



**Dr Helen Bibby- Inspirational Approaches** - Helen Bibby has worked in education on the Wirral peninsula for 26 years. Having taught in Early Years, Key Stage 1 and 2, she developed a Nurture Group and worked with children affected by a range of social and emotional difficulties. She has worked in many advisory and training roles in education focusing on the Early Years and SEND/Inclusion and has spoken at many conferences and training events in the North West. Helen considers it a privilege to work with children, parents and practitioners and continues to teach and model practice when supporting young children with special educational needs.

In 2011 Helen completed her Doctorate in education and children development. Her follow up research has focused very much on supporting young children with global developmental, autism, language delay and attachment difficulties through multi -sensory and therapeutic play activities to enable infants to revisit Early Years experiences. This work is summarised in her publication 'Bridging the Gap and Making Connections', Many practitioners describe her courses as being outstanding which inspire them to try out new ideas or re-evaluate their own practice.-

**Anne O'Connor - Primed for Life** - Anne O'Connor is an independent consultant for Early Years. She is an experienced trainer, key note speaker and author on areas such as: attachment, physical development, wellbeing & transitions.

In partnership with Anna Daly she is also the co-founder of Primed for Life which advocates for a wider understanding of the body as a child's first place of learning.



## Funky Feet

Funky Feet is an exciting, newly launched programme of physical, fun activity, based in Stockton and delivering across the North East and North Yorkshire.

They developed the programme because they are passionate about the importance of physical activity and the importance of young children developing fundamental skills. Many programmes aimed at pre-school children place too great an emphasis on skill acquisition and not enough on fun. However they do things a little differently. They know that to effectively engage children in a learning programme it has to be fun and packed with encouragement, and their Funky Feet programme ticks all the boxes.

## Greater Manchester Sports Partnership- Physical Activity Early Years

Training At GM Sports Under 5's, it is the company's ambition that young children aged 0-5 have the best active start in life with physical literacy prioritised as a central feature. Their company work primarily with Early Years and healthcare professionals to upskill those who work with children and young families around the importance of physical development and how to get children moving more.

They find the best ways to work, support and promote physical activity for the under 5's, to role model an active lifestyle, and to encourage young children and their families to move towards a more active life.

