



## **Rivers Academy West London** an Aspirations Academy

I joined Rivers Academy West London two years ago as an NQT. Throughout that year, I consistently received fantastic provision from a variety of sources. My mentor and subject lead provided personalised support and high quality advice to ensure that I had the best possible start to my teaching career. Tailored NQT specific CPD sessions led by my professional mentor and a host of colleagues responded directly to the needs of an NQT and supported my progress greatly throughout the year. A research based approach to our sessions allowed for classroom research that I could share the results and strategies of with my department to develop, delivering my own CPD from early on in my career.

Furthermore, The Aspirations Academies Trust facilitate trust wide NQT Incubator Days whereby sessions led by highly skilled and experienced colleagues fed into my own professional development and gave me the opportunity to collaborate with other NQTs within the Trust. Similarly, whole academy CPD sessions facilitated my wider understanding of whole school policy and priorities, as well as how this fitted with the vision of the Aspirations Trust. The positive experience and support that I received in my NQT year enabled to me to have the confidence to take on a new role as Leader of Initial Teacher training this year. This position has involved increasing levels of responsibility and more influence over teaching and learning in the Academy. I have really enjoyed the opportunity of collaborating with my teaching colleagues to help improve the experience of our students and is something that I want to continue doing in the future.



**Lauren Hoskin**  
Languages teacher  
Leader of ITT

*Route into teaching:*  
PGCE



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I joined Rivers Academy West London, straight after finishing university and began my teaching career as a cover supervisor. I found this role very beneficial for me as it allowed me to take a deeper look into the teaching profession, during my cover supervisor role I was offered CPD which supported my teacher training that I did the following year. During my teacher training, I was provided with a Mentor, a Teaching and Learning Director, lots of CPD and an immensely supportive department. The training provided is great for personal development as you can personalise it to your own needs and meets all the requirements from Ofsted. From all this, I have now progressed in my career as a teacher and am able to confidently offer guidance and support to new trainees.



**Siân Llewellyn**

English and  
Psychology Teacher  
Head of Key Stage  
Three English

*Route into teaching:*  
Assessment Only



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Throughout my time at Rivers, I have been afforded an unparalleled level of support and guidance which has allowed me to develop my confidence and practise in the classroom. With an incredibly knowledgeable and insightful mentor, I was able to curbed out my own teaching style in a new environment. Previously quite shy and reserved, the mentoring and development opportunities have allowed me to become confident in my own self and voice and take ownership in my classroom and beyond. I have been fortunate enough to develop my role in the department in help shaping the curriculum and as a leader, which I have been able to do due to the continuous support given to me by fellow teachers, the community feel of the English department and open learning environment allowed by more senior members of staff.



**Sandeep Rehill**  
English Teacher  
Deputy Coordinator  
of English

*Route into teaching:*  
*Schools Direct*