

Book Emma Barker

Emma Barker is a Derby-based PhD researcher at the University of Derby, Miss Pageant Queen UK 2026 National Finalist, representing Derbyshire, an autism and SEND advocate, public speaker and official Ambassador for Treetops Hospice.

Emma speaks from lived experience as an autistic woman, and from her work as a PhD researcher at the University of Derby. As a Miss Pageant Queen UK 2026 National Finalist, representing Derbyshire, and an official Ambassador for Treetops Hospice, she brings warmth, honesty and one clear message to every room: making the invisible, visible.



Talks & topics

01

Making the invisible, visible

The heart of Emma's message: why being seen matters, and how each of us can use whatever platform we have to make space for someone else.

02

Autism acceptance and belonging

From awareness to acceptance: Emma draws on her own experience as an autistic woman to explore what it really takes for autistic people to feel they belong.

03

Pageantry with purpose

What the pageant stage has taught Emma about confidence and community, and how a title and a spotlight can carry a serious message.

04

Supporting SEND families

Reflections on special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), the families who navigate them, and how schools, services and communities can make that road less lonely.

05

Mental health and finding your voice

Drawn from Emma's motivational speech for Rethink Mental Illness: looking after your mental health, speaking up, and finding the courage to be heard.

06

Visibility and confidence for young people

An encouraging talk for schools, colleges and youth groups about confidence, difference, and knowing that you belong in the room.

Formats

KEYNOTE TALKS

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

JUDGING

HOSTING

SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY TALKS

AWARDS AND CHARITY EVENTS

Audiences

- ♦ Schools and colleges
- ♦ Universities
- ♦ Charities
- ♦ Businesses and corporate events
- ♦ Community groups
- ♦ Pageant organisations