Scarborough School

Michelle Blackburn
Headteacher & DSL

Michelle Monteith
Deputy Headteacher / SENCO / DDSL

Sophie Martin
Assistant Headteacher & Exams Officer

Matthew Castleton
Teacher

Jennifer Walker
Teacher

Jade Backhouse
Teacher

Kelly Murphy
Pastoral Lead

Hayley Miller
Advanced Learning Support Assistant

Amy Smith
Learning Support Assistant

Jamie Younger
Learning Support Assistant

Jo Suarez
Learning Support Assistant

Ashleigh Day
Learning Support Assistant

Dermott Larkin
Learning Support Assistant

Vanessa Moore
Administrator & DDSL

Alan Kitchen
Domestic Assistant



Michelle Blackburn – Headteacher & Designated Safeguarding Lead. Michelle was promoted to Headteacher in September 2023 after working with the company for many years. Michelle taught a variety of subjects, specialising in Mathematics to GCSE level and currently runs our Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme at Bronze level. Michelle is one of our appointed Designated Safeguarding Leads. Qualifications include: BSc (Hons) Maths with QTS, Forest School Leader and Duke of Edinburgh Assessor.

Michelle Monteith – Deputy Headteacher, SENCO, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. Michelle studied at Lincoln University to complete her BSC (Hons) in Forensic Science and Psychology. After gaining experience working in schools as an Advanced Teaching Assistant she returned to University to complete a PGCE in Secondary Science. Michelle has been with the school for many years and has taught a variety of subjects, but specialises in Science. Michelle is our appointed SENCO and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead for Scarborough School. Qualifications include: BSc (Hons) Forensic Science and Psychology, PGCE Secondary Science.

Sophie Martin – Assistant Headteacher, Exams Officer and SLT. Sophie joined us in January 2020 and primarily teaches English. Sophie came to us from another local school where she was teaching pupils with special educational needs and disabilities as well as pupils with English as an additional language. Sophie initially trained at the Royal Military School of Music in Twickenham and spent 12 years as a musician and regular soldier in the army. Sophie left the forces in 2014 to pursue a career in education and after working as an Advanced Teaching Assistant, she went on to complete teacher training with Brighton University gaining her BA (Hons) in Secondary Education (English). Sophie is now part of our Senior Leadership Team along with the Headteacher and Deputy and recently took on additional responsibility as our designated Exams Officer.

Jennifer Walker – Teacher. Jenni joined us in October 2023 and primarily teaches Maths and English, Jenni has a wealth of knowledge and experience and very much enjoys working within a SEN setting. Amongst many other qualifications and attended training courses, Jenni has a PGCE in Primary Education, a first-class BA (Hons) Degree in Early Childhood Education & Care, a Foundation Degree in Learning Support and Certificate of Higher Education in Humanities.

Matthew Castleton – Teacher. Matt joined the team in February 2024 and primarily teaches our Vocational classes along with a variety of other subjects including History, French and Beach School. Matt completed his training in the East Riding and worked as a vocational teacher on supply at schools in our local area and at Bridlington School. Matt loves working in design and technology and is enjoying sharing his skills and experience with our pupils. Qualifications include; degree and PGCE in French.

Jade Backhouse – Teacher. In September 2024 Jade joined the school as our new Art teacher. Jade is a passionate, creative and outgoing individual who relishes in her role of making a positive impact in young people's lives through her Design and Technology lessons. Jade enjoys building positive relationships with pupils to enable her to learn about their strengths and difficulties and adapt her lessons to suit their needs. Jade has a PGCE in secondary Design and Technology and has previously taught at a local mainstream school.

Kelly Murphy – Pastoral Lead. Kelly has worked for the Scarborough School for many years, firstly as a Learning Support Assistant, then an Instructor. Kelly is passionate about mental health and wellbeing and was most recently promoted to Pastoral Lead to enable her to specialise in this field. Kelly previously worked in early years at a local primary school before joining our team and her qualifications include: NVQ STALIS - Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools, Intermediate Health and Social Care, Advanced Health and Social Care, Nursery Nursing.

Hayley Miller – Advanced Learning Support Assistant. Hayley has worked here for many years and is our Advanced Learning Support Assistant, Hayley supervises our growing team of Learning Support Assistants and

specialises in behaviour management. Hayley teaches Home Cooking and is also our Drawing and Talking practitioner. Prior to joining us, Hayley worked for many years as a Team Leader in a care home setting and is also a qualified hairdresser.

Jo Suarez – Learning Support Assistant. Jo originally joined the team as a Learning Support Assistant through a local employment agency before being given a permanent role with us. Jo is a qualified teacher and has worked for many years in primary and secondary schools specialising in educational settings with children with special educational needs including autism.

Ashleigh Day – Learning Support Assistant. Ashleigh joined the team in 2025 and is passionate about helping children learn and develop, her goal is to help others see that having special educational needs is not a barrier to anything and that everyone deserves an opportunity to succeed in life. Ashleigh previously had roles in the care sector and at a nursery school, more recently Ashleigh has worked as a Learning Support Assistant in some of the local schools in our area on a temporary basis before joining us here.

Amy Smith – Learning Support Assistant. Amy has worked here since the beginning of 2024 as a Learning Support Assistant. Amy previously worked with children for many years at another local primary school and is using her extensive knowledge and skills to help pupils here thrive and achieve their personal best.

Jamie Younger – Learning Support Assistant. Jamie joined us in June 2025 after previously working in a care setting for a number of years helping young adults with mental health difficulties. Jamie is dedicated to providing 1:1 support to any pupil who needs additional help at school with their learning and any social, emotional and mental health difficulties. Jamie has experience with autism, challenging behaviour, epilepsy and schizophrenia. Jamie has a teaching assistant qualification and his knowledge and experience enables him to help and guide others to a brighter future.

Dermott Larkin – Learning Support Assistant. Dermott recently joined our team after gaining experience working in another local special educational needs school, he has a vast background in mental health needs such as Autism, ADHD, and Bi-polar. Dermott has gained multiple qualifications including; Certificate in Role of a Teaching assistant, Send Awareness, SEMH Needs, Understanding Anxiety & Stress and Prevent Awareness. Given Dermott's experiences and knowledge gained in courses taken he is well placed to help pupils present and future to thrive at Cambian school Scarborough.

Vanessa Moore - Administrator. Vanessa has been our school administrator for over ten years now, she has worked in admin and finance roles since leaving school and worked in a Children's Centre prior to joining us here. Vanessa's qualifications include: Advanced G.N.V.Q in Business Studies and AAT in Accountancy.

Alan Kitchen – Cleaner. Alan joined the team in November 2026 as our hardworking cleaner, Alan has worked as a cleaner for over 20 years in both private and commercial industries such as the NHS and council including another local school.