



Testimonial



Judith Gordon
English Teacher

After spending many years teaching SEND classes in mainstream school, both in the local area and abroad, I initially worked at Acklam Road Hospital. This was a steep learning curve for me, but it ignited a passion for Alternative Provision. I wanted to ensure that young people who were facing challenges with their mental or physical health could still enjoy their education and achieve their potential.

Following this period in Acklam Road, I transferred into Community Teaching. I taught students in their own homes. Fostering really positive relationships with students and their families became an important outcome of this work. This was a stepping stone to a gentle, gradual integration into some of our classes, for some students. Watching them grow in confidence, become focused learners and thrive socially was an amazing experience for me. I feel that I became a more effective teacher as I adapted my teaching constantly, to meet their range of needs.

Since then, I have been teaching English to KS3 and KS4. The curriculum at Hospital School is well planned and structured but there is still flexibility to meet the individual needs of our learners. Following this curriculum and addressing individual needs has resulted in me becoming a more versatile teacher.

The culture of Hospital School promotes the professional Development of all staff. I feel valued and my voice is heard when I can offer suggestions about our systems and processes. I have worked in many different schools, but I feel that Hospital School is the most effective in terms of encouraging staff to be collaborative and it fosters a strong sense of equality in terms of staff roles.

I have had a long career in teaching, but I definitely feel, at Hospital School, I have more impact than anywhere else that I have worked. We definitely change lives!