CAROLE SLEIGHTHOLM

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I am an independent learning and literacy consultant, working to support teachers and leaders to improve progress and achievement for every child. I have particular expertise in the planning, structure and delivery of the primary curriculum. My work is informed by my teaching, management and consultancy experience, including work as Lead Curriculum Adviser, managing the Primary English consultancy team in one of the largest Education Authorities in the UK. I am a nationally accredited Local Consultant for Improvement (LCI) in Stronger Management Systems (SMS). I am a governor at my local school, chairing the Curriculum committee and supporting Head teacher Performance Management. Special interests include reading for pleasure, improving writing through storytelling, visual literacy, drama and speaking and listening.

**Director of Education Services, Sleightholm Limited 2012 – present**

Strategic advice, training and development for headteachers, teachers, subject leaders, school networks and Local Authorities, focusing on the primary curriculum and the teaching of literacy. I am currently (2015-16)leading a project supporting Specialist Leaders in Education (SLEs) to improve Boys’ Writing in Essex with a network of schools. I provide bespoke support packages on curriculum and leadership nationally and internationally, including INSET days, Subject leader training and workshops.

Main areas covered by my consultancy are:

***Summative and formative assessment***

1. supporting schools to embed best practice in the core AFL strategies:
2. supporting schools to develop robust writing and reading assessment systems
3. moderation of writing and reading assessments.

***Teaching & Learning/Pedagogy– supporting schools to develop quality Teaching and Learning*.**

1. Curriculum design and planning support including Mastery
2. Developing quality reading practice/phonic provision/guided reading assessment/moderation of levels.
3. Developing quality writing/talk for writing/guided writing/spelling/grammar and punctuation /assessment/moderation of levels.
4. Speaking and Listening provision/assessment.
5. Developing the learning environment/working walls.
6. Provision Mapping/Interventions.
7. Developing ‘Good’ to ‘Outstanding’ teaching and learning.
8. NQT training
9. LSA training
10. Developing quality questioning
11. Developing parental engagement
12. SATS preparation-Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation test.

 14. Challenging the more able learners

***Leadership & Management– supporting schools to develop ‘outstanding’ leadership and management.***

1. Whole school Review –

2. Pre and post inspection support

3. Developing subject leaders

4. Headteacher / adviser / SLE support

5. Leadership training

**Lead Curriculum Adviser – Primary Literacy, Essex County Council 2009-2012**

Led a team of consultants whose role was the development of intervention programmes to prevent school failure and improve the learning experience provided. Responsible for literacy provision development across Essex and for service delivery in South Essex (Basildon area). Specifically:

* Figurehead for Primary English programmes.
* English Lead adviser, including:
	+ Leading monthly consultant meetings addressing overall Local Authority priorities coupled with literacy-specific messages to drive standards forward.
	+ Responsibility for all English CPD for Essex, leading training and development sessions for Primary English consultants, deployment of consultants.
	+ Ensuring high quality of consultant visit notes using cause and effect statements to inform judgements.
	+ Quality assurance of consultant’s judgement of subject leadership. (Utilising Ofsted criteria).
	+ Leading CPD for consultants in team meetings on reading, focusing on a school imperative to shape/guide a commitment to whole-school reading.
	+ Representing Essex at all regional meetings.
* Leading South Essex Advisory Team, comprising SIAs, advisers and consultants
* English Budget holder, deciding on priorities and responsible for CPD.
* Leading Primary /Secondary Cross-phase English meetings.

**Primary Strategy Consultant - Literacy, Essex County Council 2005-2009**

Worked in a range of schools including Schools Causing Concern and Priority Schools, and assisted with the leadership and management of a range of programmes e.g. ISP, Essex Writing Project and the Leadership Programme, tailoring the support provided to the school’s individual needs and supporting them in self-evaluation towards becoming independent and effective managers of their own school improvement. Particular successes:

* Traded work for Essex; marketing sales and delivery to other authorities.
* Leadership of the Essex Writing Project, a nationally recognised scheme that promotes excellence in writing
* Developed ‘Writing Schools’, through joint leadership of the Talk for Writing project, leading to improved writing attitude and attainment
* Lead responsibility in ISP and Making Good Progress schools in Essex, which lead to overall good progress, especially in mathematics and literacy achievement

**Teacher / Deputy Head – Trafford, Suffolk and Essex Councils 1974-2005**

Taught all primary age ranges from 4 to 11, in a range of urban and rural schools. Deputy Headteacher and Subject leader.

**QUALIFICATIONS -OBTAINED**

Bachelor of Education (BA Honours) 2:1, University of East Anglia

Certificate of Education – distinction. St Hild’s College, Durham

Guildhall School of Speech and Drama (6a)

Local Consultant for Improvement (LCI) accreditation in Stronger Management Systems. (SMS)

**OTHER RELEVANT MEMBERSHIPS**

# United Kingdom Literacy Association (UKLA)

Essex School Governors’ Association (ESGA) and National Governors’ Association (NGA)