

# “Superfly TikTok Sensation”

Amanda Riley, Merville's newest Superfly TikTok sensation with over one hundred thousand followers on TikTok, has entered our little town with a bang. For those of you who don't know the “Superfly Lunchlady,” she is a middle-aged woman who broke the internet with her caring manner, unlevelled generosity, and general positivity back at the start of the Covid-19 lockdown in 2020. Amanda was working as the manager of a school district of ten when the lockdown hit; this was when she and her wonderful team of lunch ladies set up an incredible initiative where they provided all people, rich or poor, with the opportunity to get free meals. This was pivotal in a lot of families' well-being, as many people found themselves out of work for the first time ever. This was also when Amanda's daughter inspired her to set up a TikTok page so she could share the menu for the day. Amanda always paired the menu with a positive quote of the day to maintain high spirits in the community.

Amanda's natural charm, fun clothes, and funky glasses quickly won over the love of not just her community but also a more international fanbase.

Amanda's TikTok has since evolved as she retired in 2024 and made the bold decision to begin a brand-new chapter of her life, one that would take her thousands of miles from the school kitchens that made her famous to the quiet coastal beauty of Merville.

Many of her followers were surprised by her decision to start over in Merville, where she now lives a quieter life.



When people found out that a woman with over 100,000 followers was moving to our small town, they were curious. Many thought that social media fame came with glamour and excitement. Amanda arrived in Merville with a bang, just like she did with her online followers years ago, with kindness and a spark that made her go viral.

What's noticeable about Amanda now is how happy she seems. For years, she was in charge of a district with ten schools and helped coordinate meal initiatives during a tough time. But Merville is different. It's peaceful.

In Merville, Amanda seems to have found a kind of peace she didn't know was possible. Her recent TikTok videos show walks by the sea, sunsets, and quiet moments. There's a calmness in her voice that speaks volumes. It's the sound of someone who no longer has to hold everything.

When asked what something she could not live without, Amanda said, “Moving to the other side of the world, I was forced to leave behind material things I was sure I could never live without, but this was really a blessing in disguise because as long as I have love and my health, that is all anyone really needs.”

Amanda often talks about being grateful and slowing down. The quiet life in Merville suits her. She enjoys her morning coffee by the sea, chatting with neighbours and seeing faces in local shops. There's something about Merville that grounds her. She's fully embraced it. She feels a sense of solidarity with the community and with herself. After years of rushing, she's found steadiness.

What's great about this chapter is that it doesn't feel like an ending. It feels like growth. Her TikTok has changed from updates to thoughtful reflections and appreciation for simple moments. The positivity is still there. It's softer now and more personal. She's not pretending to be happy or anyone she isn't; she's just living her life as her own authentic self.

Locals who've met Amanda say she's the person her followers love online. She still wears glasses and colourful outfits, but there's an added ease about her. She's not just defined by her role or online following; she's just Amanda enjoying her home and the people around her.

By Cara Harkin



Merville has gained more than a TikTok personality. It's gained someone who understands the value of community, kindness and simple moments. In return, Amanda has gained peace, belonging and quiet happiness that grows each day.

Her journey reminds us that it's never too late to change direction. From managing school kitchens during a crisis to standing by Lough Foyle, Amanda Riley inspires us. She doesn't seek attention; she just lives authentically.

She once helped a community with food and uplifting words. Now in Merville, she helps build it up, just by being part of it.

