



NAME: Stuart Godman

SCHOOL: Carshalton Highschool for Girls

ROLE: Head of History

STARTED: September 2003

WHAT LED YOU TO CARSHALTON?

“While completing my PGCE at Roehampton university, I joined the team at Carshalton High School for Girls in 2003 as a student teacher in the History Department. I was immediately impressed by the manner in which both students and staff here are nurtured and supported in their development. After completing my training, I chose to take up a role as a history teacher here and since then I have gone on to become both Head of History and Lead Practitioner.”

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR ROLE?

“Having been a member of staff here for such a long time, I have seen the school change, develop and grow in terms of its facilities, curriculum, teaching approaches. However, one aspect has remained constant: the school remains a place where both staff and students thrive. This makes Carshalton High School for Girls is a great place to teach. The school empowers middle leaders to shape and develop their curriculums and encourages students to take ownership of their learning. The students are inquisitive and creative, bringing their energy, humour and commitment to learning with them into the classroom.

As a History teacher, it is consistently rewarding and satisfying to see so many students enter the school and develop a lifelong fascination for studying the past. Likewise, it remains both a privilege and an inspiration to work alongside such a committed team of staff who are so dedicated to delivering excellent teaching and pastoral care for our students.”

HOW HAS YOUR TIME AT CARSHALTON HELPED YOUR PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT?

“During my time here, I have found the school to be consistently proactive at investing in the long-term professional development of its staff. The school prioritises the development of teaching technique across all curriculum areas. Staff development is guided by the application of evidence-based research through a high-quality, tailored programme of bespoke CPD which is targeted towards specific areas of practice

relevant to improving the outcomes of the students in our care. My own practice has benefited greatly from this and the school has constantly supported me in the development of my own career path, including enabling me to take up the role of SCITT subject tutor for History.

This role gives me the opportunity to lead the development of new History teachers for Sutton SCITT, who attend the subject hub at Carshalton for weekly training and observation. Such work allows Carshalton High School for Girls to play an important role in nurturing the next generation of History teachers honing their skills as they enter the profession.”