

## Lou Jenkins- Home and School Mentor at Ladycross Infant School and Nursery

My role is to be a flexible resource for any parent who would like support, advice or just a listening ear on any issues, relating to children in school or at home, which could have a negative effect on their happiness and wellbeing.

### Pupils

I will create short-term (e.g. 4-6, ½ hour sessions) using creative/mindful interventions with pupils who show signs of ongoing, significant distress or unhappiness.

I will work creatively with children in care or privately fostered/adopted to support their long-term emotional needs.

If a Pupil Premium child is struggling to engage or meet targets, I can work with the pupil, parents or the teachers to explore this and plan additional social/emotional support.

If a child is open to the Multi Agency Team or Social Services, 1:1 work with me may be an agreed part of their Plan. Also, I will represent the school in any agency meetings regarding the welfare of a child.

### Parents

I can discuss and advise on issues which impact on the child's mental, emotional or physical well-being e.g. diet, sleep patterns, home routines and promoting positive behaviour; including targets and rewards.

I offer parents practical advice and resources to support and build a positive parenting style at home.

I am available, wherever possible, to parents who wish to drop in and see me.

I will help parents to locate and access appropriate agency support where a school intervention is inappropriate or has failed to create a positive outcome.

Parents can choose to use me as an additional link to the class teachers if they have an ongoing wellbeing concern about a child.

My door is open and all parents are very welcome to come and have a chat, informally, about anything that is causing stress or difficulty in their lives.

Where pupils are referred to me by a parent or member of staff, I will first liaise with the SENCo to ensure that I am the appropriate avenue of support.

I am, as part of my role, a member of the Safeguarding team at Ladycross and also monitor attendance levels. Please rest assured that, if I need to contact you with concerns in either of these areas, I will listen sympathetically and ensure you are supported: either by the school or through a referral to an appropriate agency e.g. School Health, CAMHS (mental health services for young people), The Multi-Agency Team or Social Care.