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If you would like to contact the Chair of Governors, please write to:

c/o Mr Barry McMaster, The Clerk to the Governors, Sherborne Preparatory School, Acreman Street, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3NY

Tel: 01935 812351

Senior Leadership Team

Nick Folland Bsc (Hons) MIAPS, MISI

Headmaster

After graduating from Loughborough University, Nick was initially employed as a teacher of the deaf, working with profoundly deaf young men in Devon. He then moved to Blundell's School to teach Geography and run the cricket. After six years as a Housemaster, Nick became Headmaster of Blundell's Prep School where he enjoyed 11 happy years as Head. He then moved to become Head at St Johns on the Hill Preparatory School in Chepstow and relished the opportunity of running a stand-alone Prep school to 13 years of age. Finally Nick arrived in Sherborne to become Headmaster of the Preparatory School in 2015. In his earlier days, Nick loved playing sport and played professional cricket for Somerset CCC.

"I feel very privileged to be leading such a School where we enjoy our autonomy, but also relish our links with Sherborne School and Sherborne Girls' School, the two senior schools on our doorstep."

Daniel Fernley

Senior Deputy Headmaster (Academic Lead)

After a catholic grammar school in Bolton, Daniel moved to Eliot College, Canterbury to study Physics with computer science. Having completed a PGCE at Trinity College, Oxford, Daniel's first teaching post was in North London where he ran the physics department for two years before deciding to move abroad to take up a post at the British School of Milan before returning to England to become an assistant housemaster at a boarding school in Berkshire. All of Daniel's three children have gone through The Prep, thoroughly enjoying their time. Daniel's wife, Donna, is a teacher of English in a prep school in Dorchester.

Heidi Berry

Head of Pre-Prep

Heidi has been Head of Pre-Prep since 2010. Her aim is to make sure each child is happy and confident, and that all learning opportunities are tailored to their needs, embracing outdoor learning and working with our community. As a Music specialist, she ensures that there are many creative opportunities for children to develop their music as well as other performing arts during their time in Pre-Prep. Heidi has also introduced the Hemisphere Handwriting Programme to the Pre-Prep and helped to introduce the Inspire (Singapore-based) Maths programme into the school. In her spare time, she is mother to three boys, enjoys running, and is leader of the Wessex String Orchestra, the Sherborne Community orchestra and sings with the Sherborne Chamber Choir.

Annie Gent

Designated Safeguarding Lead & Deputy Head (Pastoral)

With a Degree in English and Classics from University of Nottingham and qualified teacher through Nottingham Trent, Annie has just completed a MEd in Educational Leadership. Annie oversees the pastoral care at the School and has a passion for good mental health and emotional well-being. She runs the Personal Development of all pupils in the school and also teaches senior English. A regular in the boarding house, Annie thoroughly enjoys her role working closely with children, parents and staff.

Huw Thomas

Director of Operations and Co-Curricular, Director of Sport

Huw joined The Prep in 2016 following seven years in Scotland as a Senior School Housemaster and Director of Rugby. He previously worked at Blundell's School for 11 years. He is married to Becca (Year 3 class teacher and Head of English) and has two teenage sons. Huw has responsibility for the day to day running of the school, alongside the management of the Co-Curricular programme and Sport. He cites the fun loving pupil body and positive community as enjoyable aspects of his role.

Barry McMaster

Bursar

Barry has been the Bursar at Sherborne Prep for 5 years. After 20 years in the infantry including operations in Northern Ireland, Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan he left in 2014 to join The Prep. He has settled near Sherborne with his wife (who teaches in Pre Prep), three children who all attend The Prep, as well as too many spaniels.

If you would like to contact the Headmaster, please write to: Mr Nick Folland, Sherborne Preparatory School, Acreman Street, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 3NY

Tel: 01935 812097

Staff List

Jeremy Acton

Head of Religious Education

Jeremy attended Ampleforth College, near York before reading Theology at St. Andrews University, in Fife. Jeremy has been teaching for the last twenty years but has always specialised in Religious Studies and coaching rugby and cricket. Jeremy and his wife, Alice, have three children - Harry, Sam and Rose – who have all attended The Prep. Jeremy is a keen and enthusiastic follower of all sports. Academically, Jeremy is interested in the intersection between ‘science and religion’ and has introduced ‘Big History’ into the RE curriculum at The Prep, aiming to inspire the pupils to reflect on this remarkable creation story from the classroom, back to the beginning of time, 13.7 billion years ago!

