



**North Ridge High School**

# **MRS S. DARBY**

**DEPUTY HEAD TEACHER**

**"I began my journey at North Ridge in June 2010 and quickly became a Level 3 Teaching Assistant in 2011, specialising in exams and assessment, becoming the designated Examinations Officer for the school.**

**With the school's support and encouragement, I embarked on my primary teacher training in September 2013. While completing my PGCE, I continued working as a TA3 when not on placement. After finishing my qualification, I secured a full-time permanent teaching position at North Ridge. In 2016, I was appointed to the Teaching and Learning Responsibility (TLR) for Assessment.**

**North Ridge has always been instrumental in my professional development. They provided me with the opportunity to attend a leadership course, which paved the way for my promotion to Assistant Head Teacher in 2018. In this role, I led the Structured Learner Department and later oversaw whole-school behaviour. I am also a mentor for Early Career Teachers (ECTs).**

**Throughout my career at North Ridge, I have taken part in numerous Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities which have helped me grow my skills and contribute to the school's development, be innovative and able to adapt to meet the evolving needs of our pupils. In Autumn 2024 I was successful in becoming a Deputy Head Teacher"**





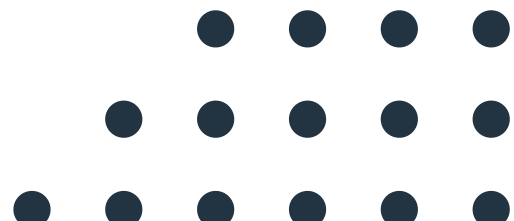
**North Ridge High School**

# **MR K. FRAZER**

**CLASS TEACHER**

**“I started my journey at North Ridge in summer 2019. I started on supply as a Teaching Assistant and, after only 2 weeks, I applied for a permanent position. I enjoyed my time as a Level 1 teaching assistant and found that I wanted more responsibility to support the school as much as possible. I then quickly progressed to a Level 3 Teaching Assistant for Attendance. I found that with the new responsibility, I was able to gain more understanding of the impact of school-home communication and support. After 2 years of Level 3 TA, I decided to continue my journey to becoming a teacher. Once this was mentioned to North Ridge Senior Leadership Team, I was offered the necessary support and resources to continue my training within North Ridge. I then completed 1 year of a BeReady Teaching Apprenticeship, and I am currently in my second ECT year.**

**Over the course of 6 years, I have worked with a wide range of SEN needs and levels of support. I have gained experience and qualifications in: Advanced Team Teach, Moving and Handling, Medical support (particularly Diabetes), Gastrostomy feeding and much more. North Ridge has offered a range of internal developmental support at every milestone of my teaching journey”**





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# **MR A. HAROON**

**TA4 COVER SUPERVISOR**

**“Whilst pursuing my Master's degree, I started working with NRHS through an agency.**

**Through the encouragement of my colleagues, I was able to secure a permanent position as a Level 1 TA at NRHS. The leadership team supported me in balancing my studies while also giving me the opportunity to continue supporting our pupils. This wonderful support system inspired me to apply for the position of TA4 Cover Supervisor at NRHS within a year of joining permanently.**

**This role has given the privilege of working with every student across both of our sites. It has also given me an invaluable opportunity to support all colleagues on a daily basis repaying just some of the support I received when I first began working here. NRHS has been like an extended family to me and I will always be grateful for the opportunity and support the school has offered me.”**







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# **MS L. BREWER**

**CLASS TEACHER**

**“I began my career at North Ridge in 2012 as a Teaching Assistant (TA1). Since then, I’ve received support to progress through various roles, advancing to TA2, TA3, and then TA4.**

**Within these positions, I gained invaluable experience and expanded my understanding of SEND and vocational learning.**

**In 2020, I made the decision to pursue formal teacher training while continuing to work full-time at North Ridge. With the support of our leadership team and exceptional mentorship, I successfully qualified with QTLS in August 2024.**

**Throughout my time at North Ridge, I have also been privileged to engage in research projects, which have further enriched my professional development and teaching practice.**

**I am grateful for the opportunities North Ridge has provided me in terms of both personal and career development, and I look forward to continuing to contribute to the school community.”**





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# **MR G. HALL**

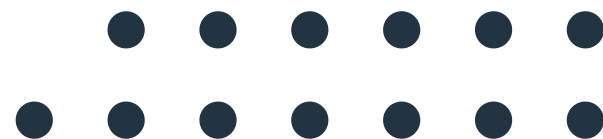
## **CLASS TEACHER**

**“I began my career at Northridge as a SLD TA1 in 2012. I was able to learn how to be an effective TA under the direction of very experienced teachers. I soon moved to the structured department where I was able to progress my skills and understanding of the school even further.**

