

# Meet our team

**Gemma Mackridge – Playgroup manager, SENCO and part owner**



Hi, my name is Gemma. I have been the playgroup manager here for three years and before that I have many years of experience in early years and have a BTEC national diploma in childhood studies. I also run the Toddler group at the church hall on a Monday afternoon. I live locally with my husband and three young children.

I am the designated SENCO and I am paediatric first aid trained.

**Sarah Birchall – Playgroup Deputy**



Hi, my name is Sarah. I have been the deputy here at the playgroup for three years. Before that my most recent experience was working as a breakfast club assistant and lunchtime organiser at a primary school where I was responsible for giving care to children from ages 3-11. I am paediatric first aid trained, and I hold a BTEC national qualification in Early years. I volunteer at the angle project in Middleton.

I am the mum of two young children and enjoy spending time with them.

**Rebecca Potts – Playgroup worker and part owner**



Hi, my name is Rebecca. I have been a keyworker here at the playgroup for three years, and I have absolutely enjoyed every second of it. Before working at the playgroup, I was working within a local primary school as a teaching assistant, working across a varied range of age groups and abilities. I have also been teaching forest school once a week, this is something that I have real enthusiasm for and look forward to bringing this to life at St Thomas more playgroup. I am also a brownie leader at this parish.

I live locally with my husband, two young children and puppy.

**Gaye Philbin – Playgroup worker safeguarding officer and fire marshal**



Hi, my name is Gaye. I have worked here at the playgroup for three years but have worked in early years for over fourteen years and have a level 3 certificate in early years education. I love working with children and discovering their unique talents whilst watching them meet their individual goals through play and learning experiences.

I am the playgroup safeguarding officer and fire marshal.

I live locally and have three grown up children and a grandchild.