

From Places Afar to our School – New Teachers by Christine Rowlands, Vice Principal

In early August, colleagues new to the ESF began Induction with the Human Resources Department at our Centre in Quarry Bay. This was very comprehensive and even included a 'treasure hunt' around Hong Kong designed to orientate people, to provide them a fun opportunity to mix with one another and to glean a little about their host culture.

We hosted a morning on August 11 here at the College, followed by a lunch and a tour of the local area. This was aimed at helping people locate accommodation, understand the rigours of Immigration, navigate the transport hubs and determine where to find shopping and all other essentials required for settling in – like phones!

Once school began (and all reports were that these colleagues were delighted to, at last, meet the students), we have persisted with Phase 2 of Induction. This has been focused, at the micro level, on the systems, processes and key personnel they initially needed knowledge about in order to efficiently function.

It now seems timely to share something autobiographical with you about a few of these co-workers. After all, they have fascinating backgrounds, notable professional experiences and skills and talents in an assortment of fields. We're relishing having them with us.



Marc Morris – Principal

My name is Marc Morris and I am delighted to have joined STC as Principal this summer. I am particularly grateful for the very warm welcome I have received from staff, students and parents – STC is certainly a very busy, vibrant and exciting educational community. I am very much looking forward to getting to know everyone over the coming years and making the most of life in Hong Kong.

I have been Headteacher and Principal in three 11-18 secondary schools in the UK prior to joining STC and am keen to use my experience in an international context. I have always enjoyed integrating my personal interests in to the extra-curricular life of the school by making a contribution to music, sport, outdoor pursuits and rock climbing. I am originally from Liverpool and have been a lifelong supporter of Liverpool Football Club.

Fiona Charnley – Teacher of Business Education

Hi, my name is Fiona Charnley and I've relocated to Hong Kong from Brisbane, Australia. I'm sure you'll pick my Aussie accent and would love to know the best places to buy Vegemite and Tim Tams. I've also lived in Japan for four years, so please feel free to practice your Japanese on me anytime. When I'm not working I'm passionate about rock climbing, hiking and any outdoor activity. I'm really looking forward to new school year and hope to meet some of you in my Business, TOK, or PSE classes.



Joanne Davies – Head of Chemistry

My name is Joanne Davies and I am the new Head of Chemistry at Sha Tin College. I am originally from West Wales but have been working in the Middle East for the past ten years and so it almost feels like coming home to be back in a country where it really knows how to rain! Outside of work, I am also a Personal Trainer, Group Fitness Instructor and PADI Rescue Diver. This means that when I'm not playing with chemicals, I'm lifting, punching, kicking or diving and enjoying every minute of it!



Brian Hagan – Teacher of Mathematics

Hi everyone, my name is Brian Hagan and I'm the new Maths teacher this year at Sha Tin College. I'm delighted to be here in Hong Kong and am very grateful to everyone connected with the school for making me feel so welcome and happy to be here. I have previously taught in Bolivia, South America and also in the Middle East, in Dubai. I'm from Ireland originally and am looking forward to learning about Hong Kong, China and the many interesting places and people in the region.



Sian May – Teacher of Philosophy and Religious Studies

I am Sian May and have recently moved to Hong Kong from north-west England with my husband Ian. I have been teaching PRS for five years and can't wait to meet and teach students at Sha Tin College! I love travelling especially in South East Asia and Eastern Europe. I also love kettlebell, film, politics and debating!

Lucy Ogilvie – Coordinator of TOK and iPSE

I am Lucy Ogilvie and my family and I love our first experience of living out of the UK. I have been teaching PRS, PSE and TOK in London for the last eight years which means that I have had all sorts of interesting debates on topical and philosophical issues with students in my lessons. I enjoy cooking and am looking forward to experimenting with lots of different ingredients here in Hong Kong. I also enjoy reading and debating and will be involved in the PhilSoc discussion club here at Sha Tin.



Lindsay Tandy – Teacher of English

You may recognise me from having taught Ms Daw's English classes during her maternity leave. Everyone made me feel so welcome and valued, that I decided to return!

Prior to moving to Hong Kong, I lived on one of the smaller Canary Islands, La Palma. The island was very proud of its three buses, two schools, one hospital and no trains, tower-blocks or Starbucks! It was, however, home to more tapas bars than houses and we absolutely never had to wait for a table! When we got bored sampling the array of tapas, we learned to scuba dive, hiked up one of the numerous volcanoes, restored derelict tables discarded in one of the banana plantations, took up mosaicing or soaked up sun on one of the black sand beaches.

Moving to Hong Kong was a bit of a culture shock for me, particularly as virtually the entire population of La Palma could have fitted into Royal Ascot – where I first moved! Seven years later, I have almost acclimatised and enjoy waiting no longer than three minutes for the 69K!

I have taught English in both the UK and the Canary Islands for over ten years and love teaching to students as motivated, enthusiastic and hard working as you. I look forward to this year, both as an English teacher and a member of this very vibrant community.