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**Education**

**PGDE (Professional Graduate Diploma in Education) in Geography. University of Stathclyde**

**Modules Studied:**

 **Principles of Effective Teaching and Learning**

This course was designed to develop knowledge, skills and understanding to make us better equipped to teach. It emphasised the importance of a teacher not only to be knowledgeable but also be able to interact with young people in order to help them learn and develop.

 **Contexts of Education**

This module is was concerned with the wider contexts of education. It was designed to let the students realise schools are only one part in a system or process that we call education. It looked at the historical, social and political contexts in which education operates.

 **Suggested Learning Strategies**

This aspect of the course dealt with various learning techniques and strategies that could be effectively employed in the classroom. It also dealt with how Geography as a subject could link in with the other social subjects in particular but also as part of the whole learning process.

 **Curriculum and Pedagogy (Geography/Social Science)**

This aspect of the course dealt with the curriculum that I would be teaching, this included all geography levels from 1st to 6th year and smaller amounts of the other social subjects, history and modern studies.

**BSc Geography Degree. University of Glasgow:**

**Modules studied:**

Principles of geography

Applications of geography

Geography field trip

Biology of animals and plants

Introduction to Algebra

Introduction to psychology

Mapping the environment

Environmental systems

Environmental resource management

Space economy and society

Environmental geology

Exploring the cosmos

Introduction to archaeology

Archaeology of Scotland

History of geography

Level 2 core geography

Level 3 core geography

Geography of Africa

3rd world cities

Geographies of resistance movements

**Experience**

**Hillhead High School:**

 **2 weeks observational period:**

40 hours in classroom in a secondary role, mainly observing and taking notes on how the classroom environment worked and occasionally helping out assisting pupils with their work, both individually and in a group.

Shadowed both a senior and a junior pupil over the course of a full school day across a broad range of subjects. This gave me insight into how different departments work and how they relate and interact with each other.

 **7 weeks teaching period:**

Over a 7 week period I took a number of lessons within the field of geography, history and modern studies, these lessons were at first just me teaching certain aspects of a particular topic i.e. 10 to 15 minutes at a time but gradually increasing to me conducting the whole lesson on my own.

I was also heavily involved in the preparation and planning side of teaching, I almost always prepared my lessons from scratch using a variety of formats and teaching methods.

Geography: 80 hours, teaching 5-14 level, standard grade, intermediate and higher.

Modern Studies: 8 hours teaching 5-14 level.

History: 4 hours teaching 5-14 level.

 **Supervisory role on field trips:**

Supervised 5-14 History field trip to Celtic Park Learning Zone on “The Diary of Ann Frank”

 **Examination Experience:**

Assisted Principle Teacher in the making up and the marking of class tests.

**Various Highland Primary Schools:**

I spent 2 weeks as a peripatetic Physical Education teacher while completing my work experience module at school.

**Language Experience:**

Attended module on how the EAL (English as a Foreign Language) department works and the difficulties that they have to contend with also we looked at a few of the teaching techniques that the department employs.

Hillhead High School is one of only two high schools in Glasgow that has strong links with the language support centre in the city. The EAL department at Hillhead has to educate pupils speaking a total of 51 different first languages and these pupils are assimilated into the normal classroom environment as soon as possible. This allowed me invaluable experience in teaching and interacting with children from all over the world.

**Employment History:**

To pay my way through university and for the past 3 years I have worked in the bar and restaurant industry. Throughout this period I held various positions including waiter, charge hand and manager. As a manager I gained valuable leadership experience, both in terms of organisation and the delegation of tasks.

This experience also allowed me to hone my communication skills and expressed upon me the importance of responsibility. If decisions had to be made or anything went wrong it was me was responsible and held accountable.

**Why Korea?**

I have always been a keen traveller and enjoyed a love of travel, living in working in another country seemed like the ideal way to prolong my travel experience while getting the opportunity to experience a culture that is so different from my own. I am very curious to learn what daily life is like in a completely different environment. I have always been someone who is open to new experiences and adventures, living in and exploring Korea is a very exciting prospect for me.

I am a very sociable person and feel I would be able to adapt to life in Korea and be able to offer something back if given the opportunity.

I first considered moving to South Korea having closely followed the 2002 world cup. I was amazed by the cities, the stadiums and the enthusiasm shown by the fans.

**Hobbies and Interests**

 **Travelling:**

I have been a keen traveller for many years having travelled extensively throughout Europe on several occasions. The countries I have visited include, France, Spain, Holland, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Croatia, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Austria and Andorra.

I have also spent several months in South East Asia visiting Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia and Singapore.

 In addition I have also spent significant time in America, Fiji, Australia and New Zealand.

On my way to South Korea I plan on spending a month in India before returning to Malaysia, Borneo, Vietnam and then on to Laos and China.

My significant experience of living in different countries and cultures makes me ideally suited to adapting and fitting in to Korean society and way of life.

**Sport:**

I am a keen sportsman and follower of sport. I am particularly fond of football, play regularly and follow the Scottish National Team. I am also very interested in basketball in which I am a qualified referee. I also coached basketball to the younger pupils throughout my school career. As well as football and basketball, I am a keen badminton player and enjoy running and going to the gym. I am hopeful that I may get a chance while I Korea to perhaps get involved with the coaching side of sport as a extra-curricular activity.