

Gresham's Nursery & Pre-Prep Staff List



TEACHERS

Mrs Sarah Hollingsworth (Headmistress)

Sarah is the Headmistress of Gresham's Pre-Prep and an ISI Inspector. She completed a Social Science degree at Loughborough University then attended Froebel College at Roehampton University in Surrey to complete her Primary PGCE with Early Years specialism. After a year in the profession, Sarah was invited to join the Fast-Track Teaching in Accelerated Leadership Programme; designed for those who have demonstrated the potential to progress into senior leadership positions rapidly. Since completing, Sarah has held many leadership positions including Nursery Manager, Early Years and Key Stage One Leader and Director of Pastoral Care in both maintained and independent schools in Durham, London, Sunderland, Shrewsbury and Oswestry.



Mrs Nic Adams (Year 1 Teacher and Deputy Head)



Nic was appointed Deputy Head of Gresham's Pre-Prep in September 2017. She began her career after completing a four-year BEd teacher training degree in Plymouth, specialising in children aged 3-7 years. Nic has held various teaching positions in both maintained and independent schools across the UK, including Kent, Yorkshire and Northamptonshire, before choosing to settle in Norfolk. Nic is also Key Stage 1 Lead and has a wide range of experience across EYFS and Key Stage 1, having previously taught all year groups. Her philosophy is to inspire and challenge children to become independent learners, through hands on, practical activities.

Mrs Hannah Phillips (Early Years Lead and Reception Teacher)

Hannah is our Early Years Lead. She started her teaching career after completing a PGCE (M) at UEA in 2013. She graduated from De Montfort University with a BA (Hons) in Textile Design and worked in design and the charity sector, before becoming a teacher. She is passionate about play, the outdoors, phonics and creativity; her heart lies in Early Years. Hannah joined the Gresham's Pre-Prep Team in 2019 and having taught and grown up in North Norfolk she recognises that Gresham's offers children the space needed to thrive.



Mrs Kate Kinder (Year 2 Teacher)



Kate studied for a BSc (Hons) in Biology at Birmingham University. She then went on to complete a Primary PGCE course at Homerton College, Cambridge before beginning her teaching career at St Cedd's School in Chelmsford. Kate then taught at the Haberdashers' Aske's School in Elstree at the Prep School where she took on the role of ICT co-ordinator as well as helping with the Prep School musicals. Kate has been teaching at Gresham's Pre-Prep since 2007.

Mrs Lizzie Langton (Year 2 Teacher)

Lizzie completed her BEd (Hons) degree at Exeter University, specialising in English and Drama. Her first teaching job was at the Dragon School in Oxford. There she taught in Year 3 and was a junior house tutor, before being involved in the set-up of the new Dragon Pre-Prep, where she taught across the year groups and was PE and Games Co-ordinator. She left the Dragon to spend 2 years at Harrow International School in Bangkok, teaching in the Prep department and leading outdoor learning trips. On her return from Thailand, Lizzie did some supply teaching in Oxfordshire before returning to the Dragon Pre-Prep to teach in Years 2 and 3, and Art to all year groups. Lizzie has been teaching at Gresham's Pre-Prep since 2010. She loves her current role, guiding and supporting the children in becoming independent learners in the vibrant and exciting environment of the Nursery and Pre-Prep and preparing them for their move on to a Prep School.



Mrs Laura Craig (Year 2 Teacher)



Laura completed a degree in Philosophy and History of Art at Newcastle University. She went on to do a PGCE in Wandsworth. Laura taught at Garden House School in London for eight years where she was a mentor for Newly Qualified Teachers and Science Co-ordinator. She taught different year groups from Reception to Year 6. Moving back to Norfolk, Laura gained her diploma in Teaching Learners with Dyslexia/Specific Learning Difficulties. She went on to teach children 1:1 in a learning support department. Laura is thrilled to be back where her education began aged 4, here at the Pre Prep! She has taught both Year 2 and Reception since her return.

Mrs Suzie Burnett (Year 1 Teacher)

Suzie studied at the University of Worcester, graduating with a BA (Hons) in Early Childhood Studies. She then went on to complete her Primary PGCE course at Oxford Brookes University, specialising in children aged 3-7. She began her teaching career in 2012 working at Chandlings, an independent Prep School in Oxfordshire, teaching Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Her passion in teaching lies in the younger years and she hopes to instil in each of the children that she teaches a love for learning and a desire to do their best.



Miss Georgie Blaber (Reception Teacher)



Georgie started at the Pre-Prep in 2017 while completing a BA (Hons) degree in Childhood Studies. She then went on to complete her Primary PGCE (with English specialism) with the Inspiration Trust and the University of Suffolk. She has worked in a range of schools from Nursery up to Year 5 but has a passion for teaching within the Early Years and Key Stage 1. Georgie believes that children can only be expected to learn once they feel happy and nurtured within their environment, something she believes Gresham's Pre-Prep certainly offers.