Lucy Allen

Head of Design & Technology

Lucy completed her KS2/3 PGCE with Design Technology at the University of Exeter in 2002, enabling her to share and apply some of her industrial experience to her specialist subject while also training to teach across the full primary curriculum. Her first degree was in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Bath, with experience working in rail and manufacturing industries. She loves being able to ensure children can explore their creativity and learn about good design as well as developing their practical and problem solving skills.

Rachel Andrews

Year 7 Form Tutor

Rachel completed a degree in History at the University of East Anglia in Norwich and then after a year travelling and working, went back to take a PGCE in Middle Years’ education. Rachel then spent 12 years teaching at a variety of schools in the city, including a special residential school for boys with very challenging behaviour. Rachel has had several senior roles, leading KS2 and 3, English, History and Behaviour Management. Rachel also spent four years as Deputy Head of a Middle School before leaving to have her daughters. Whilst Rachel’s daughters were young, she qualified and worked as a personal trainer but returned to teaching in 2014 when she moved from Essex to Dorset with her husband, daughters and dogs and started at The Prep.

Adam Anstey

Head of IT

Prior to moving to Sherborne, Adam was the Head of IT and Computing at an independent school in Worcestershire where he was recognised with two national awards for IT Innovation. He has taught computing to all years from Pre-Prep to A-level and currently teaches in the more senior end of The Prep. He is a keen endurance athlete completing most recently, the 3000 mile Race Across America, billed as the World’s Toughest Bicycle Race in order to raise funds for the charity Tusk. He lives on a farm a few miles outside of Sherborne enjoying the tranquillity that Dorset life provides.

Lindsey Arico

Pre-Prep Teaching Assistant

Lindsey gained a diploma from London College of Dance and Drama and a Cert. Ed from Brighton Polytechnic (specialising in Dance in Education). After completing her qualifications Lindsey spent many years teaching Ballet and Modern Dance in the south of Italy. On returning to the U.K she continued to teach dance, while also working in retail, before joining Sherborne Pre-Prep as a TA 15 years ago. As well as supporting the teaching staff, Lindsey teaches dance and Italian throughout the Pre-Prep, as well as being involved in the Pre-Prep productions.

Dan Bartlett

Head of Science

Charlotte Carty

Registrar

Charlotte joined the school in 2013 and now lives locally having spent a decade in Russia. Working as a solicitor earlier in her career, in London, nationally and internationally, the educational world called and has kept her busy since leaving the legal profession. She has three grown up children and a patient husband. Her hobbies include walking her naughty terrier, gardening and watching comedy.

Maggie Chapman

Accounts Assistant

Rose Chatfield

Geography Teacher

Rose completed a Geography degree at Reading University and her PGCE at Oxford University. In between qualifications, Rose spent a couple of years living in Italy, teaching English and gaining first-hand experience about Italian culture, geography and food. With her son, Rose moved to Dorset and enjoys continually exploring the natural beauty that can be found across the Southwest.

Dan Chiappa-Patching

Head of Boarding

Having spent his formative years at Marlborough College and teaching at Timbertop in Australia (Geelong Grammar's outward bounds campus), Dan taught Secondary P.E. and later headed the department at Dubai International Academy Secondary School. Whilst in Dubai, he also qualified to be part of the UAE National Rugby Team where he travelled and played semi-professional rugby and also competed in the World Cup Rugby 7s tournament in 2009. He then took a break in teaching to open a coffee shop in Cardiff before returning to education as Director of Boarding and Head of Boys' Games at Sherborne Prep.

