



## Queen of Hearts, Owen Sound



### **Jamie Dorey – Nursery Manager**

Jamie started at Queen of Hearts in 2018 as a Toddler Teacher. She enrolled in the Queen of Hearts Training Program and used her skills learnt over the years as a licensed home child care provider. She joined the Queen of Hearts and Georgian College Apprenticeship program and graduated in 2020 becoming an RECE. Jamie became Nursery Manager in September 2020 at Queen of Hearts, Owen Sound.

#### **A message from Ms Jamie**

*Teaching children has always been my career of choice. Not only do I see them develop their identity, and gain confidence, but I also get to hear their laughter and share in their triumphs. Children are natural motivators and their curiosity and intelligence amazes me each and every day. Helping children and their families is so rewarding, and I couldn't see myself doing anything else. Queen of Hearts has become part of my family, and I love the special bond that happens with each child. They are the true teachers.*



### **Shauna Cusack – QYC Manager**

Shauna joined Queen of Hearts in July 2019 after graduating with honours as an early childhood educator in April 2019. Shauna is manager of our very busy Youth Club, and is often also seen helping in the Nursery School classrooms as. From the Owen Sound area, she has three children and enjoys spending time with them, hiking and watching movies. Before joining Queen of Hearts, Shauna managed a clothing store in Owen Sound for 13 years before pursuing a career in childhood education. Since she was young, she knew she wanted to work in the childcare field, always intrigued with children's development and wanting to be a part of it, bringing to them a sense of belonging.

#### **A message from Ms Shauna**

*I love coming to work every day at Queen of Hearts and I feel so fortunate to be part of such a supportive and nurturing team who push each other to achieve greatness, helping others and allowing others to help along the way. As QYC Manager, I am here to help teach the children that there is always a way and I am here to take the journey with them, beside them. We are the roots in these growing beings and are here to help nurture them and make them strong. I am truly grateful for your trust and letting me have the opportunity watch the children grow and be part of their lives.*



### **Kim Hawthorne – French Specialist and Teacher**

Kim started with Queen of Hearts in April, 2021. She is currently completing the Early Childhood Education program online through St. Lawrence College in Kingston. Kim completed two years of the Concurrent Education Program through Nipissing University including French language courses. Kim is a graduate of the Ontario French Immersion program, completing placements in French Immersion classrooms at a French language childcare center. She has over twenty years' experience working with children

#### **A Message from Ms. Kim**

*I absolutely love watching the children grow and succeed. It is such a wonderful opportunity to learn and grow as a teacher alongside them. I am really looking forward to expanding the French language curriculum at Queen of Hearts. I look forward to sharing my knowledge, creativity, imagination and passion for education with the children and their families.*



### **Kylie McGregor –Teacher White Rabbits**

Kylie graduated from the Early Childhood Education program at Humber College in 2018. During that time she was able to complete 4 co-op placements at 4 different locations, working with toddlers, and preschoolers, as well as school age children. After graduating, she became a RECE and started working with preschoolers in a child care centre. She was a teacher there for one year before joining the Queen of Hearts team in September 2020 to work with the toddlers.

#### **A message from Ms Kylie**

*Working with children has always interested me. I always enjoyed babysitting when I was younger. Watching the children learn and grow each day is a wonderful experience. It's exciting to watch their individual personalities start to shine as they grow. I am very thankful that I have the opportunity to teach the next generation and am very passionate about providing a safe and healthy environment for the children to learn and grow in.*



### **Denise Vogon –Teacher White Rabbits**

Denise joined Queen of Hearts in March of 2022. Originally from Lion's Head, she graduated from Medix College in London and worked as a PSW. Knowing that she wished to work with children, Denise joined Queen of Hearts and started her apprenticeship to work towards her ECE certification.

