

# Student teachers' experiences and advice

*The Primary Advantage Hub offers structured, supportive and positive learning. I believe there is so much more experience to be gained from learning in a collaborative environment across the federation. It is fantastic to have this additional level of support.*

Maddie Thompson

*I feel privileged to have been part of the federation; the support and training have been outstanding. The sessions and support in school had helped me to stay on track and focused.*

Caz Clifford

## Experience of hub:

*The hub was such an amazing addition to my training. It provided a forum to discuss important issues with other students, as well as undergoing in-depth and wide-ranging training.*

## My advice for new teachers:

*Start every day afresh. Try to find time to have fun with your class and get to know what makes them tick. Attempt to build a reasonable work/life balance (easier said than done) and talk to your colleagues as much as possible. It is often the case that tricky issues that you face are also being faced by those around you and sharing coping mechanisms can be really powerful.*

Nicky Pear

## Experience of hub:

*High expectations from the Federation pushed me to make every week count. The amazingly positive relationships and support have made the process much more manageable.*

## My advice for new teachers:

*Enjoy your job! Children know exactly how you are feeling and respond accordingly. If you want to be there and enjoy the learning experience then so will they! Also, a smile, a compliment or a kind word go a long way.*

Jessica House

## Experience of hub:

*A great way to learn from each other's experiences and share ideas. Having a weekly 'check-in' provided that extra safety net of reassurance and advice. All training was interesting, relevant and practical.*

## My advice for new teachers:

*Don't be afraid to ask questions! Speaking to other teachers about teaching methods, strategies for dealing with certain pupils, advice on lesson progression etc. has been crucial. I have been picking up so many little tips and tricks along the way and my colleagues are always happy to offer ideas and advice.*

Stephanie Burton

## Experience of hub:

*My experience of the hub enabled me to reflect on my practise and share my experiences with my peers. It was an opportunity to learn new practical skills that directly impacted on my teaching, a useful tool to balance the theory provided by the IOE. Through the hub I received advice about my IOE folder, shared experiences, tips and worries and had a chance to catch up with people on a similar journey.*

## My advice for new teachers:

*There is so much that could be said... make yourself a planning and marking timetable so that the two things feel manageable, laminate the display work that you do so that you can keep it, know and enjoy the kids in your class and make lots of copies of their names for coat pegs, lucky names, stay on green, talk partners, helping hands etc... and know that you can leave school without everything being completed, make time for yourself and prioritise!*

Holy Cosby

*Getting together with other students on a regular basis helps to reflect on what makes good practice and how to apply it in the classroom in small achievable steps.*

Grace Gladstone

## Experience of hub:

*Hub was useful especially for understanding of lesson structure and helpful ideas (e.g. starters, main input, plenary) and behaviour and classroom management.*

## My advice for new teachers:

*Don't be afraid to take risks and realise that even as an NQT your ideas can often be the best ones your school has!*

Fiona O'Leary