Mr Nick Colman (Reception Teacher)

Nick studied a B(Ed) at St. Luke's, Exeter University, specialising in Physical Education and History/Special Needs. After his probationary year teaching in Bristol, he joined the Armed Forces, serving a short service commission in the Royal Artillery. Nick and his family moved back to Norfolk, where he joined Town Close House Prep School, teaching Humanities and Games, as well as supporting Year 3 at the new specialist autism centre, The Wherry School. In 2018 Nick moved across the County to join Gresham's Prep School, where he took on the role of OWLS lead. Over the past 3 years he has worked with all children across our Early Years classes, supporting learning and development, and he is now thrilled to be part of the Reception teaching team.



Mrs Lucy Cahill (Nursery Teacher - Ash)



Lucy has always had a passion for the Early Years, starting her career at a young age, working as a Nursery Nurse in her school holidays. On completing her studies here at Gresham's, she went on to study a BA (Hons) degree in Drama and Education Studies at Bishop Grosseteste University before completing a PGCE year with a specialism in age 3-7 years. Lucy's first year of teaching was in a Year 1 class, before moving into Reception, whilst becoming a Foundation Stage Leader and overseeing and leading a large Reception and Nursery in Lincoln. Lucy loves the outdoors and nature and she recognises how it can be used as a tool for learning, alongside inspiring play, nurturing children's natural curiosities and creating experiences to help them thrive.

Mrs Sarah Ryan (Nursery Teacher – Acorn)

Sarah relocated from Cambridge to Norfolk at the end of 2020 to be closer to her family. She has worked in a wide range of educational settings, both in this country and across the world, from working in an orphanage in Ghana to her last role as Head of Early Years in a large primary school in Cambridge before joining Gresham's Pre-Prep. Sarah loves the outdoors and is a trained Forest School practitioner. Sarah initially trained as a Nursery Nurse before completing a BA (Hons) Advanced studies of Early Years degree and a Primary PGCE with Early Years specialism at Warwick, she has taught for the past 11 years in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, 3-4-year-old Nursery and 2-3-year-old nursery groups.



Mrs Louise Down (Learning Enrichment Lead)



Louise is the Learning Enrichment Lead and has been working in both maintained and independent schools for over 25 years as a SENCO (Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator) and SEN Tutor. She has a passion for understanding how children learn and strives to give each child the focused support and intervention they need to fulfil their learning potential. Louise was also part of a pioneering dyslexia research team with St Bartholomew's hospital, London, for over ten years.

Mrs Lucy Archer (currently on Maternity leave)

Lucy studied at the University of Birmingham and University of New South Wales, Sydney, graduating with a Masters in Environmental Geoscience MSci (Hons). She spent time travelling and working overseas before returning to the UK and completing her Primary PGCE. Lucy began her teaching career at Gresham's Pre-Prep in September 2016, spending 2 years teaching Reception before moving to teach Year 2.



OFFICE STAFF

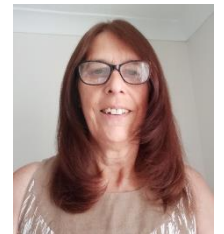
Mrs Alison Gainher (Head's PA/ Administrator)



Ali has been working in schools since 1999 in a number of different administrative roles. The role that gives her the greatest joy is working with families to help guide and support them through from the start of their child's journey into full time schooling. Ali and her husband have 3 grown-up daughters who all benefited greatly from a Gresham's education. Ali now uses her experience and expertise to help new parents navigate their way through the Early Years and beyond as Mrs Hollingsworth's PA and responsible for Pre-Prep admissions.

Mrs Julie Higgs (Part time Administrator)

Julie has worked in education since 1995, training and working in a local pre-school, then moving on to Holt Primary School as a 1-1 special needs assistant and office assistant. When she left there 10 years later, it was as Office Manager. Julie was then the Head's PA at Gresham's Pre-Prep for 7 years and absolutely loved her role here... so much so, that after taking early retirement in 2017, she was delighted to have the opportunity to return to the Pre-Prep office as a part time Administrator in 2020.



TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Miss India Durban (Year 2)



India grew up in Norfolk and went on to study at Falmouth University, where she graduated with a BA (Hons) degree in Fine Art. In her final year at University, India developed a passion for portraiture. After university India worked as a Year 2 Teaching Assistant in a school in Cornwall. She has since then relocated back to Norfolk and prior to joining Gresham's, worked as a teaching assistant in a mixed Year 1/2 class for 2 years.

Mrs Carrie Bailey (Year 2)

Carrie began by volunteering as a parent helper when her own children began at Gresham's Pre-Prep and loved it so much that she went on to complete her Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education. Before this, Carrie worked as a Nurse and Midwife both overseas and in the NHS for 20 years and has a BSc (Hons) degree in Midwifery.



