

Ms Esther Routley, current Guidance Counsellor: (written in 2021)

Reflections on 14 years at Trinity College

Looking back at my commencement as one of two Guidance Counsellors at Trinity College in 2009 I am amazed at how fast time has gone and how quickly things can change and yet, stay the same.... From the changes of Principals, and the movement of other staff, the one thing that has remained stable and consistent, in my experience, has been the solidarity and commitment of the staff - the true "spirit of Trinity".

As one who has experienced a wide range of other educational environments, both in the state system and the private system, I had never encountered anything like the consistent living persona that is the core heartbeat of Trinity, despite the changing and evolving of different personalities and staff. It is a uniquely precious and interesting experience to be around long enough to witness the arrival of new staff, fresh faced and enthusiastic, who, over time, build their own lives and families and grow into the Trinity community. Careers are begun and developed in these buildings, and lives, love, joy, sadness and yes, even tragedies are shared with a group of people who, over time, become family to each other.

I had never imagined a place where people would not want to move elsewhere, or would plan to retire out of, until I came to Trinity. There are some places that you work at that are just "places" or "jobs", and then there are other places that, despite being a job and a place, you can actually call home. Trinity College is such a place for me and I am glad that this place and its people have been my experience of life over the last 14 years of service.

Esther Routley