**Kat Booker and Sharon Gray OBE**



**Miss Kat Booker** SEN Inclusion Consultant

**Meet The Need Ltd**

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My background is in psychology which has supported my work with children exhibiting challenging behaviour throughout my career. I began as a TA in a weekday residential BESD school in Sussex. After qualifying as a teacher I went on to work in Southwark, London in a BESD primary school. Here I worked as part of a team that redeveloped a curriculum that embraced many of the principles and practices of nurture groups.

After a year living and working in Melbourne, Australia, in mainstream settings I returned to work in a range of schools from infant mainstream to secondary BESD before grasping the opportunity to develop a nurture group in a large primary school in a significantly deprived area of Nottingham. Within a year this provision had been described by OFSED as outstanding and its impact across the school was tangible. This spurred the development of a second key stage 1 unit which went on to offer enhanced provision placements to other schools in the locality. This inclusive intervention style played a significant part in shaping my thinking as the SENCO and as an Outreach Support Worker within the authority supporting other schools.

I have spoken at conferences across the country and have now returned to my home in Sussex where I am now director of the independent consultancy Meet the Need Ltd, which seeks to help others to identify and meet the needs of children with SEN, particularly those with SEMH.

Having participated in team visioning work with Inclusive Solutions for over 10 years and seen the impact this has had on inclusivity, I am now an associate co-facilitator and provide graphics to a range of intervention work sessions.



**Ms Sharon Gray** **OBE** Education Consultant

**Wholehearted Learning**

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**Overview:** 24 years’ experience working with children, workforce and systems levels.

**Personal Profile**

I am currently an Education Consultant at Wholehearted Learning and the UK Hub Director for an International Charity - ecl foundation. The ecl Foundation is an international charity, registered in the UK, whose work and purpose is **e**nhancing **c**hildren’s **l**ives. We help adults to create environments that enrich the emotional well-being, creativity and learning of children and young people. Our focus is to release a child’s innate desire to learn and for them to discover joy in their learning. We have national hubs in the UK, Namibia and South Africa and representatives in Holland, America and Asia. All delivering transformational new working practices to adults working with vulnerable children and their families, who face multiple challenges, including, mental health problems, inequality, poverty, violence and addiction.

I have been a Headteacher for 18 years, most recently, the former Headteacher at Netherfield Primary and Pre-School, a larger than average primary school of 488 children in an area of significant deprivation.

I joined Netherfield Primary School in September 2009.  At this time the school was in special measures.  In July 2013, the school was judged by Ofsted to be outstanding in all areas.

My previous experience includes 12 years leading special schools including residential units for children and young people experiencing severe social, emotional and behavioural difficulties (SEMH).

Under my leadership I have enabled and supported sustainable change.  The Cedars Primary School, Beormund and Harbour were all facing considerable difficulties when I joined them.  They have all been judged by Ofsted to be outstanding and continue to thrive.