

Our Team – School Leaders

Lisa Whittaker - Accounting Officer and CEO

Lisa is the Executive Headteacher/CEO of Base Academy Trust. She established the Trust in 2016. With over 30 years' experience in the Education Sector, including over 19 years' experience as both a Headteacher and Executive Headteacher in 3 schools, Lisa has a passion for school improvement and securing educational excellence for all pupils. She has a strong track record of delivering rapid school improvement, successfully supporting underperforming schools to strengthen leadership, improve the quality of teaching and learning, and secure better outcomes for pupils.



Lisa takes a particular interest in the use of pupil premium and research to ensure that the most disadvantaged, vulnerable pupils and SEND pupils excel. Her skills include strategic planning, school improvement, performance management and leadership. Lisa achieved her NPQEL in January 2020. She is a strategic partner on the Forwards as One steering group and is a visiting fellow with Ambition institute and leads the NPQSL. Lisa trained as an Ofsted inspector in Jan 2023 and is contracted to work as a team inspector.

Rhian Driver- Headteacher, Red Lane Primary School

Rhian has been the Headteacher of Red Lane since the formation of the Trust in 2016. As an experienced Senior Leader with over 15 years' experience, she has an unshakeable belief and determination in the right of all children to access a high-quality education. Rhian is committed to school improvement and securing the best possible outcomes for all pupils.

Alongside school leadership, Rhian contributes widely to system improvement. She has a track record of supporting senior leaders through school-to-school support, delivering NPQSL and as a Headteacher mentor. Rhian holds NPQH and Chartered Manager Status. She is currently studying an MBA in Strategic Leadership.

Rhian is passionate about inclusion and has completed the National Professional Qualification for Headship, the National Award for Special Needs Coordination and also holds a Post-Graduate certificate in Specific Learning Difficulties (Dyslexia). Most recently she has trained as a Positive Regard Specialist.



Andrew Done - Headteacher, Masefield Primary School

Andy has over 15 years' teaching experience across three primary schools. He has held a range of senior leadership roles within the Trust and has been Headteacher since May 2021. Andy holds a Master's degree in Education and is a highly skilled classroom practitioner. He has observed and supported teaching and learning in a range of local & international contexts, shaping a broad perspective on effective pedagogy and school improvement.

He is passionate about creating consistent, high-impact teaching in every classroom, underpinned by strong curriculum design, clear routines, and the purposeful use of technology to support learning and inclusion. Andy is a Leadership Ambassador for Learning by Questions, leads the National Professional Qualification for Leading Teaching on behalf of Ambition Institute, and is a founding member of the National PedTech Partnership.

Andy has completed the National Professional Qualification for Headship and in 2025, he was awarded Headteacher of the Year at the local awards.

