

## Staff Profile

**Lucy Barker**



Lucy is a senior lecturer in education at Northumbria University, in Newcastle, situated in the North of England. She teaches across the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Education in her areas of specialism which are Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Art and Design.

Before joining Northumbria University, she taught children in primary schools ranging in age from 4 years old to 11 years old. She is passionate about inclusive education and was Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) in a variety primary schools, including one with specialist provision for children with severe behaviour issues. This meant having effective collaboration with parents, educational psychologists, speech and language therapists and other professionals to plan the most effective support for the children with SEN. She completed an MA in education degree in 2013. Her dissertation was an action research project looking at the role and effectiveness of teaching assistants in the school she worked in. Current area of research at PhD level is about the student teachers' experience of managing other adults, for example teaching assistants, in the primary classroom.

After recently visiting China to teach a Continuous Professional Development (CPD) programme with Chinese primary and secondary teachers her other area of research is therefore about transformative CPD in an international context.

She has been involved in international projects throughout her career. She taught for one year in a kindergarten class in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA as part of a Fulbright teaching exchange.