



Emotional Literacy Support Assistant

ELSAs are Emotional Literacy Support Assistants. They are teaching assistants who have received specific additional training from educational psychologists on aspects of emotional literacy including emotional awareness, self-esteem, anger management, social and friendship skills, social communication difficulties, loss, bereavement and family break-up, to support the emotional development of children and young people in school.

ELSAs receive on going supervision from educational psychologists once every half term in a local group. Their role is to support children and young people in school to understand and regulate their own emotions whilst also respecting the feelings of those around them.

ELSAs may work with pupils who appear anxious, shy, sad or angry. They might also support children to develop social skills, friendship skills or help to increase their self-esteem.

The ELSA project is new to Somerset but has been used successfully by education psychology services and schools throughout the UK. Evaluation of the project has shown that ELSAs make a positive impact on the emotional development of children and young people. Specific outcomes have included:-

- Academic success
- Increased school attendance
- Reduced referrals to other services

Our Schools ELSA is Mrs Sallyann Edson

(Please feel free to speak to Mrs. Edson about any matters (home or school) relating to your child)