

Summer term 2014 and Autumn term 2014's new staff members include:

<p>Mr Jackson – Vice Principal</p> 	<p>Having spent the last 14 years working in Surrey and Croydon I decided to return to my roots and head back North. I was brought up in Darlington, and after a brief spell in the Army I joined the teaching profession, specialising in Maths. My first job took me to QEGS Penrith and then I gradually drifted South via Halifax and Guildford, my previous job being Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Data, Whole School IT and a multitude of other areas. Outside of teaching, I run the gold D of E award scheme and have introduced many of Surrey's young people to the fells of Cumbria, and have just finished a career as a sociable Rugby player. I'm working towards completing my Mountain Leader's Award, which rather took a back seat of late due to the lack of mountains in Surrey. I'm very excited and proud to be joining the West Lakes Academy and look forward to helping every young person reach their full potential and to prepare them for the next stage of their lives.</p>
<p>Mr Hendren – Head of Science</p> 	<p>Over the last 19 years of my life 15 of them have been spent as both a student and a teacher at The Whitehaven Academy where I have taught mainly Biology and a little bit of the other two dark arts. The other four years were spent completing my undergraduate degree studying Biology with Biomedicine at Lancaster University. One interesting fact about me is that after spending a lot of time measuring stomatal aperture, during my dissertation, I am fully conversant in the effect of red hot chilli peppers on plants! I live in Whitehaven with my wife, Victoria, and 3 year old son, Louis. My spare time is spent with my family and the torment of watching the football team I support. I am really excited to get started in September and look forward to working both the staff and the students at West Lakes Academy.</p>
<p>Mr Moss – Maths teacher</p> 	<p>46 (I think) year old NQT. 25 years in the computing industry. Millionaire one day, bankrupt the next. Fell Runner, Cyclist, Road and MTBer, Footy player: mind of a 30 year old, body of that person's grandfather. Strictly Addict. Second novel just about to hit Amazon (First based in Egremont - End of a Girl/Nia Sinjorina). Father of mortified Westlakes students, Evie and Rogan. I want to bring students to the realisation that maths IS the language of the universe, but that it also speaks to them of their lives. Context and real world examples are everything and I hope to find similar hearts in other departments to open the kids' eyes to the magical integration of knowledge, life, love, and experience. If I survive ;-)</p>

Miss Akrigg – Maths teacher



I'm from a village near Skipton and have always loved the Lake District so I jumped at the chance to come to West Lakes Academy on placement while doing my teacher training. I've really enjoyed the last few months here getting to know staff and students. I'll spend this summer finishing my Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, returning ready and raring to go as a fully fledged member of staff in September!

Miss Lewthwaite – Food Technology teacher



I currently live in Whitehaven. I left Whitehaven School/Sixth Form with 12 GCSE's and 3 A-Levels (AAB) then went on to study at Northumbria University in Newcastle. I have been teaching now for six years, spending over five years at Whitehaven Academy and one year at Beacon Hill Community School in Aspatria. I have been so lucky to meet and work with amazing staff and students along the way. In my spare time I enjoy going to the Theatre and the cinema, cooking at home and eating out with family and friends. An interesting fact about me is that I drive one of the only electric cars in Cumbria! I am really looking forward to becoming part of the West Lakes academy Team.

Mr Haslop – Geography teacher



I was born and raised in Whitehaven and after completing my degree in Geography at Northumbria University and a PGCE at the University of Cumbria, I knew that I wanted to return to West Cumbria to teach. I have taught Geography for the past two years at Southfield Technology College in Workington and at the Whitehaven Academy before that. I am a loyal supporter of the greatest football club on the planet, Manchester United and in my spare time I enjoy reading, watching films, running and taking my dogs for long walks in the Lake District.

Mrs Tyson – Science teacher



I am very much looking forward to joining you at WLA having spent the last two years teaching Science at Cockermouth School. I live at Crosby, Maryport with my husband Jack and our only child, Willow the cat! I love to travel and am looking forward to my summer holiday in the Italian lakes. When at home I can usually be found armed with either a hammer or paintbrush as I slowly, and rarely successfully, attempt some DIY!

Mr Nolan – Science teacher



Hello!

Didn't think I'd ever be back at my old school but here I am! I have moved around a fair bit, studying Natural Science in Lancaster and Canada, then went to Edinburgh to do a master degree in drug design and biomedical science, then back here for my PGCE! In my spare time I like to play guitar, read, play video games, tinker with technology and go out!

Miss Johnson – MFL teacher



¡Buenos días! I'm Miss Johnson, and now after being at the Academy for the past academic year, I am joining as a permanent member of staff in the Languages Department as a Spanish Specialist. I come from Poulton-le-Fylde, a small town near to Blackpool, where my parents and sister live with my two dogs and cat, but I currently live in Whitehaven. I studied my Undergraduate degree in Hispanic Studies at Lancaster University and at the Universities of Granada and Lleida in Spain, and then spent two further years in Spain teaching English in both Menorca and Vigo, before moving to West Cumbria to complete my PGCE with the CfBT. In my spare time, I love to travel anywhere and everywhere, but mainly spend my holidays in Spain. I'm really excited for the new opportunities at the Academy, particularly related to Spanish and technology and I hope to create a link between the MFL Department and a Spanish school sometime next year!

Miss Doran – MFL teacher

No photo as yet!



Originally from Glasgow, I have just completed my PGCE in Modern Foreign Languages at Durham University. I currently live in Edinburgh where I completed my undergraduate degree in Spanish and Italian. I love travelling and try to go abroad at any given moment. I had an amazing opportunity to tour Japan for 2 weeks with the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland (albeit 6 years ago now!) I also enjoy singing and acting and have taken part in many musicals and pantomimes over the years.

I'm looking forward to joining the academy staff in September!

Mr Johnstone – Assistant Site Manager



It's a pleasure to become a member of the facilities team. I have already been made to feel welcome in the short time I have been here. There is not much to say about myself but here is a little background. I'm from Whitehaven, ex-military turned plumber, plasterer and general fix it man. I love photography (more of an obsession really) closely followed by my habit of purchasing anything to do with the same subject to tinker with. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of the West Lakes team. I am looking forward to the coming days, months and years working alongside you all.

Mrs Stephenson



Mrs Jenkinson



Cleaning Staff

You may already know Corinne, Jennifer and Cynthia as they've all been with us as bank cleaners for some time, and are now permanent members of the team.

Mrs Bates



Goodbye and Good Luck! Summer 2014

Mrs MacKay (Food Technology), Mr Johnston (MFL), Mr Williamson (Head of 6th form / Geography), Mr Hopkins (Science), Miss McLeavy (Maths), Miss Scott (PE), Mr Jones (Psychology) and Mr Corkhill (DT Technician) are all leaving this summer. We wish them all the best of luck in the future.