



Harpenden Academy
Education for a changing world

TEACHER PASSPORT



Mrs Katharine Haines
Year 1
Elmer Class
Class Teacher

What hobbies do you enjoy?

There are many things I love doing so I am always busy! Some of my favourite hobbies include gardening, photography, dancing, playing games like Rummy (a card game), baking, arts and crafts (anything from painting to sewing to pottery), completing puzzles like Sudoku and cycling. I get to do lots of these things at school which is great!

Do you have any pets? If not what pet would you like?

I don't have any pets at home. I think if we were to have pets, I would like chickens. I love the idea of having fresh eggs each morning for breakfast!

What three words would describe you?

Positive

Self-motivated

Playful

What do you like best about being a Teacher at Harpenden Academy?

It is great working with such a dedicated team that takes care to help children learn and have fun at school. The building is beautiful and watching all the children playing together in our central playground always makes me smile. We have a strong sense of community and the weekly family group meetings enable children from all year groups to meet together and discuss what matters to them. Also, going out into Harpenden for some of our learning (forest school, poetry in the park, art on the common, sports day, PE lessons...) is wonderful.

What were your favourite subjects at school?

I always loved Maths, Art and Textiles the most. RE fascinated me and I really liked Philosophy when I was older.

What are your favourite subjects to teach?

Maths and Art!

What is your favourite book and why?

Choosing just one is impossible! Anything by Roald Dahl. When I was young, texts like *The Witches* and *George's Marvellous Medicine* inspired me to read. I still love children's literature and am enjoying Michael Morpurgo and David Walliams books right now. As a teenager I loved reading *Animal Farm* and *To Kill A Mockingbird* at school. A book I read recently by Sue Palmer called *Toxic Childhood* was thought provoking. The list goes on!

What is your favourite place in the world and why?

My garden. I am so curious about places around the world. Meeting new people, trying new foods and seeing different buildings and landscapes is so exciting. I love to travel. However, returning home to my safe place and being with my family amongst the beauty of nature makes me very happy.

What did you want to be when you were younger?

A teacher, an accountant and a dancer!

What made you want to become a Teacher?

I am always keen to learn new things and love being in an environment where people are excited about learning! Working with people (children and adults) is massively rewarding and teaching is such a varied job, I love the variety the role entails. No two days are the same!

What is your favourite food?

For me, all fruits and vegetables are delicious and so healthy. I'll go with strawberries! The ones growing in our garden are particularly delicious.

What is your least favourite food?

Chillies!

Who is in your family? Do you have any brothers or sisters?

I live with my husband, Alex, and my two children, Edward and Georgia. I have an older sister called Ann. Family is very important to me. Every year we go on a holiday with our extended family, this year there were seventeen of us sharing a holiday house in Norfolk!

If you were on a desert island what two things would you take with you?

If I was all alone, I would want a photo album containing photos of my friends and family. I think a penknife would be really useful too!