

Early Years Networking

Online via Zoom

Tuesday 13 May 2025
0930–1500

*If you have any queries on the day of the event,
please call 01799 581695*

0930	Introductions and welcome, Claire Robinson
0940	<i>Neuroscience in the Early Years</i> , Tricia Ridell
1025	<i>Making Early Childhood Music Meaningful</i> , Nicola Burke,
1115	Refreshment break (in optional breakouts)
1130	<i>AI in the Early Years</i> , Liz Brown, Shores Nurseries
1220	<i>Show and Tell: Sharing ideas from your school</i>
1250	Lunch
1320	<i>Phonics</i> , Jenna Comer, Eaton Square School
1350	<i>Initiatives to support Communication and Language</i> , Leanne Galloway
1440	Reflection and Q&A
1500	Close

Claire Robinson

Claire was appointed Headteacher of Holme Grange in 2009.

She started teaching in 2001 following a successful career in Financial Services. Prior to joining Holme Grange, Claire was Headteacher of St Thomas Moore RC Primary School, Kidlington which she guided from a 'failing school' to being placed 15th Best Primary School in the UK by the Financial Times. During her time at St Thomas Moore, her contribution to education was recognised with the award of Headteacher of The Year in the South East at the National Teaching Awards.

Claire graduated with a BA in Science and Education from the Open University and completed her PGCE at Oxford Brookes. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Teaching and also a Fellow of the RSA (Royal Society of Arts). Claire is also an Associate Challenge Award Assessor and Trainer for NACE (National Association for Able Children in Education) as well as an ISI Inspector.

Since joining Holme Grange, Claire has led the expansion of the School (from 210 pupils to 684), extending the age range from 3-13 to 3-16, taking pupils up to GCSE level. During this time, the buildings and facilities have grown to include a state of the art Theatre and cutting edge classrooms and study spaces. The School has been recognised by the ISA with awards including the Early Years Award for Innovation in Provision, Excellence in Sustainability and Senior School Award for Excellent and Innovation. Holme Grange was first awarded a NACE Challenge Award in 2013, which was reviewed and re-accredited again in 2017 and 2021. Holme Grange is one of only 100 schools in the country to be re-accredited twice and is recognised as a Regional Hub for NACE in the local area. Recently Claire led the school in the Global School Alliance and the school has now entered a Sister School Partnership with a school in Japan.

Nicola Burke

Nicola is an Education Consultant with 24 years' experience working within the Music Education, Early Childhood Education and Arts & Culture sectors. She has a wealth of experience as a coach, facilitator, strategic leader, mentor, speaker, educator, adviser, trainer, project leader, researcher, and evaluator. She has had the privilege of working on educational programmes with world renowned organisations such as Royal Albert Hall, Royal Opera House, BBC, Royal College of Music and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. She created the award-winning *Tune into Listening* resource and in 2018 wrote [*Musical Development Matters in the Early Years*](#), a free downloadable resource to complement the EYFS guidance material, *Development Matters in the EYFS*. Nicola's practice is rooted in creating spaces that are respectful, kind and compassionate and works with others to develop worthwhile musical opportunities for children and families.

Leanne Galloway

Leanne is an early years specialist. With 17 years' experience, she has been a senior leader, School Improvement Partner and the Head of Teaching and Learning at schools in Devon. Leanne has also worked abroad, working for the prestigious Harrow group of schools. During this time, she led large schools, focusing on bringing about rapid improvement within the early years. Leanne also inspects early years settings in her Ofsted capacity and she provides support to schools and settings as an early years consultant.