



Emma's educational philosophy - maybe not what you expected!

My educational philosophy falls into three main categories, active engagement, making it relevant and social responsibility.

Fundamental to achieving this is:

1. Supporting and developing others. I have always been dedicated to supporting teachers and the team, if they feel empowered, rested and looked after, they will be able to offer that to the children and young people they work with. The coaching courses I have completed over the years, have helped to develop my skills in this area but also acted as the catalyst to create a whole school coaching approach.
2. Designing and delivering innovative curricula by inviting all voices. Inviting young people to share their views and ideas about things that matter to them will help sculpt a purposeful curriculum that is relevant and current to their context. One way we achieved this, when setting up The New School was using Sociocracy for all, [Many voices one song](#).
3. The adoption of digital participation tools. Mind Of My Own makes co-produced, fully accessible apps for children and young people, which empowers them to have a voice that is listened to and invites them to play an active role in decision making. As a former Co-Headteacher, I love how the apps provide crucial analytics and data to share both internally and externally. The information that can be extracted from the apps will inform school development plans and can provide insightful safeguarding concerns, allowing schools to act quickly.

Wellbeing, safeguarding, mental health, reducing teacher workload (something I am very passionate about, I worked on the [reducing teacher workload toolkit with the DfE](#)) are just some of the daily topics of discussions in schools and across all our services who support children and young people. Mind Of My Own is a platform that offers that and more, it is not only a tool for young people but one that will help staff to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the young people they are working with, help them tailor and flex learning opportunities to adapt to the daily needs of the children, which let's face it, change daily. Gathering vital intelligence from young people will provide the necessary details so we can adapt, accommodate and support the young people as they navigate the world around them. I truly believe if we give young people the tools to express themselves in a non-confrontational way, a way that doesn't require lots of verbal communication (which we know can be really hard for some children and young people) and invite them to share what is truly going on for them, we can together step onto the path of beginning to unlock their needs so they can thrive.