

# **LYDIA ELIZABETH NELSON**

e: [lnelson@student.nazarene.ac.uk](mailto:lnelson@student.nazarene.ac.uk)

---

## **PROFILE**

I am a committed, enthusiastic and creative professional with a passion for inclusion and development of the individual. I bring a wide range of experience with me, both teaching and non-teaching. An adaptive learner, with a background in adult education and a top selective school, I have much to offer. As a Head of Year at The Manchester Grammar School, I enjoyed a wide range of professional experiences, working with a breadth of families where I led cohorts of pupils, parents and form tutors. I also completed two of my three teaching practice placements in a challenging comprehensive with many EAL students and a vibrant SEN centre. I loved the creativity offered by teaching, thrived on the energy generated by engaging students, and enjoyed the balance between independent and team working. My background in FE established a strong belief in a student-centred approach, which remained evident in my most recent role, where I also employed my creativity, innovative thinking and proactive approach: I was employed to formalise and develop the Boaz Trust's Refugee Support Work. I was successful in this task, whilst simultaneously pursuing full-time MA study and my current doctoral research, both in Practical Theology. I am now looking to expand my professional practice further, drawing on my extensive skills, experience and interests.

---

## **EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS**

### **University of Manchester (Nazarene Theological College)**

<b>2019 – Present</b>	<b>PhD Practical Theology (part-time)</b> <b>Dr Kent E Brower Award (2020)</b> <b>Ruth Ross Award (2021)</b>	
<b>2018</b>	<b>MA Practical Theology</b> <b>Ruth Ross Award (2019)</b>	<b>Distinction</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b><u>United School of Ministry, Manchester</u></b>	

### **University of Manchester (School of Education)**

<b>2006</b>	<b>PGCE Secondary English (11-18)</b> <b>Withers Memorial Prize (2006)</b>	<b>Pass</b>
-------------	---	-------------

### **University of London (Goldsmiths College)**

<b>2002</b>	<b>MA Arts Administration &amp; Cultural Policy</b>	<b>Pass</b>
-------------	---	-------------

### **University of Cambridge (Robinson College)**

<b>2001</b>	<b>BA (hons) English</b>	<b>2:1</b>
-------------	--------------------------	------------

---

## **EXPERIENCE**

### **NAZARENE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE**

#### **09/19-Present Teaching Assistant (Practical Theology)**

- Includes Team teaching (MA module: Models of Theological Reflection).

### **THE BOAZ TRUST**

#### **09/17-11/21 Refugee Support Worker**

- Formalising and developing the charity's support work with Refugee clients.
- In under one year, funding released to employ another worker, because of my achievements.

- Developing systems and processes for client support and sustainability.
- Identifying and initiating relationships with potential partner organisations.
- Managing a caseload of clients.
- Identifying gaps and developing the solution, for example developing and delivering bespoke tenancy training materials for Boaz Refugee clients, in partnership with Crisis.

#### UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER – COLLABORATION LABS WITH SHE LEADS FOR LEGACY

**01/21-06/21 Associate Research Consultant:** *Breaking the Glass: Understanding the Barriers faced by Black Professional Women in Career Progression*

#### THE MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**9/06-08/17 Teacher of English (Years 5-13)**

- Teaching English across the full age-range (11-18).
- Teaching first year of Cambridge Pre-U English Literature.
- Delivery of A Level English Literature and (I)GCSE English and English Literature – AQA and then Cambridge.
- Working with sixth-form students, specifically in preparation for Oxbridge entrance and the general academic enrichment programme.
- Additional teaching: Drama (Year 7 & 8), Games (Year 9) and PSHE (Year 8); specialist English Teacher in the MGS Junior Section, Years 5 & 6.
- Setting and marking internal exams.
- Form Tutor – Year 7 & Year 8.

**9/11-07/14 Head of Year (Years 7 & 8)**

- Leading a team of experienced form tutors.
- Overseeing a year group through Year 7 and 8.
- Liaison with parents.
- Identification, monitoring and support of underperforming pupils; identification of outstanding students.
- Project work: Lower School Speaker of the Month; Year 8 Blackden Trust visits programme.
- Dissemination of good practice.
- Liaison with Head of Section and Senior Management as and when needed.
- Public speaking in various contexts.

**9/10-9/11 Lead Tutor (Year 8)**

**9/09-9/10 Lower School Pastoral Assistant for Year 7**

**Co-curricular:** Lower School Book Club; Middle School Debating and Public Speaking; Christian Union and Assembly; Hockey Club; Community Action (sixth-form students, supporting children with literacy in local primary schools).

#### MANCHESTER COLLEGE OF ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY (Access Department).

**09/03-11/04 English Lecturer and Course Tutor**

**Commissioned Writer** on the *Skills for Life* Curriculum Development Project for Refugee, community-based students ('Return to Learn Sewing' 2004).

#### ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY EXPERIENCE

**KING'S CHURCH, MANCHESTER (2017-2019):** Site Leader; **KING'S KIDS (2010-2018):** Team Leader and Kids Worker; **TALITHA ARTS (2016):** Volunteer Practitioner (Church Workshop, Jersey); **KING'S YOUTH (2014- 2015):** Youth Leader; **CARIOCCA EDUCATIONAL TRUST (Spring/Summer 2006):** Tutor, GCSE Booster Classes for local students (Moss Side).

**INTERESTS:** Reading, creative activities such as cooking, writing, theatre, film and art, and keeping physically active.