



**CLIFTON HALL**  
SCHOOL · EDINBURGH

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## **Mrs Julie Cockburn MA, PGDE, FOLA**

Head of Nursery | Clifton Hall School, Edinburgh

Mrs Julie Cockburn joined Clifton Hall School in 2009 as a Primary Teacher and has since played a significant leadership role within the school community. Over the years, she has taken on a variety of responsibilities, including serving as House Leader, before moving into Early Years education and ultimately becoming Head of Nursery and Nursery Teacher. She also fulfils the important role of Child Protection Coordinator within the Nursery.

Julie's passion for Early Years education is rooted in her belief that young children learn best through play, exploration and meaningful real-life experiences. Her love of the outdoors and her commitment to child-led, enquiry-based learning inspired her to take on the leadership of the Nursery. Under her guidance, the Nursery has developed a rich play-based curriculum with strong outdoor and woodland learning opportunities, fostering curiosity, creativity, resilience and independence in every child.

Her expertise in outdoor learning and early years pedagogy is recognised nationwide. Julie is Group Chair of Outdoor & Woodland Learning Scotland (OWL Scotland), where she offers training, guidance and support to educational specialists embarking on or developing outdoor education programmes. Through this work, she contributes to the wider professional community, helping to shape best practice in outdoor and woodland learning across Scotland.

With her extensive experience, strong academic background, and unwavering commitment to holistic child development, Julie leads the Nursery team with warmth, vision and professionalism. She is dedicated to creating a safe, inspiring and nurturing environment where every child feels valued and develops a lifelong love of learning.