

**MAKING
LIVES
BETTER**

TEAM TALK

*MEETING THE PEOPLE
WHO MAKE LIVES BETTER*

Ashleigh King

- KS1 Lead
- Attended Sacred Heart as a child
- Loves visiting York and walking her dog, Teddy



*Acting Justly, Loving Kindly and Walking Humbly
with God*

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Catholic Academy Trust



Meeting the People Who Make Lives Better



What's your perfect weekend?

My perfect weekend would be a mix of shopping, spending time with my family, and playing with my dog, Teddy.

Describe a moment in your current role that made you feel especially proud.

As a former pupil at Sacred Heart, the day I was offered a job here was a really special moment for me. I absolutely loved my time as a student and always knew I wanted to become a teacher because of the amazing role models I had as part of the Sacred Heart family. My dream was always to come back and teach here — I just never thought I'd actually get the chance. And now, seven years in, here I am! Another moment that made me really proud was achieving my Master's degree and being celebrated by both the staff and children. It was such a lovely reminder of how supportive and encouraging our school community is.

What's something surprising about your job that most people wouldn't know?

Something people are often surprised to hear is that I now work alongside some of the teachers who actually taught me! My current teaching assistant has known me since I was three, and a few other members of staff have too. I was even a pupil in the Year 6 class that our headteacher, Mrs. Dungworth, taught for her interview lesson here.

If you could swap roles with anyone in the Trust for a day, who would it be and what would you hope to learn?

I think it'd be fascinating to swap with someone in the Trust's central team, maybe someone who works across all the schools. I'd love to see how they support each setting, share good practice, and make sure each school keeps that same sense of community and high standards.

What do you think makes your school a unique place to work or learn?

What makes Sacred Heart such a special place is the people. The children are so unique, and together with the staff, they make the school feel like one big family — just like it did when I was a pupil here. Everyone looks out for each other, helps where they can, and there's always a smile around. And of course, we love our food! It's often said that Sacred Heart runs on its bellies — and it's true! Our school chef makes the most amazing dinners, which definitely add to the happy atmosphere.





Meeting the People Who Make Lives Better



Do you have a favourite place you love to visit again and again?

I love visiting York. I used to go there often with my grandparents, and now my sister's at university there, so it's become even more special. I never get tired of exploring the shops, little cafés, and cobbled streets.

In one sentence, how would you sum up what "Making Lives Better" means to you?

To me, 'Making Lives Better' means inspiring every child to believe that they can do and become whatever they dream of. I was so lucky to have teachers who made me feel seen, supported and capable and their encouragement played a huge part in shaping the person I am today. Now, as a teacher myself, I hope I can do the same for the children who walk into my classroom; to help them grow in confidence, believe in themselves, and know that they are capable of amazing things.

Which book, TV show or film do you recommend to everyone?

I always recommend *The Island* by Victoria Hislop. A friend and colleague at school suggested it to me, and I was completely hooked. It's such a powerful story, and I've ended up recommending it to everyone since! I'm actually visiting Crete this half term to see the real island it's based on.

What's one thing on your bucket list you still hope to tick off?

Visiting New York at Christmas is right at the top of my bucket list. It's my favourite time of year, and I'd love to experience all the festive magic — the lights, the shop windows and that amazing atmosphere you always see in films.





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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact
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