

Luke – PGCE Languages

Degree and classification: BA (Hons) Russian Studies

What was your work experience prior to embarking on the PGCE course?

I had been a restaurant manager for 2 years after University, prior to starting my PGCE.

What experience of working with schools and or children did you have before embarking on the PGCE course?

I had no experience of working in schools or with children before my PGCE.

How did the PGCE course prepare you for your NQT year?

I felt fully prepared for my PGCE. I had a wide range of practical experiences in schools, as well as academic work to help me to prepare me for my first position.

What impact did the PGCE course have on your early career?

My PGCE prepared me fully to start my career as an NQT. It is hard work and requires a lot of time but incredibly rewarding, just like when you take on the role as a teacher full-time. I had very clear aspirations after completing my PGCE and I think that this was due to the guidance that I received from tutors at University, as well as Mentors in the partner schools I worked in.

What has been your career path to date and what are your aspirations?

I qualified in July 2009 and I took up my first position in September 2009. In that time I have been assistant head of year, acting head of year and deputy head of faculty, as well as PGCE and NQT subject mentor. I really hope to become an Assistant Head within the next five years and then hopefully onto becoming a Deputy Head and then a Headteacher.

Since qualifying Luke has been involved in partnership work with the University. He has delivered training sessions at the University for new PGCE students on behaviour management and was involved in the OFSTED inspection in 2010. Luke is currently a PGCE mentor and a member of the PGCE course committee, which is involved in the development of the PGCE course.