

The Bridge Newsletter

Autumn 2020

The Bridge is an area of the school that is available to support students with additional needs. We have a number of staff who have significant expertise in a variety of areas of need and support strategies. The Bridge has a number of provisions including Thrive to support student's Mental Health and Connect for students with additional needs who are at risk of exclusion. Staff within The Bridge work with a number of external agencies to ensure students are fully supported. The Bridge staff work hard to ensure that students are supported and parents are kept well informed. We are very proud of our student leadership within The Bridge called the Bridge Leadership Team (BLT).

Meet The Team



Hello, I am Miss Pritchard and I first came to Holy Family 15 years ago as a Chemistry Teacher. I became the Senco at the school and completed some additional study to gain a Masters Degree in Education and Special Educational Needs. Through this role I have developed our wonderful provision in The Bridge. I really enjoy working within The Bridge and have a fantastic team who work really hard to support students and their families. I have a special interest in Chemistry and my hobbies include travel, scuba diving and running.



Hello I'm Mrs Butterfield, I have been at Holy Family for 15 years. I started as a TA supporting students in modern foreign language lessons. Over time I gained Higher Level Teaching Assistant status with specialism in Special Educational Needs. I then became Assistant SENCO & Mental Health Champion. I have completed training in Mental Health, Attachment and Trauma Informed Practice, Specific Literacy Interventions, De-Escalation, Graduated Approach, ASD and Management of Support Staff. I was shortlisted for outstanding HLTA of the Year award for 3 consecutive years. I love to go walking in the countryside and enjoy going on holiday visiting different places and countries.



Hello I am Mr Metcalfe and I have been at Holy Family for 26 years. I used to teach History, PE, IT and RE. I now support students in Connect. I used to play a lot of sports but now enjoy playing pool or snooker, gardening and cycling. I also enjoy teaching students how to play chess.



Hello I am Mrs Klava and I have worked at Holy Family for ten years. I am a HLTA working in The Bridge for all the Physical and Sensory students, ensuring their time at school is an enjoyable one. I also teach students a range of activities including Motor Skills and Life Skills. Some of you may recognise me from the summer when I visited students home during COVID. I organise transition for students coming into Year 7. I teach RE and also work with the Careers department setting up Work Experience. I organise school trips for our Bridge students and I can drive the Minibus! My hobbies are cooking, baking and sewing. I enjoy lots of different crafts and making things. I like to make quirky animals out of food!



Hello I am Miss Kerr and I have worked at Holy Family for over 7 years. I help support students in lessons and my favourite subject is Science.



Hello I'm Mrs Kelly and I have worked in Holy Family for nearly 20 years. I am a HLTA and I also support students in the classroom. My favourite subjects are English and History. I live at home with my husband, 2 cats and a dog. In my spare time I enjoy sewing.



Hello my name is Mrs Puntillo. In 2013 I moved to the UK from Italy, a few months later I started working at Holy Family in The Bridge as a volunteer and then I was employed as a TA a year later.

I have been working at Holy Family for 7 and a half years, supporting New to English students and coordinated EAL, this involved, supporting students in class, offering induction and small group intervention for students to improve their English. Engaging with Eastern European parents and community and working closely with The Good Shepherd Centre, organising coffee mornings.

From this year I am also HLTA and team leader for Cognition and Learning, supporting students with moderate and specific learning difficulties.

I really enjoy working with students at Holy Family School.



Hello my name is Miss Coppen and I am one of the Mental Health Champions in school. I work alongside Miss Turner-Desai in Thrive. I support students in small groups and also individually helping them to cope with everyday life in school.

In my spare time I enjoy shopping, going for long walks and meeting friends. I recently got a kitten called Woody.



Hello, I'm Mr Bullock and I am in my 3rd year at Holy Family. I work with key students as a Teaching Assistant. In my spare time I enjoy playing golf and going for long walks. I also like to read; my last book was The Whereabouts of Eneas McNulty by Sebastian Barry which was recommended by my old English teacher.



Hello, I'm Miss Jalil and I am a Keyworker and a Teaching Assistant. I support students in the classroom and also in Connect. I have been working at Holy Family for 3 years and really enjoy my job. When I am not working I enjoy spending time with my family.



Hello, I'm Miss Wilkinson and I am a Nurture Practitioner and also teach Child Development. I work with my colleagues in Connect supporting students. In my spare time I like to go on long walks with my dog. I also enjoy fishing, going to live concerts and dancing.



Hello, I'm Miss Khan and I have worked as a TA and Keyworker for 3 years. I support students in lesson and during their break times.
My favourite subject is English.
I like going to the gym to keep fit and healthy.
I also like to shop and keep up with the latest fashions and enjoy doing my make-up.



Hello, I am Miss Sajid and I have been working at Holy Family School for nearly 2 years. I support students in lessons with their learning. My favourite subject is Mathematics. I enjoy baking cakes, cupcakes and all sorts of sugary treats in my free time and on weekends.



Hello, I am Ms Turner-Desai and I began working at Holy Family School in September 2019. Prior to that I had delivered a number of personal development programmes through the youth service at the school.

I work in Thrive as a Mental Health Champion alongside Miss Coppen. Thrive is a supportive space where young people can attend for one to one work or group work. Thrive also delivers a number of programmes relating to improving confidence and self-esteem. We also run issue based programmes including managing low mood, anxiety, sleep problems etc. We produce positive emotional health booklets and also deliver emotional health school assemblies.



Hello, my name is Miss Middleton and I am a Keyworker and Teaching Assistant. I support students in lessons and my favourite subject is History. In my spare time I enjoy listening to music.



Hello, I'm Mrs McDonnell and I have been a TA at Holy Family for 8 years. My favourite subject is Science. I have completed courses including FASD and attachment disorder.



Hello, I'm Mr Farrell and I have been a Teaching Assistant at Holy Family for just over a year.

I collect various art works from small, independent creators and enjoy listening to podcasts and audio books.



Hello, my name is Mrs Fletcher and I am the SEND Administrator. I have worked at Holy Family for 8 years and I love my job.

I arrange meetings between professionals, parents and school. I also take minutes for those meetings.

I organise the Christmas and End of Year parties and arrange Pizza's for our Bridge Leadership Team!

I have a little dog called Jess who loves going for walks and playing with her tennis balls, one of her favourite pass times is chasing bubbles from her bubble machine.

I also like making Rolo Cheesecake!

Dates for your diary:

Friday 18 December School closes at 12pm.

Monday 4 January School re-opens.

Students Assemblies

Monday Year 11

Tuesday Year 10

Wednesday Year 9

Thursday Year 8

Friday Year 7

Safeguarding Students

Parents/carers must contact school on the 1st day of their child's absence by either telephoning 01535 210212 or by text to My Ed. We have a statutory duty of care to check that pupils are safe. It is the law for all pupils to attend school every day and arrive on time, this is an essential life skill needed for the world of work.

Contact Information

It is really important that we have the correct address, telephone numbers and an up to date email address. Please call Mrs Fletcher on 01535 210212 ext 222 to update any records.

Christmas

We are very sad that we are unable to hold a Christmas Party for our students. However, they will all receive an achievement certificate and will receive a party bag from The Bridge Team.

We would also like to wish all students and their families a very Happy Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year, please stay safe.

