

Teacher Profile: Emma McGroarty
Joined: September 2012 as an NQT
Studied: Queen's University Belfast
Degree: Single Honours English
& Secondary English PGCE
Current Position: English teacher, Middle Leader-
Initial Teacher Trainer and Teaching & Learning
lead.



I joined Westfield Academy as an NQT English Teacher in September 2012. I am from Northern Ireland and studied for my PGCE in Queen's University Belfast. Jobs were at an all-time low in Northern Ireland at the time and I was desperate to get stuck in and desperately didn't want to move from maternity post-to various temporary positions. I joined an agency called Uteach, who were simply amazing and guided me through every step in applying for a teaching position in England.

A couple of weeks later, I met with teachers of Westfield Academy in Dublin for an informal interview- they were friendly, easy to talk to and it was very clear they were extremely passionate about their pupils. I was asked to a second interview over at the Academy in Watford and shadowed the English department and taught a lesson to a very bright and bubbly year 8 class. I absolutely loved it from the moment I stepped foot in the door- and it has been my home ever since.



Since September 2012 I have been so fortunate to progress the career ladder very quickly. (With a lot of hard work) I have had the opportunity to lead CPD sessions, be part of SEN twilight groups-looking at the needs of all our pupils, and taken up the position of KS4 lead within the English department. If you are looking for a school with fantastic career progression and passion for teaching then this is the place for you!

Westfield Academy has grown in so many ways since the day I joined. We are a good school rated by Ofsted, who are getting closer and closer to an outstanding school and we have a beautiful and exciting new build; which is looking bigger and more impressive day-by-day! Our pupils have got so much character and love to give and really embrace teachers who show passion and enthusiasm for their subjects. You will teach students who you will never forget and who will always be so grateful for the help you have given them.

In January 2015, I took up the position of Initial Teacher Training Lead and had an extremely successful two terms. In September 2016, I became a middle leader and took over the position of Teaching & Learning Lead in Westfield. I have relished in planning and delivering CPD and supporting staff and have thoroughly enjoyed my role thus far. I am so excited for the challenges and opportunities that this position will lead to within my career. Westfield Academy is fast paced, exciting and so rewarding and will provide you with the skills you need to be an outstanding teacher.

I hope to see you at Westfield Academy in the near future!



Emma McGroarty

