



Edge Hill
University

Faculty of
Education

Working with partners to source placements

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About FET at Edge Hill University

- We currently run the course from 2 sites, Edge Hill (PGDE, full time) and Wirral Met College (PGCE and UHD, full time and part time).
- We have approx. 60 trainees across both sites.
- Vocational courses are based at WMC, and academic courses are spread across both sites.



Placement structure

- Trainees complete one main placement, from November to June, with a two-week contrasting placement in January.
- Previously, potential trainees were interviewed by ourselves at Edge Hill and made offers, then the Placement team would source placements.
- All our trainees also have a subject specialist mentor, alongside their placement mentor.



Trainee Profile

Training Information for mentor



Course	PGDE Post-14 Education
Year of training (1/2/3/PG)	PGDE
Subject and qualification(s) trainee specialising in	History
Previous & relevant qualifications (e.g. MA, degree, or L3)	Degree: BA Hons History 2:2
Subject knowledge area of strength including indication of key modules/topics studied as part of previous qualification(s)	<p>The area I particularly enjoy is British History either Monarchy or local history. During my degree I studied the following modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HY2102- Public History in Practise • HY2028 – Community History Project • HY1123 – History, Heritage & Society <p>All of these allowed me to understand how there are different ways to communicate and allow others to experience and understand History. I am passionate about allowing people to experience History not just in a textbook but through many forms to get people who aren't passionate about History to enjoy learning about our collective past. I also want to show there is useful and transferable skills with History that can be utilised in many subject areas.</p>



Issues with this approach

- Partner colleges were being offered trainees without meeting them or having a discussion.
- Potential issues not necessarily being picked up until placement started.
- In some scenarios, placements were trying to work with trainee teachers who were not ideally suited
- In the worst case, we were deselecting placements.
- Placing for teaching training, not necessarily for employability



New approach

- We receive the application and depending on subject, curriculum and location, I contact the college where we are assured of the expertise.
- The partner vets the application to see if this is an area they can support in and to decide if the candidate has the desired qualifications and experience.



- VOC ONLY
- A-LEVELS + VOC
- SPORTS

Runshaw

KGV

West Lancs

Winstanley

Wirral Met

Hugh Baird

Cronton

Steven Gerrard

Carmel

St Helen's

St John Rigby

Wigan & Leigh



Interview

- The relevant partner is then invited to the candidate's interview.
- If they have the relevant subject specialism, they can offer them a placement after the interview.
- In some cases, they can also offer the relevant subject specialism mentor which enables us to widen the subjects we are able to offer.



Impact

- I know I can place a trainee in a placement where they have the relevant subject expertise to support that trainee.
- The placement can identify trainees with a focus on long term employability.
- Closer relationship between ourselves and our partners with a sharing of expertise (CPD etc).