



Françoise Escot [French Immersion Coordinator, French, French Extension, French B IB, History, Geography]

Françoise was born in a small town to the East of France, near Switzerland. She studied International Law at the University of Dijon and La Sorbonne in Paris. After obtaining her Masters in Law and Political Science, she worked for one year for the United Nations in New York and in Conakry (Guinea, Africa) for four years. During her time abroad, she was in charge of development projects for developing countries. Françoise moved to New Caledonia to follow her husband, who worked for Air France. She worked in New Caledonia for 11 years as a human resources manager for a 300 staff firm. Her family moved to the Gold Coast in 2002, and they all had to learn

English. Witnessing her daughter's prowess in language acquisition inspired her to become a French teacher. Pursuing her ambitions, Françoise went back to University to obtain her teaching degree. She became a French teacher and taught at Canterbury College before teaching in the French Immersion program at Benowa. Since 2009, Françoise has taught French and History/Geography for grades 7 to 12. She is qualified to teach French B to IB students and she train students to sit the DELF exam (French diploma recognised internationally). She is also the person in charge of the French trip, a wonderful opportunity to share her passion for the language and the culture of France. Françoise had coordinated the French Immersion Program since 2016.



Louise Campbell [History, Geography]

Louise Campbell studied French at High School and university in Brisbane. She completed a dual degree in Arts/Education at UQ studying her two main passions, French and History. She was fortunate to become an *au pair* (live in Nanny) in Paris in 2001 and again in Lyon in 2004. She loved her experience living in both cities and returned to visit both and also the family she had lived with in 2009. The highlights of living in both cities were the opportunity to explore the many museums and art galleries as well as to experience the culture and the wonderful food. Especially the delicious *Crêpes*! She began teaching in the French Immersion department at Benowa in 2006. Since 2015 she has been back to Benowa part time after maternity leave and is now a SOSE teacher (History and Geography) in the Immersion department.



Doctor Ronan Serrier [French, French B IB, History, Geography]

Ronan teaches French and SOSE. He studied in France [Montpellier and Paris] and has a PhD in Sociology and Anthropology 1990 (Paris, EHESS). He also studied Management of Human Resources in a Business School [Paris, IGS]. After being a lecturer [Paris CNAM, University of Amiens] and a researcher [CNRS/Paris I University] he became a consultant in Organisational Development [Paris IEM]. Married to an Australian he came to Australia, completed a Post Graduate DipEd in 1999 [UQ] and started teaching in Queensland schools. He is qualified to teach French B to IB students. Ronan loves music, reading and walking. He has 3 children, 2 sausage dogs, and more.



Claudia Nelson [Senior French]

Claudia Nelson was born and lived in Montpellier, a city in Southern France, where she completed an English Literature degree. After holidaying in Australia, she met her husband and made the decision to move and become a French teacher as she enjoyed sharing her knowledge of the language and her culture. She taught French for several years in private language centers on the Gold Coast. She discovered teaching was meant to be her career and studied to become a qualified EAL (English as an Additional Language) teacher. Parallel to teaching French in the evenings, she also became the EAL lead teacher of Burleigh Heads Language Center before becoming an EAL lecturer [Southern Cross University]. To further her teaching capacity she completed a Graduate DipEd (2016) and continued her career as a Secondary teacher at Benowa, specializing in English, French and EAL. She enjoys traveling and sailing and in fact sailed her own boat to remote islands in the Pacific Ocean where she loved meeting the local tribes and discovering their cultures. She also loves teaching at Benowa, where she has worked since 2016.



Christophe David [Mathematics, Science]

Born in the west of France, Christophe studied technology and completed a 5-year university degree at the University of Bordeaux. After a year in New Caledonia, he married an Australian and after teaching physics and chemistry for 10 years in France, he and his family settled in the French West Indies for two years, then on the Gold Coast where he's been teaching science and Mathematics at Benowa, in and out of the French Immersion Program, since 2006. His two children went to Benowa State Primary and High Schools; one was in French Immersion and one in the Waldorf program. Christophe is one of the teachers involved in the Duke of Edinburgh program at the school. This gives him the opportunity to indulge in one of his passions; that of exploring nature and discovering new places.



Jacob Heilbronn: [Mathematics, Sciences]

Jacob was born and attended primary school in Hong Kong. After his family moved to France, he spent his junior high-school years in a French school before moving to the Gold Coast to complete his Senior Schooling. Prior to becoming a teacher, Jacob completed a Civil Engineering degree at Griffith University, returned to France for a year to play semi-professional rugby and worked as a Civil Engineer. Jacob completed a Post-Graduate Diploma in Secondary Education at Griffith University and joined Benowa SHS as part of the Teacher Education Excellence Centre (BTECE). He joined the Benowa SHS team in 2017 teaching French Immersion Maths, Junior Science, Senior & IB Mathematics. Jacob is also involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Adventurous Journey program at Benowa and enjoys playing rugby, boating and scuba diving in his spare time.



Erika Sato [Mathematics, Sciences]

Erika was born in Portugal. She is half-Brazilian and half-Japanese. She grew up mainly in Brazil, where she attended an international school and completed the IB Diploma (which she very much enjoyed). Following one of her passions, she completed a Chemical Process Engineering degree at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, BC, Canada. In pursuit of her second passion, languages, she studied to become a certified English as an Additional Language (EAL) teacher and taught in Canada and Japan. Teaching EAL awoke her interest in teaching, but she missed the Maths and Science aspects of her former studies, which led her to study to become a high school teacher of Maths and Science/Chemistry. She began her Benowa SHS journey in 2020. Teaching across the Science, Maths and Languages departments at Benowa SHS certainly makes her job very interesting. Erika loves languages (she can speak English, French, Japanese, Portuguese and Spanish) and enjoys cycling and trying new cuisines in her free time.