

## Julie Branch

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Julie is the Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Manager and manages the SEN team of Higher Level/Teaching Assistants.

Julie is responsible for the planning and implementation of SEND provision across the school, and also for ensuring all statutory elements of SEND are delivered, both in school and to the Local Authority, in line with the SEND Code of Practice.

Julie ensures students with SEND have the appropriate intervention and support in place to help them to become successful learners and that staff are fully informed about their particular difficulties. Most importantly, she wants her students to be happy and to grow in confidence, self-belief and character. Julie works closely with parents/carers, as it is also imperative that their views are heard and needs are met, as in many cases their child's SEND will impact significantly upon family life. In addition, Julie works with a wide range of external professionals and agencies.

Julie has over 25 years experience at The Buckingham School and holds an Advanced Professional Practice in Education SEN (Masters level) qualification, and in her own words has attended "numerous courses, too many to mention here."

Julie is passionate about her students and believes that beneath some of the challenging exteriors, or apparent lack of interest in learning, there are some wonderfully talented, caring young people with such promise and potential. They just need a bit of help and guidance along the way, and it is our responsibility - not only to them, but to society too - to give them the best support and guidance we possibly can.

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## Abi Wallace

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Abi is the Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator and she is responsible for overseeing any case of reported bullying.

The school has a zero tolerance to bullying and clear procedures in place. To learn more, please read our Anti-Bullying leaflet and refer to our website.

Abi is also responsible for Student Voice, which is a particular strength of the school. Students of all ages take on roles of responsibility and leadership, and, at the same time, are given the opportunity to have their own voice heard within school.

Abi has previous experience working with young people as an NVQ assessor in the workplace environment as well as a background from the children's social care environment.

Abi has a real passion about our students, their welfare and their happiness.

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## Sally Barnes

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Sally is the Inclusion Manager, First Aid Co-ordinator and one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads within school.

She manages the day-to-day running of the Student Support Unit, supporting students to engage positively in school and their learning. Sally supports classes promoting positive behaviour and reinforcing school expectations throughout all year groups. Her work with students is of a preventative nature with an aim to help students to overcome barriers to learning and succeed in education.

Sally manages all first aid practices across the school as First Aid Co-ordinator and supports students with medical conditions and needs. She is also a teacher of ASDAN.

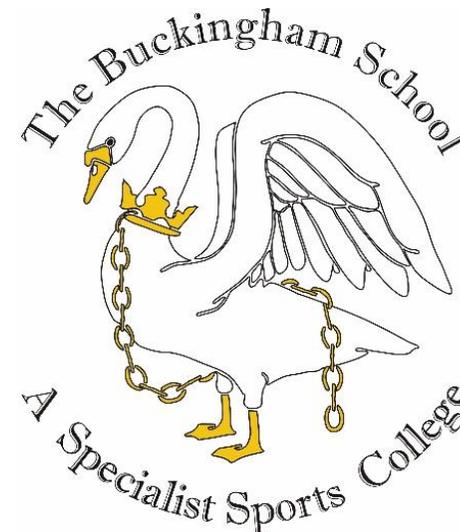
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Success for All through Achievement,  
Challenge & Enjoyment

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## Student First Team

**Working together  
putting students first**

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[www.buckinghamschool.org](http://www.buckinghamschool.org)

## Student First Team

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We aim to provide an all embracing service for our students, working together to develop and maintain their social, emotional, mental health and wellbeing.

The team consists of five members of staff, all of whom have a wealth of experience in their own areas of expertise. The aim is to always put students first and offer them support and guidance, as well as providing necessary support for parents and carers. We also refer to and work with organisations who provide additional support for young people and their families when necessary.

We liaise with staff, parents and outside agencies to provide the best outcomes for our young people and support them with any barriers they may face in their learning and personal achievement.

The team work closely with Form Tutors, Heads of Year and their respective teams to maximise the learning potential for our students. By having this close working relationship, we are able to help identify and support students who may be experiencing difficulties which could be a barrier to their learning and social wellbeing.

The Buckingham School is totally committed to inclusion and values diversity. We understand difficulties, recognise and respect individual differences so all students feel valued. We provide targeted support through Student First and the SEND team for students identified as having a special educational need (a child who has a difficulty or disability which makes learning harder for them than for other children their age).

## Jo Goodger

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Jo is Director of Welfare and Attendance and one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads within school.

Jo works with students and families who are supported by agencies, liaising with agencies both inside and outside of school.

Jo acts as a source of information and expertise regarding child protection and safeguarding matters. She also works with children who are in local authority care.

When students attend school on a regular basis, they achieve better academic results, their confidence grows and self-esteem increases. Jo supports individual students to ensure they attend school, helping with strategies to overcome any barriers, including meeting with parents through home visits as well as school meetings.

The school has a strong working relationship with the local Schools' Police Officer and Jo works closely with their team, addressing individual issues that arise, or sharing information that may be of particular interest to the whole school community.

Prior to working at The Buckingham School, Jo worked at the Secure Training Centre at Her Majesty's Young Offenders Unit. She has extensive experience working with young people who were remanded or sentenced to periods of detention.

Jo is also Assistant Head of Year 7.

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## Paula Matthews

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Paula is Therapeutic Mentor and one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads within school.

Paula supports, guides and gives advice to individual students to help them better manage their emotional health, mental health and wellbeing.

She recommends strategies for students to overcome any barriers to learning and wellbeing in their school life and personal life.

She works closely with students and staff taking a holistic approach to gain positive outcomes. Paula uses therapeutic interventions, including the use of Solution Focused Brief Therapy with students and focuses work around stress, anxiety, self esteem and confidence building.

The support she offers is bespoke to each individual student helping promote positive attitudes, values and behaviours. Her approach to wellbeing is of a preventative nature.

Paula also liaises with families, carers and outside agencies, where necessary.

Paula's experience is from the social care background including an extensive skill-set in key areas within social services.

Paula is a qualified Therapeutic Counsellor with an accredited Diploma in Counselling.

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