

# Celebrating Women Leaders at Cranbrook



CRANBROOK SCHOOL



## Elizabeth Fletcher

Head of Year 11 College  
/ English Teacher

In celebration of International Women's Day 2024 on Friday 8 March, we are proudly profiling our female leaders at Cranbrook as part of our commitment to championing diversity and fostering inclusion in education. This year's theme, 'Count Her In: Invest in women. Accelerate progress', underscores the importance of celebrating the invaluable contributions of women in the teaching profession. By spotlighting female educators, we are sharing their inspiring stories, and showcasing the diverse perspectives they bring to the classroom, whilst instilling a sense of belonging and empowerment for us all.

### How long have you worked at Cranbrook and in what role/s?

I have worked at Cranbrook for over 8 years as an English teacher, five years as the Housemaster of Northcott and a year as Head of Year 11 College.

### What do you love about your job and the School?

Set in one of the most beautiful locations, I feel very lucky to come to work here every day. It is genuinely the friendliest, most supportive school I have worked in and there is a fantastic energy amongst students and staff.

### How has the education sector changed for women in your time in teaching?

My personal experiences as a woman within the education sector, and the opportunities that have been available to me, have always been extremely broad and positive. From an English teaching perspective, I have noticed a greater emphasis, in recent years, on the insistence and need for students

to regularly and meaningfully engage with texts that are specifically focused on the diverse history and voices of women within national and global societies. By ensuring students read, listen to and empathise with these female experiences, we are likely to see the most progress and change.

### What changes do you hope to see continue to happen in the future?

I hope to see more resources that help to equip young people with the skills, knowledge and confidence to lead in these areas of change – whether that is during their time at school or in institutions beyond this.

### What's your funniest/most memorable moment of teaching at Cranbrook?

Walking through the beautiful village of Diskit, Northern India with the students and parents of the 2018 CETOP tour. We stumbled upon a mass gathering of people, wandered towards the main focus of it and found ourselves invited to sit by the side of the Dalai Lama while he delivered a talk

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on global peace. He spoke with us after this, shook our hands and was amazed that we had travelled all the way from Australia. That was certainly very memorable!

**What advice do you have for anyone starting their career in teaching?**

The more you put in, the more you will get out of it. If you can – say yes to every opportunity, experience and challenge – you never know where it could take you. For me, that was the other side of the world!