

Jenny Smith - Pen Portrait



Being Head Teacher of Swansfield Park Primary School is an enormous privilege.

I joined the staff of this school in June 1993 as Deputy Head Teacher following experience as a secondary food and child development teacher in Inner London then as a class teacher with various additional responsibilities in Ealing. I have been Head Teacher since April 1995.

The focus of my headship has been strategic leadership leading to school improvement and in September 2011 the school was judged to be outstanding.

I have 12 years' experience as a special needs coordinator which ensures that I have a strong understanding of how to meet the needs of vulnerable children. During this time I have participated in the Local Authority SEND Panels.

During my time as a Headteacher I have dealt with a full range of difficult situations including staff competency issues, pupil exclusions, redundancies, official complaints, recruitment and building projects. In addition to my Headship role I have been employed by Northumberland County Council as a School Improvement Partner since 2015, in this role I have supported two schools on various aspects of their development. On two occasions I have been a Strategic Headteacher having oversight of two schools and the challenges such a role brings.

Recently I was the Chair of the Alnwick Partnership of Schools, during which time the schools in this area were reorganised from 3 tier to primary /secondary. I have also been the partnership representative on the Local Authority's Education Reference Group which advises the Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board.

My aim has always been to enable every child to have a memorable experience of primary education, to develop as independent learners and ultimately to achieve the highest standards that they possibly can.