

BIOGRAPHY

Lorraine Petersen is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of nasen. Prior to her appointment in September 2004, Lorraine held a number of teaching posts within mainstream schools in Sandwell, West Midlands. She completed her 25 year teaching career as head teacher of two very diverse primary schools.

Lorraine has many years' experience of working with pupils with an array of special and additional needs within mainstream settings. She also has hands-on experience of the issues relating to caring for and educating children with special and additional educational needs. Liaising with a range of organisations within a multi-agency context is also another area of Lorraine's expertise.

Formerly Lorraine was a voluntary officer of nasen. However in 2004 she was appointed as CEO. She therefore fully appreciates the time and commitment that volunteers within associations like nasen give to support all those working to provide integrated services for children and young people.

In the last five years Lorraine has worked on numerous projects with the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) and the Training and Development Agency (TDA). She has also been a chair, a keynote speaker and workshop facilitator at a number of national and international events and conferences as well as a consultant for a number of national organisations.

Lorraine has contributed to many articles on special educational needs for a number of publications and is currently using her expertise to write a book on Managing the P Scales for Mainstream Schools.

Lorraine is also a member of a number of advisory groups including UK T & I Sector Advisory Group for Education and Skills (SAGES).

In June 2009 Lorraine was awarded the OBE for services to education.