Paul Curran

Head Groundsman

Jason Dwyer

Site Manager

Jason Eland

Catering Manager

Allison Evans

Assistant Bursar

Andy Fawbert

Music Teacher

Pete Fawbert

Sports Coach & House Tutor

Yvonne Fawbert

Director of Music

After having her children, Yvonne went to university to study music and achieved a First Class Honours degree going on to her first teaching post at Aylesbury Grammar School. Following on from this, Yvonne was appointed Director of Music at Gayhurst School in Gerrards Cross and, at the same time, founded a musical theatre club in her village which she continued until she moved to Somerset as Director of Music at Hazlegrove. Yvonne loves to build and expand and when the opportunity arose, she was delighted to accept the post at The Prep so that she could get her teeth into a new project. Yvonne is married to Andrew Fawbert, a hugely successful and talented professional musician and, with him she loves to ski, travel, spend time with her family and laugh a lot!

Diane Franklin

Academic Administration

Di is a Speech and Language Therapist who holds an MSc (Psychology). For many years she owned a private practice as a clinician specializing in the treatment of stammering; and lectured at universities both in Australia and the UK. She is married to Nick Folland, and at SPS provides administrative support to the Academic Department, particularly with future schools.

Myriam Gater

Head of French

After an amazing experience in the United States and falling in love with the English language at school, Myriam took a BA in English Language and Civilisation going on to teach French as a Foreign Language at the University of Aix-en-Provence, with an exchange year at Concordia University in Montreal. Myriam then became a teacher of English in France before moving to England with her husband and completing a PGCE at Exeter University. Having had two twin daughters, Myriam has now returned to teaching and joined us as Head of French in 2019.

Janine Gates

Head of History & Faculty Lead for Humanities

Janine joined Sherborne Prep in 2012 as Head of History and senior history teacher. After graduating from Bournemouth University with BA (Hons) in History and Literature, she completed her PGCE at Exeter University. Prior to The Prep, Janine was at Hooke Court where she was responsible for Key Stage 2 and was Head of Humanities. Within her career she has taught A' Level History and also enjoyed many years as a Higher Education Lecturer in the history department at Bournemouth University. She is now the 'Humanities Faculty Lead' here at the Sherborne Prep and responsible for the smooth running of these departments. During her spare time, she enjoys visiting exhibitions and historical buildings, live music, literature, and having travelled extensively in Central and South America, is always keen to embark on another adventure!

Sophie Gould

House Tutor & Games Teacher

Vicki Green

Head of Drama

Vicki filled her school life playing in every musical ensemble and performing in every play that she could get a part in. She studied Drama and Dance in York, and got her first professional job as a Musical Director with a West End creative team before leaving university. She worked as an Actor/Musician for four years, mostly touring and particularly enjoyed a year's contract in a musical in Paris. She then undertook a PGCE in Senior Drama at Birmingham. The Prep is Vicki's third school, having moved here after eight years as Director of Drama in Bangkok. She is currently studying with The British Wheel of Yoga to become a fully qualified yoga teacher.

Lex Hamilton

Sports Coach

Laura Harper

Year 4 Form Tutor & Head of Girls' Games

After graduating with a Degree in Psychology from Loughborough University, Laura continued to spend most of her time playing cricket for England and travelling the world. After retiring from International Cricket, Laura taught sport in many primary and secondary schools before doing a primary PGCE at Marjon in Plymouth. Laura teaches English, Maths, History, Geography and lots of sport at The Prep. Laura loves adventure and spends much of her spare time on the slopes, on a boat or on a beach; always keen to see the world in all its glory.

Briony Harris

Head of Learning Support

Before moving into the teaching profession, Briony graduated with a BA(Hons) in Music and Psychology from the University of Exeter, worked for The Wombles (yes, really!) and then spent a very happy five years working for Comic Relief. It was after this, and teaching in the state sector for a couple of years, that Briony developed an interest in special educational needs. Over the years, Briony has accrued a Diploma in Special Educational Needs and Inclusive Education, along with a specific qualification which allows her to assess children for specific strengths and weaknesses in their cognitive and academic profile. Briony believes that dyslexia should be understood less as a "difficulty" but more as a difference in the wiring of the brain - it has many hidden values. Briony teaches 1:1 and small group English and maths, to those who need a specific approach to learning as well as teaching maths to the upper years and being a Year 8 form tutor.