#### **A message from Ms Denise**

*I am so excited to be a part of the Queen of Hearts family. I love coming to work every day, watching the children learn and grow and become their own little person.*



### **Tamara Hayward-King – Teacher White Rabbits**

Tamara started at Queen of Hearts in August 2021. Her background is in nursing, which began when she graduated from the Registered Practical Nursing program at Georgian College in 2015. After years of nursing, she looked back on her roots which began at a nursery school in the early 1990's. This career change brought Tamara to Queen of Hearts where she is enjoying teaching in our Nursery School, and has begun her apprenticeship with Queen of Hearts to gain her ECE certification.

#### **A message from Ms Tamara**

*This is a change of career for me, but I am very excited to apply my knowledge from past careers towards this new position at the Queen of Hearts nursery school. As my own three children are now grown-up, it brings me great joy to be able to work with the children and help them to excel during their time with us.*



### **Kaleigh Rovers –Teacher White Rabbits**

Kaleigh started at Queen of Hearts in March 2021. Her background in childcare began at an early age, assisting in a home daycare. Kaleigh comes to us after graduating from Sacred Heart High School in 2020, and assists in both preschool and toddler classrooms.

#### **A message from Ms Kaleigh**

*It is a great opportunity to be part of Queen of Hearts and I am so happy to be here. I have had a passion for taking care of children since I was young, and hope to continue being able to grow with them as I gain experience.*



### **Briana Wright –Teacher White Rabbits**

Briana joined Queen of Hearts in January of 2023. She grew up in Meaford, and enjoys her time skiing, teaching, and being a mom. Briana is looking forward to the opportunities available to staff and students at Queen of Hearts, and can't wait to see what the future holds.

#### **Message from Mr. Briana**

*I love to watch and help children grow and learn. I am very thankful to be a part of teaching children to learn and grow.*



### **Tracy Rovers – Teacher Mad Hatters**

Tracy joined Queen of Hearts in December 2020. Her background in childcare began in 2004, providing private childcare from her home for over 9 years. She has joined us as a teacher for our Mad Hatters classroom and continues to provide exceptional care to the children.

#### **A message from Ms. Tracy**

*I was so lucky to be given the opportunity to join the Queen of Hearts team. Coming to work every day is such a rewarding experience. I just can't say enough about the amazing staff and children that brighten my day.*



### **Lesley Smith – Teacher Mad Hatters**

Lesley began working at Queen of Hearts at the beginning of May 2022. Born in Owen Sound, Lesley went to Georgian College for the ECE program and graduated in 2022. Prior to going to college, she worked in a factory for several years before it was shut down. This led her to choosing a career in childcare. During her free time, Lesley pursues her passion of photography, and enjoys attending live music performances and spending time with her family.

#### **A message from Ms Lesley**

*I am very lucky to have joined the Queen of Hearts team immediately upon graduating. While I am still new to childcare, I feel like I have found a great home and support system within the Nursery School. I especially enjoy getting to join in with the wonder and excitement expressed by the children as they discover new abilities and information. I look forward to continuing to learn and grow while encouraging the future leaders of tomorrow's world to do the same.*



### **Julie Hawke – Teacher Mad Hatters**

Julie joined the team in September 2022 as a teacher in the Mad Hatters classroom. A mother of 5, she grew up on the Bruce Peninsula and studied at Georgian College. Prior to working at Queen of Hearts she worked as a PSW. In 2018, she began working in childcare and soon after began her apprenticeship. Julie has joined Queen of Heart after working in a private school and teaching in a French preschool and School Age program.

#### **A message from Ms Julie**

*I am thrilled to be joining the Queen of Hearts family and I look forward to working with a Nursery School curriculum. I have always been passionate about children and I began my caring for children at 12 years old, and have over 25 years of experience. I love viewing the world through children's eyes, sense of wonder and excitement. I am excited to begin my journey at Queen of Hearts and to be part of this incredible Nursery School.*



### **Candace Blake – General Assistant**

Candace joined the team in August 2021. She was born and raised in Brampton Ontario and moved up to the area in 2020. Candace has one son and three granddaughters. Her spare time is spent taking advantage of our lovely area, boating in the summer with her family and snowmobiling in the winter. Before joining Queen of Hearts, Candace was in the warehousing/logistics field. She had always dreamed of working with children and was excited when the position opened up at Queen of Hearts.

