

# Specialist Practitioners of Education (SPE)



## What is a Specialist Practitioner of Education?

Specialist Practitioners of Education are outstanding practitioners currently working in a teaching role within ELTSA. SPEs will have knowledge, skills and experience in a particular field of education, this might be a subject specialism or a key stage. They draw on their expertise to provide outreach advice and support to individuals or delivering continuing professional development to whole groups of professionals working in education. Most SPEs are qualified teachers although outstanding Higher Level Teaching Assistants can also apply for SPE status.

SPEs play an important part in the East Lancashire Teaching School Alliance. Whilst the role of SPE is not a nationally recognised system leader role it is essential to the effectiveness of ELTSA in offering a comprehensive school improvement service. Unlike the SLE role there is no requirement to have proven leadership skills. However, a high standard of personal presentation, effective communication and interpersonal skills are all essential.

SPEs may be deployed by a system leader, a National Leader of Education (NLE), or a Specialist Leader of Education as part of a School to School Support package providing specific input or intervention designed to raise pupil progress and/ or attainment in a specific subject or aspect of the school.

Becoming an SPE provides effective practitioners with an exciting professional development opportunity and can be a stepping stone to becoming an SLE.

If you are an outstanding classroom teacher/practitioner who is interested in becoming a Specialist Practitioner in Education please see the further information and application form.

All applicants must meet the essential criteria to have their application considered and each application must be supported by the Headteacher of the school at which they are employed.

## Application

Aspirant SLEs complete the application form (available to download from [www.eastlancstsa.co.uk](http://www.eastlancstsa.co.uk)) Application forms will be reviewed by Steven Campbell NLE and Louise Stubbs, Director of Teaching School. Successful applicants are invited to attend an interview process.