

KS4 Progression Advisor

Paula Howe – South Kent (Dover and Shepway)



Joining VSK in January 2016 as a Progression Adviser to Year 11 is a further culmination of both Recruitment and Educational Placement skills. I have spent many years in the recruitment industry, managing a thriving branch profit centre covering Canterbury, Thanet and surrounding areas. In later years I joined an independent London agency as a Senior Recruitment Consultant to the Media and Design Industry. With children at school age I quickly became immersed as a teaching assistant in primary and secondary vocational subjects. After a few years I transferred to work with year 10's as their work placement co-ordinator and more recently I was an Employability Skills Co-ordinator for a thriving local sixth form college. Liaising daily with students, educators and community groups I provided measurable work placements and promotion of employability skills required for a rewarding career pathway.

Keith Bowley Adv. Cert.Ed – South Kent (Ashford, Romney Marsh and Tunbridge Wells)

Prior to joining VSK in September 2018 I worked at Folkestone Academy from 2007 as Senior Pastoral Manager, then as Designated Teacher, Safeguarding and Child Protection Officer. Within the role I taught Peer Mentoring, Maths to KS4 and officiated as the school CEOP Ambassador (Child Exploitation Online Protection) educating and making children, parents and staff aware of online safety and protection issues. Prior to education I worked for the Sage Group Ltd for 25 years as Operations/Administration Manager which also involved supporting and working with all local schools in projects such as Young Enterprise, Work Experience, Shepway Education Partnership as well as being a Governor at a Secondary and Primary school and Chairman of Folkestone and Hythe MENCAP. I am still a Governor at two of my local primary schools and enjoy the challenge supporting Kent's young children.



Karen Wood – East Kent (Canterbury and Swale)



I joined VSK in October 2015 as a year 11 Progression Adviser covering North and West Kent, however after moving to a new house I transferred over to the East Kent team to cover Canterbury and Swale. I was a nurse for approximately 21 years working mostly within the NHS and towards the end of my nursing career I took up a post at the Rochester Secure Training Centre for young offenders where I contributed to the daily wellbeing and health education of the young people. This is where I discovered my passion for working with young people. Since leaving the Secure Training Centre I have worked for Connexion's as a Health Adviser / Sexual Health Adviser and at a Girls Grammar school as the learning support manager supporting the students from year 7 up to year 13.

Tyler Johnson – West Kent

I joined VSK in November 2017 as a KS4 progression officer for West Kent. Prior to joining VSK I completed an honours degree in Criminology and I worked in a mainstream secondary school as a learning coach/teaching assistant, supporting children from Year 7 to 11. My main role at the school was to support children in an alternative education provision. During my time in this post, I also worked as a tutor for children in care. I supported these children with their course work and exam revision for their GCSEs. I really enjoy supporting CIC and decided to join VSK so I could help them to fulfil their potential.



Lisa Millgate – North Kent



I joined VSK in June 2018 as a KS4 progression officer for North Kent. Prior to that I worked at a mainstream secondary school as a high-level teaching assistant where my main role was to support young people with SEND and support children in care.