**From here an opportunity arose to become a TA3 for the extended school coordinator which draws on my previous experience working within the local authority. Being able to organise the after-school club and playschemes allowed me to develop my professional relationships both in and outside of school as well as meet pupils from all areas of the school. This allowed me to develop my skills and knowledge of how pupils communicated and access different activities further. As the school developed, I was entrusted as an unqualified teacher to lead a class of my own. I worked closely with my team and had a very supportive mentor who guided me through the process.**

**I was then supported by the school to complete my teacher training. I am due to finish my second year ECT work in January 25 and look forward to more opportunities to progress in the future.**

**The support of SLT and a clear progression pathway made the decision to become a teacher easy.”**







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# **MRS S. JOHNSON**

## **HEAD TEACHER**

**“After my teaching placement at Northridge, I officially started as an NQT in September 2014. I was well supported to develop my mainstream primary skills to teach in an SEN setting.**

**As I had a passion for Maths, I was given the opportunity to develop my leadership skills as the school’s Maths TLR in 2016. This enabled me to work with colleagues across school to further develop my knowledge and skills in how to support teaching and learning, leading me to become the Assistant Head for KS3 in 2018.**

**As the school grew, I became the second deputy head in 2022. A few of my roles included leading ‘teaching and learning’, support for our ECTs and being a designated safeguarding lead. In September 2024, I became the Head Teacher.**

**There are clear progression opportunities here at North ridge with lots of support for staff to succeed.”**





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# **MRS M. IQBAL**

**TLR FOR AAC AND 6TH FORM**

**“After finishing university, I started working as a TA at North Ridge on supply in September 2015. I applied for a permanent TA position, in 2016. I had the opportunity to progress onto becoming a TA2 in 2018 and a TA3 in 2020. These roles enabled me to take on more responsibility and increase my contributions to the school, by becoming the exams officer and supporting with work related learning.**

**My dedication to supporting students and positively impacting their lives inspired me to advance my career and pursue a role as a teacher. In 2019, I was given the opportunity to start teaching at North Ridge, whilst studying part time. In 2021, I officially gained QTLS. As I grew and developed as a teacher, I became the TLR Lead for AAC and 6th Form in 2024. I have been fortunate to have numerous opportunities for career development and progression at North Ridge, backed with a strong support system. ”**