Miss Millie Clabon (Year 1)



Millie completed her Level 3 diploma in Child Development during her final year at Gresham's. The practical elements were undertaken in the Pre-Prep, specifically within Nursery. She is excited to be joining Year 1 as a Teaching Assistant and adding Signalong to her arsenal of educational support qualifications. Her love of children and desire to promote their happiness and achievement in all things shines through in all that she does. Millie is also a keen photographer and, away from school, loves family time.

Mrs Tammy Derrick (1:1 in Year 1)

Tammy studied a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Marketing Management at Oxford Brooks University. Having worked a number of years in the commercial arena she joined Gresham's as a 1:1 Learning Support in Year One. Her interests are swimming, walking and looking after her 2 children. To further support the children in her care she is also learning Signalong, a form of sign language.



Mrs Linda Allison (Reception)



After leaving school, Linda studied Community and Family Care at Norwich City College. Placements included working with profoundly disabled children and with the elderly. After caring for and nursing the elderly in a care home for a few years, Linda decided it was time for a change and worked with children in various roles. Linda started work at Gresham's in 1995 and has completed a City and Guilds Level 2 in Learning Support, Introduction to Counselling Level 2 and Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools Level 3.

Mrs Amy Prestney (Reception)

Amy joined Gresham's Pre-Prep in 2016 with her Level 2 in Support Teaching and Learning in Schools. She has since completed her Level 3 Early Years Educator diploma and is undertaking her BA (Hons) degree in Integrated Working with Children and Families in Early Years with Pen Green Research Base, through the University of Hertfordshire. Amy is passionate about her role and is always keen to extend her knowledge.



Mrs Jane Matthews (1:1 in Reception)



Jane's degree in Art & Aesthetics, BA (Hons) at Cardiff Metropolitan University involved the philosophy, history and practise of art. Her interests in education, art therapy and play therapy led her to work within schools. Jane spent 12 years as a TA and HLTA at a primary school in Suffolk. Jane has supported children of all ages, but her specialisms are in EYFS, outdoor education and one to one support.

Miss Ria Caffary (1:1 in Reception)

After Ria left high school she went on to study Level 3 Health and Social Care. During this time Ria did a placement at Pre-Prep in Reception. Ria has now embarked on an Early Years Educator Apprenticeship, which she is thoroughly excited about.



Mrs Amanda Fuller (Nursery - Ash)

Amanda started working in a Nursery and Primary school back in 2005, whilst she studied for her NVQ Level 3 Childcare Learning and Development. Before joining Gresham's Pre-Prep, Amanda enjoyed being a Nanny for 10 years, working across the Nursery.

Mrs Helen Cox (Nursery - Ash)

Helen completed her BA (Hons) degree at the University of Huddersfield, specialising in Textile Crafts. She then worked with several local primary schools providing additional art activities within the school day and after school clubs and being an Art technician at Cliff Park Junior School. Helen then went on to complete her PGCE at APU in secondary Art and Design. Her first teaching post was at Fakenham High School and 6th form, where she taught Art and Design, Textile and Photography for 14 years. Recently, after short a career break, she has been volunteering at Gresham's Pre-Prep and is very excited to be joining the team.

**Mrs Becky Hayward (Nursery - Acorn)**

Becky has an NVQ Level 3 qualification in childcare and a national diploma in art and design. Becky has had the privilege of working with children since 2012, working in local primary schools and nurseries promoting children's learning and development. Becky is passionate about her role as a Teaching Assistant and thrives upon using art to support children's emotional and educational development.

Miss Beth Lacey (Nursery - Acorn)

Beth has just completed her degree in Sociology at Cardiff University. She has worked as a volunteer for 3 consecutive summers with a charity in Romania, which involved planning and running activities for underprivileged children. She has a lot of experience assisting in schools, including volunteer work at a nursery for children with additional needs. Beth is very excited to work with the team at Gresham's Pre-Prep to gain more experience in the education sector.

**Miss Lucy Bean (Nursery - Acorn)**

Since leaving school Lucy was eager to work with children and went straight into an apprenticeship, gaining a Level 2 qualification in childcare in the first year after high school. She then progressed onto Level 3 in the following year and is now working as a teaching assistant. Lucy is very excited to work in the Acorn class with the 2-3 year olds.

Coralie Martin (Year 2 and Nursery - Acorn 1:1)

Coralie completed Levels 1-3 of Supporting Children and Learning in Schools by 2013 and her Higher Level Teaching Assistant certificate in 2015. Coralie has worked with children who have a additional needs; something she enjoys greatly.

**Mr Jack Lawrence (Gap Student across the school)**

Jack left Gresham's Senior School in summer 2021, joining the Pre-Prep during his gap year before studying BA Ancient History at King's College London from September 2022. He believes that children of this age group possess such uninhibited curiosity and having the opportunity to positively impact them is incredibly exciting.