Tamsin Holroyd

Librarian

As a Naval child, Tamsin spent her early years living in New Zealand and Portugal but was educated in the UK. Having completed a BA (Ed) Hons in English Literature, Tamsin taught Years 2, 3 and 4 at Garden House in London for many years before moving to the Blackmore Vale over twenty years ago. Tamsin and her husband, James, have three children and one grandson called Reggie. Tamsin loves reading works by William Barnes, Thomas Hardy, children's authors and also has a special interest in poetry, Russian Literature and the Brontës – their family Labrador is even named after Mr Rochester's dog in Jane Eyre!

Becky Horlock

Nursery Teacher

Becky has worked in the Early Years for many years, either nannying or within Nursery settings and has an NVQ 3 in Early Years' Education, a Foundation Degree and a BA (Hons). Becky thoroughly enjoys providing the youngest children with a stimulating environment and watching them grow and develop through the school. During her spare time, Becky enjoys nothing more than making special memories with her own children during the holidays.

Jane McCloskey

PA to the Headmaster & School Receptionist

Jane joined us at Sherborne Prep in July 2019, having spent the previous nine years as School Office Administrator and then PA to the Bursar at Sherborne Girls. Jane's husband is a teacher and they enjoy spending the school holidays travelling and enjoying long walks in the countryside. They have two teenage sons who keep them busy and a black and white cat called Tilly!

Jessica Kindred

Nursery Teacher

Jess is currently in the final year of her foundation degree in the Early Years, planning to go on to complete a BA (Hons) degree. Jess started as a Nursery apprentice in 2015 and thoroughly enjoys creating activities that are fun and engaging to the very youngest children in the school.

Aurora Mercer

Business Development Manager

In her life "BC" (before children!) Aurora worked as a research scientist for the British Army and also undertook a law degree in her spare time.

After marriage to an Army Lawyer, and a decade of living abroad, the family returned to the UK and her better half retrained to be a clergyman. Aurora's work then took on a new direction, becoming Director of Admissions and Marketing at Sherborne Prep for seven years. After a brief year in the Falkland Islands, the family returned to the UK, and Aurora returned to The Prep to take up a new post as Business Development Strategist. When not at her desk, she can usually be found with toolbox or paintbrush in hand, attempting the next project on the long list for the family home.

Elly Martin

Nursery Teacher

Helen McMaster

Year 2 Teacher

Helen started her teaching career 25 years ago, when she graduated with a B.Ed in Maths. Whilst her husband was in the forces, they moved around which gave Helen the opportunity to work in many different schools. Eventually settling in Sherborne and after a career break to care for their three children, Helen started working at The Prep, teaching Year 2 children in the Pre-Prep Department.

Lucy McNulty

Head of Marketing

Having completed a BA (Hons) degree in Geography at Exeter University, Lucy worked in marine public relations leading on to a marketing role in a multinational composite engineering company. During this time, Lucy also competed as a professional Three Day Event rider at International level on to equestrian sports marketing, promoting Olympic athletes and International equestrian teams. Now settled in Dorset with her two children, Lucy started as Head of Marketing at The Prep in December 2018 and is relishing the challenge of school marketing. With riding boots now hung up, Lucy enjoys spending time with her husband and young family as well as road cycling around the Dorset countryside.

Chris Mead

Maintenance

Melissa Meikle

Teacher

Clare Minogue

Teacher

Beth Newport

Teaching Assistant

Alastair Poulain

Deputy DSL, English, History & PD Teacher

Alastair completed a degree in History at Bristol University, and then an iPGSE at Buckingham University. In between, he spent a few years in an infantry Regiment, a few years in venture capital in the west end and then 12 years co-founding and running a travel company. Now with a young family and wife, Hayley, they both enjoy teaching young children. Alastair teaches English, History, French and Leadership as well as being regularly involved in Sport at The Prep.