#### **A message from Ms Candace**

*I have only been part of Queen of Hearts for a short time but I already feel part of the family. I love being part of the children's everyday routine and being one of the first people they see in the morning and our little chats while taking them to their classrooms. We have a great team here with incredible passion for each individual child. I feel proud to be part of such a great group of teachers and staff!*



### **Hayat Ismail – General Assistant**

Originally coming to Canada from Syria as a refugee, Hayat worked hard to become a Canadian Citizen in early 2022. She has studied English as a second language for 5 years and has worked in different child care centres and hopes to study and one day obtain her Early Childhood Education certificate. Hayat joined the Queen of Hearts team in September 2022. She loves to spend time with her family, and enjoys cooking traditional Syrian food in her free time. She looks forward to meeting everyone, and enjoys the variety of work she experiences at Queen of Hearts

#### **A message from Ms Hayat**

*As I am new to Queen of Hearts, I look forward to increasing my experience and knowledge. It's a wonderful place to be, and it's such a happy place to work.*



### **Mike Baillie – QYC Coordinator**

Mike joined the Queen of Hearts QYC team in February of 2023. Originally from Brantford, he completed his schooling to become a youth behavioural and mental health support worker and trainer. Having a deep passion for helping support all children, Mike joined Queen of Hearts as the new QYC coordinator. He looks forward to mentoring the children in a school setting, and being part of all the new programs being offered.

#### **Message from Mr. Mike**

*I look forward to providing the Queen of Hearts children with another positive, caring mentor. I truly value teaching and learning from both my fellow team members as well as the children around me as they explore, learn, and grow.*



### **Kaileigh Maine – QYC Teacher**

Growing up in Owen Sound, Kaileigh joined Queen of Hearts in February of 2023. A graduate of Sheridan College, Kaileigh originally studied within the area of Animal Care, before later becoming a certified Optometric Assistant in 2017. Knowing that she wished to extend her career into the area of child care, she enrolled in Northern College's Child and Adolescent Mental Health program, which further solidified her desire to support each individual child in their growth and development.

#### **A message from Ms Kaileigh**

*I feel lucky to be part of the Queen of Hearts team and work in an environment that truly has the child's best interest in mind. Queen of Hearts is supportive of their staff's own learning and I'm excited to start my career with them.*



### **Grace Holyome –Supply Teacher and QYC**

Grace started with Queen of Hearts in 2018. She graduated as an ECE from Fanshawe College. Her time is split during the week days working in each of the Nursery Schools and at the QYC Before and After School program

#### **A message from Ms Grace**

*There is so much I enjoy about Queen of Hearts. It is a wonderful place to work. My colleagues are amazing and the children and families are the best. I am really lucky to be a part of this school.*





### **Sheila Watson – QYC**

Sheila joined Queen of Hearts in 2018 as a Preschool Teacher implementing the Queen of Hearts Curriculum into all aspects of her classroom. She has a Bachelor of Elementary Education degree. Growing up in the Philippines before moving to Canada, Sheila started her career as a public school teacher. She then moved to Canada and taught in the Canadian public system. Sheila has over three decades of teaching experience. In summer 2022 Sheila stepped back from full time teaching and moved to our busy school age program.

#### **Message from Ms. Sheila**

*I believe that teaching is a mission and a work of the heart. Working with young learners is so fulfilling and rewarding. Their endless energy, honesty, creativity and resilience are very admirable and contagious. I love that no single day is the same and I am also learning with them.*



### **Kateira Baillie – QYC**

Kateira joined the Queen of Hearts QYC team in March 2023. Originally from Brantford, Kateira relocated to Owen Sound and enrolled at Seneca College for Behavioural Psychology. While in school, she gained more experience working with youths while working with Crown4Crown Youth in Care Support.

#### **Message from Ms. Kateira**

*I am happy to now be a part of the QYC and Queen of Hearts. Although I am newer to this field, I am positive I can grow through my time here. I love children and being able to watch them learn and develop.*