***Ashdon Primary School***

***Mrs. Clark***

I am Mrs Clark and the music specialist at Ashdon Primary School. I have four children, all have attended/are at Ashdon Primary School and have been lucky enough to benefit from not only the top-class education that the school provides, but happily spent their early days of school surrounded by a nurturing, supportive and encouraging family of staff who make it their duty to get to know and understand every student at the school.

I trained as an actor on a three-year Musical Theatre diploma at Guildford School of Acting on a full scholarship from the Cameron Mackintosh Foundation, and my subsequent experience in West End productions, such as ‘Les Misérables’ at the Palace Theatre gave me a grounding in professional theatre that has proved invaluable in the classroom. I have also worked on professional film sets (Napoleon, Harry Potter, The Batman) in the costume department, and in sound production teams in West End musicals, giving me a technical knowledge that has proved useful when discussing technical aspects of theatre and performance.

Since 2003, I have simultaneously been working in a number of other local primary and secondary schools, and at weekend performing arts groups as a peripatetic singing teacher, drama club lead, LAMDA tutor, choir lead or classroom music and drama teacher, including Saffron Walden County High School, Hills Road Sixth Form College, Great Sampford Primary School, Linton Village College, and Dame Bradbury’s School. I have mounted several school productions, from primary nativity and school leavers’ productions to lower school plays and musicals at SWCHS.

I love having the opportunity to pass on my knowledge in a subject I am hugely passionate about. I have always enjoyed making lessons accessible to all students, conscious of the fact that the expressive arts allow students with specific needs to express themselves. I love providing challenges for students and am always humbled by the progress that students make, gaining so much joy and confidence from their participation.