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# **MR J.MCMANUS**

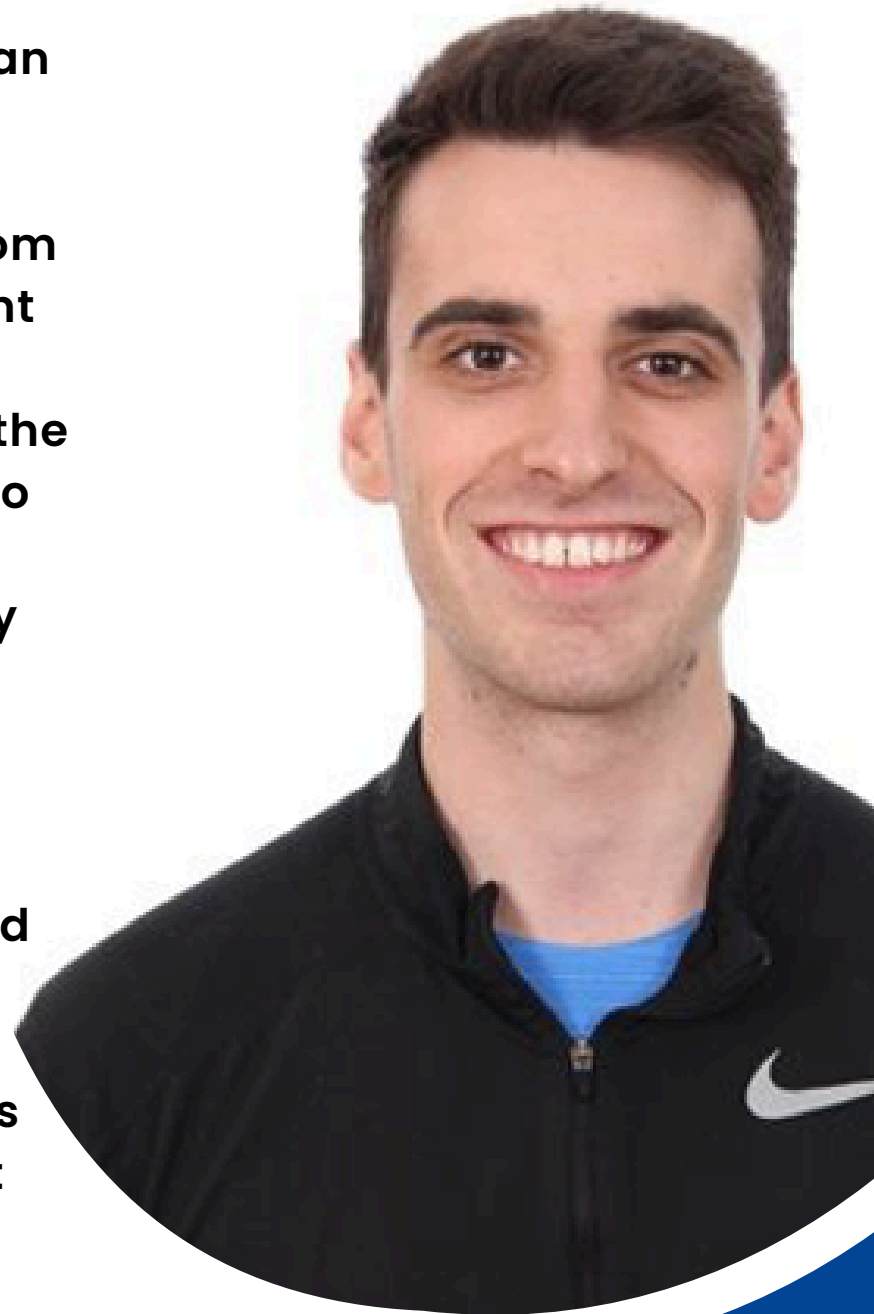
**MATHS TLR & KS3 SLD LEAD**

**"I began teaching at North Ridge High as an ECT in 2020, North Ridge was my first teaching role. I began as a teacher of an SLD class within the key stage 3 department.**

**During my time as an ECT, I always had support from my mentor with regular meetings and had constant support from the members of staff around me.**

**On completion of my ECT year, I began to shadow the Maths lead, learning the tasks and skills required to lead a subject successfully. This gave me the opportunity to attend CPD sessions, developing my own understanding of teaching and learning of Maths. In September 2024, I took over this role and became the Maths TLR across school.**

**Alongside this, In September 2024, I became the Interim Head of Key Stage 3. My roles have included supporting with staffing changes, leading department meetings and leading department assemblies each week. I have also started a role as an ECT mentor, providing support to year 2 ECTs at school, completing fortnightly meetings to offer support with their completion of the ECT program. Throughout my time at North Ridge, I have always had valuable support from key members of staff and have always had support from staff across school."**







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# **MR R. SAXON**

## **TA3 FOR ATTENDANCE**

**“Originally starting as a supply member of staff with Randstad Education in 2019, I worked across all departments and classes to support the school where necessary. I was then successful in applying for a permanent role at North Ridge in September 2021.**

**I began working in KS4 as a level 1 teaching assistant and the opportunities to progress were available straight away. I applied for the level 3 teaching assistant lead for attendance in September 2022 and was successful.**

**I have since gone on to work closely with Shauna Johnson, Head Teacher, to progress within my role as the lead teaching assistant for attendance, introducing new ideas and further developing my knowledge of the role under her leadership.**

**The opportunities to progress at North Ridge from a supply member of staff to a level 3 teaching assistant role within 3 years shows a clear pathway to all staff, including supply, that there are opportunities for progression at North Ridge”.**





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# **MR R. SMITH**

## **TA4 FOR BEHAVIOUR**

**“After finishing my degree, I decided that I wanted to get some experience working in a school before thinking about continuing to study. I therefore started working at North Ridge in June 2009 as a Teaching Assistant level 1. I worked within a classroom setting gaining valuable experience and improving my own skill set. After 2 years I applied for move up to a level 2 Teaching Assistant so that I could further enhance and develop my skills through continually applying my practice what I had picked up from the training that was provided through school.**

**After a further 2 years of being classroom based the opportunity to become a Teaching assistant level 3 responsible for language and communication which allowed to gain a greater understanding of the different ways to support our pupils. It also allowed me to develop other skills as I now had increased levels of responsibilities.**

**After 6 months there was again the opportunity to progress and become a Level 4 Teaching Assistant with a responsibility for whole school behaviour. Whilst I have been in my current role, I have become an intermediate and then later an advanced Team Teach tutor. This has allowed me to develop a new set of skills to add to the ones that I already had.**

**North Ridge has provided me with lots of development opportunities over the 15 years I have worked here and I am still keen to see what other ways I can develop whilst here.**

**”**

