

ELSA TRAINING AND SUPERVISION

PURPOSE

- Developed and supported by EPs to apply psychological knowledge of CYP's social and emotional development to support areas of need.
- Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSAs) are trained to develop and deliver individual or small-group sessions for students with social and emotional difficulties.
- Emotional literacy support benefits all learners, supporting their development within the school community.
- Leicestershire Educational Psychology Service have been delivering ELSA training and supervision in Leicestershire since 2012.

STRATEGY

- EPs train and supervise Teaching Assistants across primary and secondary schools in the county, to gain the skills and knowledge to become Qualified ELSAs.
- EPs deliver 6 days of training, using their psychological knowledge and touching on aspects of Emotional Literacy.
- ELSAs are provided 2 sessions of group supervision with Educational Psychologists, once completing the 6 training sessions.
- Professional supervision is used to support ELSAs in ensuring practice remains updated and of high quality.

IMPACT

- ELSAs and staff have consistently praised the sessions.
- Independent evaluation reports have shown that Head Teachers, ELSAs and EPs note a positive impact on the emotional and mental health of pupils in their schools.
- Increased uptake from schools in signing up for training sessions.
- Extended service offer through providing supervision for Qualified ELSAs, in which 4 out of 6 supervision sessions offered are completed to maintain accreditation of the ELSA title and ensure best practice.
- ELSAs have found supervision to be beneficial in supporting their practice, wellbeing and professional development through collaborative work with ELSAs and EPs facilitated by EPs.

Registered with the ELSA Network to support the training and supervision for ELSAs across Leicestershire through publicising ELSA work in localities.