



Inspire a generation...



PEN PORTRAIT

Specialist Leader of Education

Name of SLE:	Joanne O'Keefe
School Name:	St. Clare's R.C Primary School, Blackley
SLE Specialism(s)	SEND Analysing School Data Addressing under performance Pupil progress NQT Development Middle Leader Development
Teaching School Alliance:	Heart TSA

Area(s) of Expertise

I have been teaching for 19 years and have over 15 years' experience at senior leadership level as SENDco, Assistant Head and now, as Deputy. I have vast experience of SEND, raising standards in attainment, the development of NQTs and middle leaders; as well as analysing whole school data, formulating SIPs, SEFs and Action Plans.

I have worked with a couple of local schools in the surrounding area, supporting SEND and supporting a newly appointed SENDco.

I have vast experience of raising standards in teaching and learning at a whole school level and helped move my current school from requires Improvement to two gradings of Good from Ofsteds in 2014 and 2018. I was also part of the leadership team who secured an outstanding rating in the last RE Inspection.

I am an effective leader who has been instrumental in the school being singled out by the LA to take complex pupils, some at risk of exclusion from other schools and, particularly, LAC pupils. I am creative and think strategically; developing a team that instituted therapy groups, a sensory room, a host of bespoke interventions and effectively work with families and other agencies. I am outcome focused, putting the children I serve at the heart of every decision I make and idea I have.

I am skilled at using data to drive my decisions and where TAs are subsequently deployed. I lead on a team of over 30 TAs and 10 teachers and have a very strong working relationship with the local authority.

Current Leadership Responsibilities

- SENDco for St. Clare's with currently 70 pupils identified as having SEND, 13 of whom have an EHCP with another 3 pending.
- Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- KS2 lead with overall responsibility for 10 teaching members of staff. Regular monitoring includes book scrutinies, lesson observations, performance management, learning walks. Triangulating classroom provision and identifying strengths and areas for development.