

Principal's Update



10th July 2026

Meet one of our Instructors



Lisa started at Yorkshire Rose College as bank staff almost 10 years ago alongside a job in retail and was then lucky enough to become full time. She has worked in most departments at college before joining the wellbeing team. She has had many, many diverse jobs including being self employed a few times, beauty therapist, motivational therapist and she was the business owner of a ladies gym at Loversall Hall, running it with her good friend which was a wonderful experience that she says she is grateful to have been a part of. She has two daughters age 29 and 31 both have their own homes, the youngest is married and the eldest is a journalist (she once interviewed Dermot O'Leary – Lisa says she was extremely jealous!).

Fun facts about Lisa:

- She loves to travel whether it is in this country or abroad – she has visited many countries but her favourites are Greece and a safari in Kenya she went on 36 years ago.
- She is a dog lover (specifically German Shepherds) but sadly no longer has one so she is dog Grandma to her daughter's dog.
- Her party trick is that she can say the alphabet backwards (but she says not to ask her).
- She enjoys listening to music (which she says she sings along to badly) and has been to lots of concerts over the years, all genres, her highlights are Tina Turner in Valencia, Faithless and AC/DC.
- She loves a fancy dress party and has a few embarrassing photos as proof!
- She used to live next door to 'Jive Bunny' (AKA Andy Pickles) and a member of 'Black Lace' of Agadoo fame!

Foundation Summer Fair

What a fantastic day we had at our annual Foundation Summer Fair! The sun shone throughout the day as students, staff, and families enjoyed a wonderful range of stalls, games, and refreshments. A special thank you goes to everyone involved in organising and running the stalls, whose hard work contributed greatly to the success of the event. It was lovely to see so many families coming along and joining in the fun, helping to make the day such a memorable occasion for all.



Buddy the Otter

This week, Sanaa has given Buddy to Jo Collins, saying, "I wanted to say thank you for everything. I sincerely appreciate your kindness, encouragement and your support."



Pride March

A couple of weeks ago, our amazing students took part in a Pride march to celebrate inclusion and being proud of who you are. We're so proud of their positivity, courage and support for one another!



Residence

A message from our Residential Manager, Chris Brawn: "It's hard to capture in just a few words what the Residential staff mean to me, or to fully describe the service they have provided for the college and the impact they have had on the students in their care. There is no doubt that they have changed lives, giving students the opportunity to access specialist education within a supportive, homely environment. They have been an integral part of the college, and I've seen the results first-hand when meeting ex-students who fondly recall their residential experiences and describe their successes. The residential staff are a tenacious breed: come snow, pandemics, hot-water breakdowns, heatwaves – they will turn up. Their commitment is admirable. The staff have been amazing and consistently professional, especially over the last few months, where their focus has remained firmly on student welfare. I have been incredibly proud of the team. I want to personally thank them for their support and their unwavering commitment to meeting operational needs through the most challenging of times."

Staff Appreciation

Suzanne G and Marie would like to nominate Joanne Robson, Natalie Butler, Lisa Phipps, Theresa Kirby, Joanne Collins, Sam Freeman, Ellie Hughes, and Steph Healy-Bullock, saying, "We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you and recognition for their outstanding support of our students during their transition visits. Their dedication, care, and willingness to support students during this important stage have been greatly appreciated."

They would also like to nominate Karl Dodds and Gavin Barker, saying, "We would like to give a special thank you to Karl and Gavin, who generously gave up their personal time to support our residential students during transition visits within their home areas. Their commitment and flexibility ensured that students received the support they needed, demonstrating a level of dedication that goes above and beyond expectations."

They would also like to nominate Sam Beevor, Kelly Martin, Claire McGann, Cheryl Easen and Lisa Booker, saying, "We would like to extend our sincere thanks for their unwavering support in preparing our young people for transition and their next steps. They have invested significant time in helping young people reflect on their goals, prepare for interviews, attend open days, and build the confidence needed to move forward successfully."

They would also like to nominate the whole Pastoral team, saying, "We would also like to recognise them for the invaluable support they have provided to our young people as they embark on new adventures. Their compassionate approach, willingness to listen, and ability to provide the time and space needed for young people to regulate and feel supported have made a meaningful difference throughout this important period of transition."

