



**Professional Background:**

*I changed career to join the teaching profession and had been teaching for 5 years before I joined the Maths Hub. My primary school was at the time a Teaching School and I had been closely involved in not only supporting and mentoring student teachers, but had also been providing school to school to support, working with teachers in and around Southampton. Some of this work focussed on specific areas of teaching and learning, while another project supported Maths Lead Teachers in their role.*

**Maths Hub Journey:**

I first became aware of the Solent Maths Hub when I joined the SSIF team, a project designed to support Maths Leads in improving maths outcomes in KS2. Around this time, I was also becoming very interested in Teaching for Mastery and the role of Primary Mastery Specialist. As a school we had dipped our toes in the water the year previously by considering the resources from White Rose and Maths No Problem.

I can honestly say that my training as a Primary Mastery Specialist is the best CPD that I have ever had. It allowed me to develop my knowledge both of the structure of maths and its pedagogy in ways that I have never considered before. By establishing a supportive and inclusive community of practitioners, the programme allows for a wholly collaborative approach which becomes the intent of our own work as we ourselves go out and work with leaders and teachers in schools.

Our own CPD continued with the Professional Development Lead accreditation to further support our skills when working with our teaching colleagues. Regular national and local meetings help to keep this fresh and up to date.

A personal highlight of my own involvement with the Maths Hub was when I was given the opportunity to travel to Shanghai for two weeks to observe and work with some truly masterful teachers of mathematics in schools and to witness the impact that this small step approach can have on children's learning and understanding of the structure of mathematical concepts.

To date I have worked with schools in the Developing, Embedding and Sustaining phases of Teaching for Mastery and I am also a Work Group Lead for the Mastering Number programme.

