

## MEET THE STAFF: Enthusiastic, Committed, Expert & Innovative

### Corinne Battendier [Mathematics, French juniors]



Corinne has lived in France and New Caledonia before moving to Australia. She completed a Bachelor of Information Technology and a Master of Information Technology [first class Honours] at Bond University. Corinne has taught at Bond University for 5 years before completing a Postgraduate Diploma of Education –Secondary [Mathematics and Information Technology] at Griffith University. She started teaching at Benowa State High School in 2013. She loves Mathematics and enjoys teaching French.

### 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.

### 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.

## **Françoise Escot [French, French Extension, French B IB, History, Geography]**



Francoise 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.

Francoise 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, Francoise 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, Francoise has taught French and History/Geography for Years 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. Francoise is coordinating the French Immersion Program since 2016.

## **Steven Greffe [Mathematics, Sciences]**



Steve was born in France but very much raised as an Australian after he moved to Brisbane at the age of 4. Traveling back to France at the age of 12 he was exposed to (and became very excited about!) a different way of living, languages and other cultures.

Traveling around the world after completing a Science Bachelor, majoring in Biomedical Sciences, Steve really discovered his passion for languages and the multicultural facets different cities around the world had to offer.

Steve has lived and worked in London, Granada (Spain), Tokyo, Paris and finally decided to settle on the Gold Coast after gathering evidence that it is the best place in the world.

Having taught at over 25 different schools, Benowa is decidedly also the best School Steve has had the pleasure to work at.

Teaching is one of Steve's biggest passions because he loves to interact with all kinds of people, loves to encourage learning and help people discover their passions in life. No one day is every the same and French Immersion is the perfect spot for Steve to share his passions for languages AND science at the same time.

On the side Steve is passionate about all things health, movement and personal development. Vegan chocolate and vegan ice cream are also a staple in his diet.

## **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 State High School as part of the Teacher Education Excellence Centre (BTECE). He joined the Benowa State High School 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.

## **Sophie Olivier [Sciences]**



The only thing Sophie is more passionate about than Science itself is teaching it to secondary students. She is originally from New Caledonia and she completed an Honours Research degree in Marine Biology and Pollution Chemistry at Griffith University before completing a Masters of Teaching [Secondary Science]. Sophie loves Zumba, dancing and has just recently discovered a passion for rock climbing. Sophie is one of the teachers involved in the Duke of Edinburgh program at the school. This gives her the opportunity to indulge in one of her passions; that of exploring nature and discovering new places.

## **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.