

# MEET THE TEAM - your SEND department.



Mrs Emily Tobin

SENDCo & teacher of MFL

Experience: I have only been the SENDCo since September 2016, before that I was the Year 7 Leader. This is my 8<sup>th</sup> year at Helsby. My areas of expertise are access arrangements for exams and quality first teaching for SEND students. I enjoy playing the piano, running and swimming.



Mrs Gemma Newman

Lead Teaching Assistant

Experience: I have been working as a Teaching Assistant at Helsby High School for 13 years. I work both in The Hub and with pupils in class. My areas of expertise are mental health and physical disabilities. However, I am experienced with all SEND issues. I enjoy supporting my local non-league football team, Runcorn Linnets, reading, quizzes and Breakout Rooms.



Mrs Karen Millinger

I have worked at Helsby High School for 6 years & began working in The Hub in February 2017.

I am currently training to be an ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant).

I love spending time with my family, watching films & walking my dog. I also enjoy reading true crime literature & family holidays.



Mrs Diane Jones

Teaching assistant part time / science

technician part time and support staff governor

I've worked at Helsby High for the past 10 years but this is my first year as a Teaching Assistant. I'm looking forward to this new venture. I enjoy helping and supporting students in the classroom. I've been a beaver leader for the past 14 years and I also enjoy, reading, art and museums.



Mr Mark Higgins. TA.  
26 years' experience in Secondary Schools, as MFL teacher, Head of Dept and now TA. I have been at Helsby for just over 12 years. I'm a qualified English teacher, a part qualified counsellor and am starting my 3<sup>rd</sup> year as Maths TA. Hobbies include rock music, Widnes Vikings, curry and table tennis.



Mrs Carol Dunbavand  
I've worked at Helsby High School for 12 years. I have an interest in Autism, Speech and Language and Visual Stress.  
I work with students in class and individually to support their learning. I enjoy family holidays, reading, art and crafts.



Mrs Donna Burdon  
I have been a Teaching Assistant for 14 years. I have been at Helsby for 1 year and currently assist with a Dyslexia programme. I also support students with the school garden which is an on-going project. I assist students with their learning as well as pastoral issues.



Mrs Sara Chow (Teaching Assistant)  
I have just joined Helsby High School in September. Previously, I taught Physical Education at a secondary school in Knowsley for 15 years and then took the decision to have a change of direction to become a TA. My first role as a TA was in a primary school in Chester, where I worked for 3 years supporting year 5 and 6 students who had Down's Syndrome, autism and EAL.



**Miss Rosie Alderson**  
Teaching Assistant

Experience: I completed my PGCE in chemistry at Helsby last year. Before moving into education, I worked as a researcher so I feel particularly at home in science! I enjoy cooking, being outdoors and yoga.



**Ms Hazel Burgess**  
Teaching Assistant

I have just started in January 2018 at Helsby High School. Prior to this, I have had diverse learning roles stemming from Geography teaching, to teaching overseas in countries such as Brunei and Nigeria, to more recently, specialist primary maths and a wide range of SEN experience.

As I enjoy being outdoors, hobbies include running, cycling, kayaking and skiing!



**Mrs Anne-Marie Cartmell**  
Teaching Assistant

I started working at Helsby High School in February 2018. Prior to this I have been working as a teaching assistant for a teaching agency in primary and secondary schools around Merseyside, Cheshire and Greater Manchester whilst continuing online translations from French and Italian into English.

I particularly enjoy world cinema, cooking, gardening and a good pub quiz!