

# Case study

Are you thinking of training as a History teacher?

**Hope** SENTAMU  
LEARNING TRUST

Read Davina's story...

**Postgraduate degree: BA honours History, York St John University**

**Teaching subject: History**

**Why did you decide to become a teacher?**

Teaching was something I'd always wanted to do since I was a child. My grandad had encouraged my love of history and that was something I wanted to pass on to others. Over the years I've had a number of roles working with young people and it's always been something I've enjoyed. Seeing students achieve their fullest potential is one of the greatest feelings. There's no job quite like it! No two days are the same.

**Why did you choose the School Direct route into teaching?**

One of the things that attracted me to the programme was getting the practical hands-on experience of being in a classroom from the start. I liked the idea of having a base school also where you would be for the majority of the year, that way you really get to know your students and how they learn. I think with teaching the best way to learn and improve is by doing the job, and by joining the programme I feel I gained invaluable experience I wouldn't have got if I entered the profession in another way.

**What attracted you to train to teach on the Hope Sentamu Learning Trust School Direct programme in partnership with York St John University?**

I felt the heart of the programme was about getting the best out of the trainee teachers. The CPD opportunities were really useful. I felt the programme would give me the best start in my teaching career and really build on the skills I already had from my previous roles.

**What has your experience been like working with Hope Sentamu Learning Trust?**

One of the things I really liked was how supported I felt during the year. There was always someone there to listen no matter what. The schools I was placed in were brilliant and the mentors in each school were so wonderful and really helped to get the best out of me. As a parent and trainee teacher I would often put myself under tremendous pressure but the team at both York St John and Hope Sentamu were there to listen and offer support and help, as were the mentors in school. For those of us who are parents while training, I felt the team were understanding to my family commitments and would help me organise my workload and time so that I was not only operating effectively in the classroom but also able to be an effective parent at home without being completely overwhelmed. I received consistent support and encouragement during my training, from the leads of the programme to the mentors in school, they really helped me become a better teacher and I look forward to being able to build on what I have learnt in my NQT year.



Great teaching changes lives.