



## Alison Ainsworth

Evidence Lead in Education (ELE)

**ASPIRER**



I have worked as a class teacher for over 20 years; working across Key Stage 1 and 2 in three different schools. I am currently the Deputy Headteacher at Cinnamon Brow C E Primary School in Warrington. Over the years, my leadership roles have been diverse. I have led a variety of subject areas ranging from PE, Humanities, Maths and English. Currently I am the English subject lead, sharing my passion for reading.

I have recently worked with staff across school on a 'Reading for Pleasure' project. As a consequence of twelve months gathering evidence and a whole school approach to promoting reading for pleasure, I am proud to report that in January this year we gained the Silver Quality Mark for Reading.

Throughout this year I have also taken an active role in the English Hub's Reading for Pleasure training programmes. I am currently working on an Open University Reading for Pleasure course. This has led to further research gathering and re-strengthened my understanding of early reading; providing me with strategies to support pupils and staff in my own setting.

This year, I have also been fortunate enough to have worked alongside Aspirer Research Schools to support student teachers in Warrington. Together with experienced staff from Aspirer, I have delivered a sequence of training sessions on metacognition and resilience. I have always been fascinated by how the brain works and how both adults and children learn.

This term I am involved in developing metacognition within my school. I am fascinated to see the children begin to recognise how their brain actually works and how they themselves can have an element of conscious control. I believe giving children strategies to support their learning and retention of knowledge to be something empowering. In my school we use the mantra 'remembering more is knowing more, knowing more is remembering more'.

Starting my work as an Evidence Lead in Education (ELE) for Aspirer I have strengthened my understanding of research and how it is used in education. It has provided me with strategies to support pupils and staff. I hope I can continue this by supporting others across clusters and authorities.