

*Together we inspire a lifelong love of learning, which enables children to achieve more than they ever believed possible.*



## Introduction to the Kite Family Hub



In January 2020 we opened the Kite Family Hub. The Kite Family Hub (KFH) is led by our Lead Inclusion Advisor, Suzie Andrews, and Family Support Workers. We believe that parenting is the most important task that most of us will ever do, but it can also be the most challenging. With this in mind, the Kite Family Hub aims to provide Kite families with support, advice and guidance in a friendly and non-judgmental manner, as they care for their children.

The Kite Family Hub is located next to Mytchett Primary & Nursery Academy,  
Hamesmoor Road, Mytchett, Surrey, GU16 6JB.

<https://www.thekiteacademytrust.org/our-services/the-kite-family-hub-kfh/>

[fsw@kite.academy](mailto:fsw@kite.academy)

As of January 2020, we have three Family Support Workers within the Kite Academy - Ruth Masih, Karen Tyler and Sarah Charlton. In September 2020 we will be joined by an Inclusion Welfare Officer, Kate Beer, who will initially be based at Fernhill.

We support families through:

- Universal access to support (available to all Kite families without referral).
- Reinforcing the link between home and school by supporting parents/carers at attending school meetings when required.
- Offering group and individual support in meeting the needs of children's challenging behaviour.
- Support for families through difficult situations and troubling times (e.g. illness, addiction, domestic abuse, financial concerns, etc.).
- Helping families through periods of transition (e.g. to school, parental separation, moving house, bereavement, new siblings, etc.).
- Guiding families towards additional sources of support and making referrals to outside agencies.

A good partnership between home and school means that support is available to help every child thrive and achieve their very best.

Family support is available to you in the following ways:

- 1:1 in the home - your family will have a unique support plan tailored to your needs (academy referral required).
- 1:1 'Come and Ask' sessions - one-hour appointments are booked in advance and held across the Kite academies in the Kite Family Hub (no referral required).
- The Incredible Years and Nurturing Programme courses - both are 10-week evidence based programmes, looking at positive parenting solutions (no referral required).
- Parent/carer workshop sessions - held across the Kite academies (no referral required but places do need to be booked in advance). During the summer 2020 term these sessions have run virtually in the form of webinars.
- Drop-in sessions such as our Stay and Learn session and coffee mornings (both centrally in the Kite Family Hub and at individual academies).

At the start of each term we publish an updated timetable. These will be shared with you via your child's academy office. They can also be located via the Kite Academy Trust website - <https://www.thekiteacademytrust.org/our-services/the-kite-family-hub-kfh/>.

If you feel you would benefit from support via the Kite Family Hub on an individual basis, please either discuss this with staff at your child's academy, attend a Come and Ask session, visit us during one of our drop-in sessions or send us an email.

# Meet the Team



## **Kate Beer - Inclusion Welfare Officer (IWO)**

I am very excited to be joining the Kite Family Hub in September and taking on a brand new role that has been created within the academy. I joined the Trust in 2015, working in the office at Holly Lodge Academy. This was a big career change from my previous role and I was new to the education sector. I have found that my passion is ensuring that children attend school regularly and on time, and that they all have access to education.

Promoting good attendance ensures effective learning and I love working with families who may need a little help and input. I will initially be based at Fernhill Academy as their lead DSL and Inclusion Welfare Officer, but am excited for this role to grow to enable me to help families throughout the Kite. I am a mum to two secondary school age children, and in my spare time enjoy walking and holidays!



## **Sarah Charlton - Family Support Worker (FSW)**

Let me introduce myself. I am Sarah Charlton, a Kite Family Support Worker based at Hale Academy. I had the pleasure of joining Hale in September 2017 as part of their Inclusion Team. In January 2020 I moved over into the Family Support Worker role. As well as being a Family Support Worker, I am also an ELSA and deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. My

background includes a period of time as a children's refuge worker and nearly 9 years working with children and families as a family worker. I enjoy working with families and supporting them to problem-solve around the challenge that they have come to me with. I believe in the importance of building a trusting working relationship with the families I support. I am a mummy of two children and I enjoy unwinding and spending time with friends and family.



### **Ruth Masih - Family Support Worker (FSW)**

I have been a Family Support Worker with the Kite Academy for over 3 years, during this time I have watched the Trust grow from 5 to 9 academies. Within my role, I have met some amazing people, building positive relationships with families and staff across each of the academies and have strengthened my links with key partners to help families and meet their needs. One of the areas in my role I find exceptionally rewarding is connecting with parents, seeing their confidence grow during the delivery of evidence-based parenting courses (such as The Incredible Years and The Nurturing Programme). This provides the opportunity to introduce new ideas and techniques to support them on their parenting journey. Prior to this role, I have worked in Early Years, schools, Children's Centres and been a childminder. In my personal life, I am mum to two daughters and have lived locally for the past 20 years. Prior to this, I was lucky enough to experience living overseas as my husband was in the Royal Air Force and we had numerous postings abroad (of which Cyprus was my favourite). In my spare time, I like reading and spending time cooking for my family.



### **Karen Tyler - Family Support Worker (FSW)**

I have worked for the Kite Academy Trust since it was established in October 2015. Prior to that, I had been working as a Special Needs Learning Assistant for six years in one of the Trust's founding academies. I began working in Early Years and started to specialise in supporting children with Special Educational Needs early on in my career. I am passionate about inclusion for all - supporting and educating adults, children and professionals to understand how we can support everyone to be successful and achieve their potential. I have built on my passion and I now have a dual role across the Kite Academy Trust as an Inclusion Support Advisor and Family Support Worker. I am a mum of two boys and spend lots of my free time supporting them in their chosen activities. I also love to read and enjoy spending time with my husband and our friends.