



Louise Creed, a teacher at Westwood Primary School in Lowestoft writes about her experience of joining the school and the support and guidance she has had in her time in an ALT school:

I joined Westwood in 2013 I was interviewed in spring 2013 while completing my initial teacher training with SCITT and in role for September 2013. I initially taught in year 3. I was incredibly well supported through my NQT year by an experienced mentor and the whole SMT team. I always felt my options mattered even as an NQT and helped to set up the Westwood learning behaviour based around practice I had seen in other settings during my training.

I had extensive training through high quality CPD in school and during my first year I was able to pilot the use of iPads in class and develop how technology could be used by teachers to further learning with another colleague supported by David Hilton, the Trust's Head of Standards. In my second year of teaching I was given the opportunity to gain national SENCO award and 60 masters credits. During my second year I also moved to year 4 and took on humanities lead within school. This gave me the opportunity to plan units of work and develop mastery approach to topic with David. I became part of Lowestoft hub of teachers meeting with other professionals, sharing good practice and developing subject knowledge.

I applied for key stage lead in my second year and was successful and am now key stage 2 lead and year 6 teacher.

In terms of other CPD, I have been able to access conferences by Pie Corbett (talk for writing) and Shirley Clarke which has enabled our school to develop our literacy planning and marking and feedback.

Westwood then had a talk for writing specialist deliver training to the whole Hub of schools to further our knowledge and develop our practice.

I regularly attend moderation meetings with other ALT schools to enable me to further my understanding of year 6 assessment. My other colleagues have been incredibly supportive and an invaluable source of knowledge.

My head teacher ensures I am coached and supported through my role. And I always feel valued and that I can approach her or the Trust about my next steps in my career.

See more at : www.westwoodprimary.org