Richard Pyman

Form Tutor

Richard joined Sherborne Prep in 2017 after a PGCE in Classics from King's College, London. He previously worked in London, latterly being a director of two banks. He studied Latin and French at Pembroke College, Cambridge and has an MBA from the City University Business School. He loves cricket and played, mainly without success but with huge enjoyment, both for Cambridge and Dorset. He is a Trustee of the Arundel Castle Cricket Foundation, which helps underprivileged and disabled children through cricket (and kindness). He also loves horses and was an undistinguished point to point jockey. He lives in West Dorset with Corinna, a potter, and their three boys.

Margaret Raman

Billing Accounts Assistant

Margaret returned to the UK in 2017 after living in Botswana for over 30 years where she worked as an administrator in a private primary school. Margaret enjoys walking in the countryside and spending time with her son in Bristol.

Brenda Ray

Learning Support Assistant

Aaron Rayner-Gray

Groundsman

Andy Reid

Sports Coach

Andy is a Level 3 hockey coach with many years of experience at all levels from club to school to Futures Cup. He has won several National titles with club and schools dating back to the year 2000.

Anne Richards

School Administrator

Anne joined The Prep in 2013 as School Secretary and is now the School Administrator. She has a daughter and two sons who live and work in London and in her spare time, Anne provides independent welfare support to the Royal Marines, coming from four generations of service in the Armed Forces. With an interest in genealogy, Anne has traced her family back to Tudor times and enjoys helping others to discover their family trees and tales. She also has a legendary love of all things chocolate!

Jonathan Roberts

Science & Maths Teacher

Having gained a BSc (Hons) in Zoo Biology from Nottingham Trent, Jonathan went on to work in zoological collections and became an amateur Entomologist. Jonathan completed his PGCE at the University of Buckingham and has returned to his childhood home of Sherborne to teach Science at The Prep as well as helping out in the boarding house have recently achieved a Certificate in International Boarding with BSA (Boarding Schools Association). Jonathan lives in Sherborne with his wife, Lucy, and enjoys fly fishing in his spare time.

Lucy Roberts

Year 1 Teacher

Lucy grew up in Sherborne and went to school locally, then moved to Brighton to study Human Sciences B.Sc at the University of Sussex. During this time, Lucy spent 6 months as an exchange student in Brisbane attending the University of Queensland. Upon returning to the UK, Lucy completed a PGCE in Primary with a science specialism at Exeter University. In her spare time, Lucy enjoys baking and cake decorating and being outdoors in the Dorset countryside.

Ruth Rogerson

EAL Teacher

Ruth is Swiss and graduated from Zurich University with a degree in secondary education in German, French and English. Ruth enjoyed a fascinating variety of teaching positions in Switzerland, the Middle East and in the UK. She particularly values her job as an EAL teacher (English as an additional language) as it allows her to support individual children in their academic learning as well as in their pastoral wellbeing. Ruth's interests include allotment gardening, reading, hiking, nature and environment protection.

Ginny Shambarla

Domestic Matron

As a child, Ginny was horse mad and qualified as a BHSAI and later BHSIT before leaving for the States, where she taught horse riding for 20 years.

Ginny enjoys travelling, and greatly enjoyed her time in Kenya teaching on a remote farm in the bush for six months, as well as volunteering in Ghana and backpacking around much of Australia. More recently, Ginny and her dog Pip enjoy exploring England in their campervan!

Lindsey Shardlow

Matron

Paul Shepherd

Head of Mathematics

Paul has been at The Prep since 2009 having been House Master, Deputy Headmaster, Head of Mathematics and Year 8 Form Teacher. Forever passionate about pupils firstly gaining a love for Mathematics followed closely by a mastery and confidence in the subject. Paul has two daughters - one married and living in Osaka, Japan with a Japanese husband and two gorgeous grandchildren. The other daughter is soon to be married in Italy and is living and working in London. In spite of recent results Paul remains a keen supporter of the All Blacks!

