

POLESWORTH PARTNERSHIP First for Knowledge

WHY TRAIN WITH US?

THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK

Loughborough
University



The Polesworth School
ENSURING EXCELLENCE



It's easy for us to say that we're a solid partnership, with great facilities, outstanding teachers, great support and fantastic young people, delivering first class training, but why should you take our word for it?

We asked our School Direct Trainees to write a few words about why they chose the Polesworth Partnership as their route into teaching.

Here's what they had to say.....

I have spent five years in industry since graduating in 2008 and have always thought about going into the teaching profession. After visiting the Polesworth school and having the opportunity to look around speak to staff, pupils and current schools direct employees I knew that the Polesworth school would offer outstanding support and a fantastic place to train.

After starting at the school and seeing how the partnership works with Warwick University I knew straight away I had made the right decision. You are supported every step of the way with a subject mentor and professional mentor at school. At Warwick University you have a teaching fellow who visits school to make sure you are on the right track and offer any further support. I don't have any regrets and am happy with the decision I have made. The students and staff at Polesworth are brilliant and have supported me throughout.

Peter Phipps, Geography, School Direct (Salaried)

I was introduced to The Polesworth School through the Department of Education's School Experience Programme, with whom I arranged an initial day's placement early in the Autumn term of 2013. The very fact that the school participates in the Programme gives an indication of the school's commitment to the ethos of attracting good people into the profession. On arrival at the school it is soon apparent that people development is part of the culture. Enthusiasm, professionalism and high standards are evident around every corner, from Heads of Department, to Support Staff to the students themselves, who obviously take pride in their achievements, uniform and school. Teaching staff consistently offer encouragement, support and advice. The academic partnership is with Warwick University, from whom a PGCE qualification is genuinely prestigious, and the organisation underpinning the School Direct Training Programme has been all but seamless. I'm fairly sure, given the 30 years that have elapsed since I left school myself, that I must have had some misgivings about changing career; since my introduction to Polesworth, such thoughts have been utterly replaced by positive first-hand experiences.

Duncan MacKenzie, Maths, School Direct (Salaried)

School Direct is hard work! It is also incredibly well supported, and I have learned so much during my first half term. The balance between real school experience and university lectures has been geared towards increasing my theoretical knowledge and seeing it in practice. I can honestly say it has been exciting and rewarding to change my career and follow this new path. One of the most important things for me was seeing teaching at its best, to appreciate just how much of an impact it can have on young people. I chose to train at The Polesworth School to be part of an outstanding education community, and this has included my own growth too. No one is ever too busy to answer questions, give suggestions or examples. I am eager to see what the next term will bring to my own learning, knowing that the work I am putting in now will be a foundation for lifelong learning.

Melissa Autorino, English, School Direct (Salaried)

The School Direct programme is ideal for anyone who, like me, is changing career to become a teacher. Getting first-hand classroom experience whilst learning the theoretical aspects of teaching gives you a year's training that is both pragmatic and relevant. The Polesworth Partnership sets the benchmark for delivery of the School Direct programme; every aspect of the training is thoroughly professional and the day-to-day support from your mentors and colleagues is simply second-to-none. I knew straight away that the MFL department at The Polesworth School was where I wanted to train because the staff and the quality of their teaching are outstanding. The excellent work ethic that underpins everyone's willingness to share and to learn makes for a stimulating training experience and, above all, an enjoyable place to work. Choosing the right school is fundamental to ensuring that the School Direct programme is a positive and enriching experience for you as a trainee teacher and that's why I wouldn't hesitate to recommend The Polesworth Partnership!

Susan Kirkwood, MFL, School Direct (Salaried)

After a very successful and rewarding year as a School Direct student placed at Birchwood and Dordon, I was delighted when I was offered a permanent teaching job at Birchwood Primary School. I know that my NQT programme will be just as supportive and I can't think of a better school in which to begin my teaching career. My year at Birchwood Primary School (part of the Community Academy Trust) has been fantastic. The support that the school has shown me throughout this year has been 'outstanding'. From talking with peers on my course, I feel that Birchwood Primary and the Community Academy Trust have gone above the expectations of support that other schools have given to their applicants. For myself there is no better way to get into teaching than diving in at the 'deep end'!

James Bright, NQT Birchwood Primary School

I cannot recommend the 'School Direct' route into teaching highly enough. Throughout every step of this journey I have received the highest level of support. Having taken a 180 degree change in my career path, The Polesworth School and Community Academy Trust have provided me with the guidance and confidence to follow my dream. I chose 'School Direct' as I believe, for me, this was the best way to get into teaching. Birchwood and Dordon (part of the Community Academy Trust) have both just received amazing OFSTED reports, with an 'Outstanding' and a 'Good with Outstanding features, outcome. I feel extremely lucky to be part of this successful team. Throughout this year I will be experiencing every aspect of school life in all primary key stages; I am seen as part of the team and involved in all parts of school life. Without a doubt I know I have made the right decision in choosing The Polesworth Partnership to further my career.

Rachel Irving, Primary School Direct (Salaried)