



## Training to teach... Alistair

Back to school for former Deepings student



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I graduated with a BA (Hons) History from Leeds Metropolitan University in 2010 and I didn't really know what I wanted to do so I ended up travelling to China and taught English as a foreign language for three years.

This was where my passion for teaching was ignited; seeing my students progress and playing an active part in their enjoyment of learning. I then moved to The Netherlands, where I worked in several international schools as a teaching assistant and football coach. I decided that teaching was the next step in my career and I began looking at the different routes into the classroom.

The SCITT programme offered me exactly what I was looking for - hands-on experience in the classroom learning from fellow professionals, rather than sitting in a lecture theatre. Plus, having been educated at The Deepings myself, I thought it would be a great opportunity to give something back to the school that gave so much to me.

From day one, the energy and passion for teaching and education from the SCITT management team was intoxicating. The level of support and experience you receive is invaluable; my host school has made me feel very welcome and I couldn't have asked for more. You are assigned a trained school mentor who is there to assist, advise and help you with any issues while you teach and learn the day-to-day duties of being a teacher. They give you constructive feedback on every lesson which enables you to improve and develop your practice ensuring you become the best teacher you can be.

As I am beginning to search for jobs now, I am incredibly excited about beginning my teaching career and new life. However, I am not wishing my time away as I will be sad to leave the SCITT programme and my mentor, as I couldn't have done this and wouldn't be the teacher I am now without them. I would recommend this route to anyone. Everyone on the course encourages you towards your success and are there for you when you need advice or when you're feeling like you just need a chat.



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