

Name: Mrs Carruthers

Job Role: **Careers, Information, Advice & Guidance,
Business & Enrichment Leader**

How long have you worked at The Dearne ALC?

I joined the school in September 2016. Prior to this I have worked as a Careers Adviser in schools and colleges around South Yorkshire and I also worked in a school providing pastoral care to students.

What is your favourite thing about working at The Dearne ALC?

From the moment I visited this school I knew that there was something special about it. There is a real sense of purpose which is to enable every single student to achieve the best they possibly can in life, both academically and personally. Meeting the students and being a part of the team which helps them has been fantastic so far.

A few things I'm proud of:

- When things become clear for students during a guidance interview. To know that I can help them make a well informed decision that's right for them, is a good feeling.
- In my spare time I am involved with a national charity (Rainbows Bereavement GB) which aims to help young people who deal with loss in their lives. This is tough work which makes a real difference to the lives of young people who begin to realise that life can move on in a positive way.
- Although I have a Level 6 Diploma in Careers Guidance, an NVQ in Advice & Guidance, A Levels and a Degree in English Literature, I am most proud of passing my Maths GCSE when I was 16. It took me three attempts to gain a C and although I felt like giving up, I persevered. This has taught me never to give up even if things don't go right the first time. A valuable lesson in life!

My Aspirations

Being so new to The Dearne ALC, I would like to make a really positive difference to the lives of young people here. In the future, alongside my careers work, I would like to study a professional counselling qualification and undertake bereavement counselling with children and young people.