



Meet the Team

Grow Independent School

Name: Sarah Hawthorne

Role: Proprietor and Head Teacher

A bit of background: Sarah has been a qualified teacher for 12 years. She has worked in Primary settings as a middle leader before becoming the proprietor of Grow Tuition in 2016. Sarah's vision for Grow was to support students who are struggling in school a holistic approach to targeted tuition, but this quickly developed into an alternative provision for students who were struggling to attend school.

Sarah and her team worked hard to help students feel safe and ready to learn by understanding trauma and the way the brain responds to threat. Grow's adaptive approach to learning was very successful, and in September 2023, the DFE approved Grow to open as an Independent Special School.

Sarah is the headteacher and proprietor at Grow Independent School and is thoroughly enjoying the day-to-day challenges of headship. She enjoys reading widely on the most current thinking around trauma, psychology, school culture and leadership. Sarah's vision for Grow School is based on the core values of achievement, belonging and compassion.

Fun Facts:

Sarah enjoys painting murals on walls and she did a lot of the wall art around the school. Sarah has even been known to paint very large paintings using a mop!

Sarah was a dance teacher before she was a school teacher and is qualified to teach Ballroom, Latin American and Classical Sequence amongst other dance styles.

She enjoys cooking and spending time with her bulldog, Albert. Albert has just completed his training to become a certified therapy dog which he is very happy about!