



## **Parent Support Advisers (PSA)**

Being a parent is one of the most challenging jobs we will ever have and the one that comes with the least training. There is no instruction book, we all have to find our own ways forward with being a dad, mum, or carer, and sometimes it is a lonely and tricky job! We all want the best for our children, but sometimes it is difficult to know what is the best thing to do or say. Sometimes we need support ourselves so that we can best help our children.

Ever feel you want some help or advice, but don't know where to go to get it?

Ever wanted just to have someone to talk things over with?

Ever worried about whether you were doing the right thing as parents?

Ever wondered what support is out there for you and your child?

We wanted to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves. We are Parent Support Advisers for the 14 schools in the Beacon Learning Community in Exeter.

Our role is to support you as parents/carers to get the very best from your school by providing support, advice and information. Our aim is to help you with any worries you may have either at home or at school in relation to your child's education, behaviour or attendance and to provide advice and support on how best to deal with it. We are completely independent, working for the Beacon Learning Community rather than being employed by any individual school and we hope this helps you feel comfortable about discussing any issues you have with us.

Just some examples of what we may be able to help you with:-

To offer support when your children are starting school, changing classes or changing schools

To provide direct and confidential support to you.

To offer support with your child's behaviour.

To provide information/advice about any school issues,

To provide opportunities to meet with other parents/carers through regular events.

To provide families with learning opportunities.

To provide access to parenting programmes.

To point you in the direction of other services which may be of help.

Provide you with information on the Don't Stop Me Now scheme which provides funding for after school and holiday activities for those on free school meals or in care. We can also help you fill in the application form for this and any other forms you may need help with.

If we cannot help you directly, we will help you find the right individuals or organisations to provide the support you need.

We plan to visit your child's school regularly to be available if there are any issues which are concerning you which you would like to chat about in confidence. Please do come and say hello! If you would like to talk please do not hesitate to contact us.

Karen Fereday is the PSA for the following school within the Beacon Learning Community;

Ellen Tinkham

Pinhoe Church of England Primary School

St Michaels Church of England (VA) Primary School

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

Stoke Hill Infants

Stoke Hill Juniors

St Peter's Church of England Aided School

and can be contacted on,

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E: [karen.fereday@st-james.devon.sch.uk](mailto:karen.fereday@st-james.devon.sch.uk)

and Emma Mourant is the PSA for,

Ladysmith Infant and Nursery School

Ladysmith Junior School

St Luke's Science and Sports College

St James' School

Wilmington Barton Infants

Wilmington Barton Juniors

Willowbrook

and can be contacted on,

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E: [emma.mourant@st-james.devon.sch.uk](mailto:emma.mourant@st-james.devon.sch.uk)

There is also a website for the Exeter Learning Communities if you would like to have a look and make any suggestions as to what you would find useful. The address is [www.exeterlearningcommunity.org.uk](http://www.exeterlearningcommunity.org.uk). We would both welcome your suggestions as to how best we might be able to support you as parents and carers and any suggestions for activities or events which you might find useful would be gratefully received.

We look forward to meeting with you and hearing from you,

Emma and Karen