

Meet our BDC community champions

Zoe Tierney



I'm Zoe Tierney, a Learning Technologist at Burton and South Derbyshire College in the Quality and Education team. I work with staff and learners across the college to build digital capability in a really practical way, helping teams use the Jisc Discovery Tool results to spot priorities, make small changes that stick, and share what's working. My role focuses on supporting tutors and curriculum teams to embed effective digital practice into planning and teaching, including the use of the Jisc Discovery Tool and digital capability question sets with both staff and learners.

I'm looking forward to connecting with others in the community, learning what's working in different settings, and sharing prompts, templates and quick wins to keep the conversation moving.

Sarah Williams



Sarah has worked in skills, education and training for many years. Her combined passion for teaching, learning and technology has shaped a diverse career spanning staff development, teacher training, and leading the effective use of digital tools in teaching and learning. She also spent four years as a national and international IT trainer before returning to further education in 2001.

Most recently, Sarah was seconded to the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership as Regional Coordinator for one of the eight Local Digital Skills

Partnerships in England. In this role, she collaborated closely with local businesses, schools, colleges, local authorities and the Department for Work and Pensions to strengthen regional digital capability.

At the College, Sarah leads on the College's Digital Strategy, including the embedding of new technologies, digital skills and learning technologies across teaching, learning and organisational practice.

Elpinki Smith



Elpinkie Smith is the Senior Learning Technologist at University Academy 92 with nearly two decades of experience working across a range of higher education institutions. Her work focuses on embedding digital skills within curriculum design and supporting staff development through thoughtful adoption, inclusive design and effective implementation of learning technologies.

A Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, Elpinkie has a strong track record of leading innovative digital education projects and is passionate about collaboration, sharing practice and contributing to the wider learning technology community.