

Dr Geoff Baker Headteacher at Cansfield High School, Wigan

Please tell us a little about why you chose Liverpool Hope as the provider of the NASENCo for your teachers and how many teachers from your school have been through the course.

We now have 6 colleagues who have completed the Liverpool Hope NASENCo course. I chose Liverpool Hope because of its long-established reputation for excellence in the field of teacher education.

What impact have you seen in your school from your teachers having taken this course?

Colleagues who have completed the course have reflected on their own practice and more broadly on the philosophy that underpins their work as a teacher. It has led to the school becoming a more inclusive space in which we have a deeper level of expertise in supporting learners with a range of specific needs.

Has this course positively impacted upon SEND learners in your school?

Supporting learners with a SEND is very clearly the remit of every member of staff as opposed to being seen as the sole remit of the SENCO. It has meant that the school is a more inclusive space and that our learners with a SEND feel welcome and appropriately supported wherever they are.

Is there evidence that the knowledge and insight your staff gained on the course has already been cascaded throughout the school and is therefore having an impact beyond the staff who attended the course?

I am trying to consolidate the expertise of the staff who have completed the NASENCo by giving them opportunities to take part in EHCP reviews and the creation of Pupil Passports. We have also utilised the skills and knowledge that participants have developed by having them lead training sessions throughout the school. The consequence of this is that making our school an inclusive space is truly a whole school endeavour.

Would you recommend the course to others?

Yes, fully.

What is it like working with Liverpool Hope colleagues? What experience and expertise do they bring to the courses? How do you and your teachers benefit from this strategic relationship?

I have been delighted with the courses that Liverpool Hope have developed for our school. Respected and widely recognised accredited courses have been adapted so that they have met the bespoke needs of the school and individual colleagues. This has meant that colleagues from NQTs all the way up to myself, as Headteacher, have taken value and meaning that is relevant to the specific context in which we are working.

