

How we support your career development

Read Tom's story...

Undergraduate degree: University of Cambridge, Natural Sciences

Teaching subject: Science (Chemistry)

What attracted you to train to teach with Hope Sentamu Learning Trust in partnership with York St John University?

The reputation of Hope Sentamu, particularly in terms of the quality of schools it partners with and the employment rate of its graduates was one of the main things that attracted me to apply.

I would encourage others to train with the Hope Sentamu because it offers you a route directly into the classroom where you can learn as you teach and are supported really well by colleagues from the school direct team, your placement and the University.

What has your experience been like during your NQT year?

I really enjoyed my NQT year. It gave me a chance to put into practice more of what I had learnt during my training year. I received brilliant support from my school, Vale of York Academy, and mentor, I was able to build upon my training year and really get to grips with being a full-time teacher.

How has your career developed within the Trust?

My journey within Hope Sentamu Learning Trust has taken in a number of roles. I started off as a cover supervisor, before beginning my teacher training with Hope Sentamu through the school direct route. Both of my placements were then in trust schools, giving me a broad view of the very different schools within the trust. I was fortunate to then get my NQT job back where I'd begun as a cover supervisor! I'm now in my 3rd year as a teacher at Vale of York academy and still enjoying every day of it.

How has the Trust supported your own career development?

The Trust has enabled me to develop from a cover supervisor to a fully qualified teacher over the last 4 years. The support and development has been good –always offering CPD courses to attend. In my first year I participated in the Trust-wide NQT programme. In my second year I completed a Physics Specialist Practitioner course run jointly between the Hope Sentamu & York St John University, and now in my third year I am working on a mentorship course to enable me to better support trainee teachers. Moving forward I am now looking at what is next for my professional development and what the trust can do to support me in taking that step.



Great teaching changes lives.