



VIJAY CHHAYA: GOLDEN RIVER EXPERIENCE

“I’ve had the most apt experience of teaching I could have ever imagined”.

After I graduated, I decided to take a gap year to look for new varied experiences in education before studying to become a teacher. Warwick University advertised an internship opportunity at Blue River which I quickly responded to since it was just what I was looking for.

I started work at Blue River as a Focus Tutor in January of this year. Although it has already been six months, I can honestly say I’ve had the most amazing and apt experience of teaching I could have ever imagined. It seems like my experience has been tailored to exactly what I as an individual needed.

I got to learn how to manage behaviour through observing the other more experienced focus tutors. The lead tutor at Bosnia house had regular meetings with me about developing my teaching technique and with his advice I would certainly not be so well prepared for professional teaching. The manager of Blue River staff constantly reminded me of the importance of (togetherness) teamwork in the work place and what it can achieve. My mentor opened my eyes to the personal side of education – every student walks a different path before they enter the classroom.

I have grown in my own professional capacity because of the respect shown to me be the administrative side at Blue River. My ambitions have been to become a teacher of both Mathematics and Physics and I am so thankful for the opportunity to try to teach both of these in my time here. Lastly, I have found it a pleasure working with a head teacher so passionate about ideas about how to develop young students. “Small minds discuss people – average minds discuss events – great minds discuss ideas” (Eleanor Roosevelt).

I am humbled to have been given the chance to put my ideas into practice in and out of the classroom.

I consider myself privileged to have had these cumulative experiences at Blue River because they have prepared and inspired me for the real challenge of education. I am now holding an offer for a PGCE in Physics with Maths from UWE Bristol University to start in September 2014. I owe a huge thanks to all the staff and students for making it a golden river of experience and I recommend it to anyone wanting a stepping stone to success in teaching.

By Vijay Chhaya

*Vijay Chhaya was a focus tutor at Blue River Academy.