

# Spotlight

October 2022

i80



M.

The  
McAuley  
Catholic High School  
and Sixth Form  
DONCASTER

# M. i80

Dear Parent/Carer,

This issue focusses the spotlight on the staff who have just finished their first half term with us. We know that they are great appointments who have already made their mark.



John Rooney  
Headteacher  
(the photo was taken after seeing Leeds Utd beat Southampton 6-2)

## Katie Clarke



After completing my teacher training here at McAuley last year, I was very pleased to be offered a position as Teacher of Geography and Nurture - also teaching one lesson of art per week! This is my first teaching role, however, after being at a variety of schools on my placement year, I instantly felt at home at McAuley and was beyond excited when I was able to continue working here. My role is mostly working with the students who access our Nurture provision - supporting them in gaining confidence to access mainstream lessons and providing them with essential life skills they need to thrive.

I became a teacher because my own teachers were always people I looked up to and aspired to be, therefore it makes sense to repay that and help the next generation of young people become the best version of

themselves. I am a little bit of an all-rounder (as you can probably see!) having initially graduated from Norwich University of the Arts with a Fine Art degree before deciding to train to teach geography and now working with our SEND pupils. In my free time, I am an avid explorer and love to travel, my favourite place I have visited is Chernobyl in Ukraine. I also enjoy cycling and printmaking in my free time.

## Ann Dangerfield



I am Ann Dangerfield and I started my job as Internal Exclusion Manager at McAuley at the start of term. I worked at YMCA 14-16 Alternative Provision for 20 years, working with students who struggle in a mainstream environment, and, finally decided I was ready for a new challenge!

Internal Exclusion or “Time Away” is reserved for pupils who have been involved in an incident, or a build-up of incidents, that could have led to a fixed term exclusion. The time spent in Time Away is used to reflect so that the student can manage their behaviour and learn from their mistakes.

My new challenge is to create a calm place where students can reflect, draw a line under the incident and move on.

I am a former McAuley Student. I met my husband at McAuley and both our sons attended this school. It is the unique, distinctive Catholic environment that sets the

school apart from the others in the area. Although it's strange to be walking these corridors again, it is very welcoming! My hobbies and interests outside of school are travelling, running and boxing.

### **Hassan Dende-Raji**



I strongly believe that every child, wherever they are, deserve access to good quality education and this has always been the bedrock on which I have built my career on. My aim ultimately is to build young people that will contribute positively to the communities they find themselves in the future.

My role as Curriculum Lead for Economics, means I am in charge of the curriculum planning, teaching and Learning of economics at sixth form and potentially at GCSE. In addition, I am also responsible for the Student Leadership and Youth Activism within the school, which means I am responsible for the promotion of student voices and driving leadership responsibilities amongst students in our school community.

My previous school was an all-boys Catholic comprehensive called John Fisher School in Purley, London and I worked there for five year before relocating to Wakefield in Summer 2022.

I am a very keen sportsman and have coached football and basketball in my previous schools.

### **Victoria Divine**



Hi I'm Vick, I am a geography teacher and KS4 lead coming from the Elizabethan Academy in Retford. I am in my third year of teaching and began my career as a cover supervisor. Teaching has always been a career that I have been interested in and wanted to pursue however, I did initially want to work in primary.

Away from work I enjoy spending time with friends and family, eating good food, spinning and travelling. The best place I have travelled is Iceland, and I was lucky enough to experience the northern lights.

### **Jessica Martin**



Jess is an English teacher who loves reading, visiting the theatre, and cooking. In her role as a teacher, she enjoys working with young people and aspires to (hopefully!) pass on a love of reading to the students at McAuley. Before her teaching role, Jess worked a winter season, in the French Alps, as part of a Chalet Crew. In her time at McAuley, Jess hopes to learn from the experienced teachers around her, and to magpie their excellent teaching techniques to pass off as her own!

## **Jenna McGee**



My name is Jenna McGee and I am the Associate Head Teacher. I am linked to Year 7 and this year I am focusing on developing assessment specifically at KS3. I have previously worked as part of the senior management team at Notre Dame High School Sheffield.

As an ex-student of McAuley I am excited to back on the staff team.

My hobbies include running and playing football. I have played football for a few Yorkshire teams over the years, and I enjoy most racquet sports.

Thank you for welcoming me back into the McAuley family and I look forward to meeting and working with you all.

## **Lauren Staves**



I am Miss Staves and I work in the P.E department teaching physical activity to the pupils. As well as practical P.E lessons I also teach BTEC theory to Year 10's. Alongside this role I also run the girls football team and assist with the girl's netball team after school taking them to play fixtures against other schools.

I have always wanted to be a P.E teacher to help people enjoy being active and have fun meeting new friends in various sports. To get to my teaching role I have completed 3 years of University studying Sports Coaching and Physical Education and then last year I completed my PGCE year in Secondary Physical Education to become a qualified teacher.

I hope I can encourage more young people to enjoy being physically active and give them confidence to try a new sport. I wish to widen their knowledge about sport and physical activity and urge them make new friends by being part of a team to represent the school.

## **Madeleine Sliwinski**



I am an RE teacher with a great passion for my subject and for chaplaincy. I first knew I wanted to work with young people when I worked on the year 7 retreat at my high school in sixth form. This was an amazing experience for me and allowed me to continue my work on this retreat even after I left. I also have a passion for netball, playing weekly with my team in Chesterfield. My past jobs include being a shift manager at McDonald's when I was studying at university.

I am excited to see where my journey will take me at McAuley as I truly believe this is the place I am meant to be.

## Dave Stuart



As Associate Headteacher I am responsible for whole school Inclusion as well as being a teacher of PE. I passionately believe that every young person has the right to a quality education! My role is to ensure that all students at McAuley Catholic High School achieve their potential in an environment which is safe, purposeful, and conducive to learning.

McAuley is my fourth school, in a 17-year career working in York and Doncaster. Prior to McAuley I started my career in York at Burnholme Community College before moving on to Head of Boys PE at Lowfield School. I spent the next 14 years at Trinity Academy, Doncaster as Head of Year and then Associate Assistant Vice Principal.

Away from school I like to keep fit (ish) and watch as much football as possible, alongside my ever-increasing role as chauffeur for my two little ladies Ava and Emmy.

I'm proud to be a member of the McAuley school community and very much looking forward to the challenge of moving the school forward in becoming Doncaster's premier secondary school destination!