

Mrs Taylor is WEJS ELSA.

ELSA stands for Emotional Literacy Support Assistant. ELSAs are school support staff (teaching assistants and/or learning mentors) who have undergone the 'ELSA' programme of training by Educational Psychologists to support the emotional development of children and young people in schools.

The ELSA programme has been widely adopted as an evidence-based early intervention for children and young people in over 100 local authorities in the UK. ELSAs attend training days and group supervision sessions led by the Educational Psychology Service. Mrs Taylor is trained to plan and deliver individualised programmes of support for children to develop their emotional literacy, including:

- Awareness of own and other people's emotions
- Management of stress, grief, anger and conflict
- Development of social interaction skills
- Promotion of a realistic self-concept and self-esteem

Mrs Taylor is also able to plan and deliver support to small groups of children to support the development of social and friendship skills. ELSA provision within schools can help lower exclusion rates, promote emotional well-being and improve academic outcomes.