Rebecca Thomas

Head of English

Becca studied at St Luke's, Exeter University for four years, gaining a B.Ed (Hons). specialising in English and Drama. She started her teaching career in Greater London, then relocated to Devon to marry Huw (our Director of Operations and Co-curricular/Director of Sport) teaching in a rural primary school and raising two young boys. The family then relocated to Scotland to run a boarding house in Perthshire and during that time, Becca taught as a supply teacher in a range of city and rural schools, before settling for five years at Kinnoull Primary School in Perth. The family then relocated to Sherborne in 2016 where Becca is Head of English, a Year 3 form tutor, and teaches English to older pupils. She is passionate about teaching and learning and enjoys supporting the Music and Drama departments across the year groups.

Archie Trevethan

Gap Year Student

Archie is 18 years old and started at The Prep in September 2019 as a Gap student. Archie came from studying at Christ College, Brecon in mid Wales and is a keen sportsman, having played rugby to academy standard.

Andrew Treavett

Deputy DSL & Head of Junior Maths

MA (Hons) (Oxford), PGCE (Exeter)

After reading Law at St Catherine's College, Oxford, and spending six months travelling through South America and Australasia, Andrew worked as a Solicitor in the City of London for over 12 years. He specialised in corporate tax, working on many high profile and international transactions and spent six months working in Paris. After volunteering at two London inner city schools, Andrew completed his primary PGCE with a Maths specialism at Exeter University. Andrew is Head of Junior Maths, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and as a Level 3 qualified Forest School Leader he set up and oversees Sherborne Prep's Forest School.

Gary Tucker

Maintenance

Camilla Vaughan

Learning Support Assistant

Joanna Vear

Learning Support Teacher

BA (Hons) Education and Training (Plymouth). CTLLS (Cert. Ed.). Cmgr. MCMI

A 17-year career in personal finance, as part of a UK based Friendly Society, Joanna's progression in business achieved membership of the Chartered Management Institute awarded in management and leadership. A change of profession, prompted by becoming a parent, Joanna gained a BA (Hons) in Education and Training at Plymouth University, specialising in Social and Emotional Behavioural Development (SEBD). She has worked with local schools, coordinating Learning Support staff across the county, in both a primary and secondary setting. Her knowledge, experience and skills have allowed her to work as an independent consultant/tutor providing Life Long Learning programmes, in academic (English) and pastoral support, for both children and adults. As well as practicing mindful meditation, Joanna is a volunteer for a national children's charity where her role is to raise awareness, and support families of deaf children and young people.

Fernando Velázquez

Head of Art

Fernando took his PGSE at Buckingham University having graduated from Kensington and Chelsea College, London in Fine Art Management & Professional Practice. Fernando also completed a Foundation course of History of Modern Art and a BTEC New Art Practice & Theory course at Chelsea College of Art & Design. Fernando studied Law at the University of Murcia and Seville until moving to England in 1996. Since then, he has exhibited as a professional artist worldwide whilst developing his teaching. Having previously taught Spanish, as part of the Modern Languages department, Fernando is our Head of Art, as well as teaching Personal Development and being a Year 6 Form Tutor.

Sean Walbank

Head of Geography

Sean is very much a 'Dorset Boy'. Educated at Port Regis (!) and Bryanston, he went on to take a B.Ed at St. Luke's, Exeter. His mother was Housemistress at Shaftesbury Girls' High School and his godfather (R.J.O Meyer) founded Millfield and Millfield Prep (then known as Edgarley Hall).

Sean joined The Prep in 1975 and, apart from a year on exchange at Lindisfarne College in New Zealand, he has been here ever since. Over the years he has been Head of Geography, Head of History and he has coached every boys' team in all three major sports (Rugby, Cricket and Hockey) from the U8s to first team level. He is now teaching fewer lessons (just to the Year 7 and 8 year groups) and he enjoys his daily perambulations around the local countryside on the bus run to Maiden Newton and back. Having enjoyed playing hockey, cricket and tennis to a reasonably competitive level, age and a dodgy back mean that he is now restricted to playing golf at Yeovil GC where a rising handicap keeps him competitive. He also enjoys gardening, walks with his border terrier Alfie and, thanks to the skill and patience of Mr Velasquez, he has taken up water-colour painting (immense satisfaction but, alas, very little skill.)