCT)

Led by Carina Reid, this team promotes the educational, social and emotional development of autistic children and young people, as well as those with Social Communication Needs. They also lead on the Autism in Schools Project.

For more information on the ASCT, please visit their section on [Tools for Schools](#).

Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service (EMTAS)

EMTAS supports schools to improve access and raise attainment for pupils from minority ethnic backgrounds, particularly those with English as an Additional Language (EAL), and those from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) and Showman backgrounds.

The team offers advice and guidance to schools and families, supports parental and community engagement, and delivers a range of training and regular network meetings.

Please click [here](#) to view more information on EMTAS' provision and how they can support your setting.

Fair Access

This small team is led by Sara Hughes and Amanda Gurney. Fair Access are responsible for admissions under the Fair Access Protocol, the exclusion process, medical provision and [alternative provision](#) at the West Sussex Alternative Provision College (WSAPC).

This team plays a vital role in ensuring that children and young people can access the right provision at the right time. To find out more about the work that Fair Access does, please visit their section on [Tools for Schools](#).



Learning and Behaviour Advisory Team (LBAT)

Led by Kate Southgate, Team Manager, LBAT supports schools to manage learning and/or behaviour that is affecting a child's progress in school. The team works in partnership with schools to improve children's educational outcomes and emotional wellbeing.

Alongside LBAT, Kate also leads on the Therapeutic Thinking approach for West Sussex.

For more information on how LBAT can support you, please visit their sections on [Tools for Schools](#) and [West Sussex Services for Education](#).

Sensory Support Team (SST)

The SST, led by Karen Cruicks, Lead Qualified Teacher of the Deaf and Sandra Greatorex, Qualified Teacher of Visual Impairment and Multi Sensory Impairment, works with children and their families, pre-schools and schools. The team supports and promotes inclusion in a range of settings for children with sensory needs from the moment of diagnosis.

For more information on the SST and how they can support you to improve provision for children and young people with sensory impairments, please visit their section on [Tools for Schools](#).