



Students in Classrooms Student Profile

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On my application to Nottingham Trent University I made it clear that I was studying with a view to pursuing a career in teaching and was very interested in a placement scheme that I was informed about during Fresher's week. A representative from the Students in Classrooms team was present to explain the four different schemes that the University was able to offer to students. I was interested in the Associate role so attended an awareness raising meeting and following a successful application, attended the training for the scheme.

I began my placement in a local school in January and found the department extremely flexible and supportive of my studies and my involvement within their Maths department. I was able to get involved to a level where I felt comfortable and to observe a variety of teaching styles, a range of pupil ability and behaviour as well as some of the administrative sides to the role (i.e. marking, exam invigilating, moderation of coursework). Throughout my placement I was made to feel a part of the team and fully backed by the staff which provided me with a safe environment to try new skills.

On completion of the scheme I felt that I now had a much greater knowledge of the role of a teacher – both the benefits and the difficulties. This experience has only increased my desire to enter a career in teaching and I would strongly recommend the scheme to anyone who is considering teaching or considering not teaching as it enables you to make an informed decision. The fact that you also get paid to take part in the scheme...!

Shortly after completing my scheme I was contacted by the head of the maths department and asked whether I would return to the school the following year and work directly for them. I have since applied successfully to do that and now am employed directly by the school for the remainder of my degree with the offer of a GTP afterwards.

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