



## PATRICIA HATHERLEY {PRIMARY TRAINEE}

### MY TRAINING AT CARMEL

FROM THE ONSET I WAS MADE TO FEEL THAT MY PRIOR EXPERIENCES IN EARLY YEARS MATTERED.

WORKING AS PART OF A SMALLER COHORT HELPED TO BUILD FRIENDSHIPS AND GAVE US ALL AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE VALUABLE EXPERIENCES. HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE OUR EXPERIENCES WITH OTHER TRAINEES, OUR MENTORS, OUR PROFESSIONAL TUTORS AND OUR PARTNERSHIP LINK TUTORS (PLT) MEANT THAT WE FELT FULLY SUPPORTED THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAMME.

HAVING A PLT WHO UNDERSTOOD AND SUPPORTED ME AS A MATURE STUDENT MADE THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE FULFILLING AND GAVE ME THE CONFIDENCE TO SUCCEED. AT TIMES THE EXPECTATIONS SEEMED HIGH BUT WITH HINDSIGHT I UNDERSTOOD THAT I WAS BEING PUSHED TO REACH MY FULL POTENTIAL.

AS EXPECTED, THE PROGRAMME IS CREATIVE, RIGOROUS AND EXCITING. THE KEY, FOR ME, WAS TO BE ORGANISED WITH PLANNING AND DEADLINES. IT IS A VERY BUSY YEAR AND MY LEARNING CURVE FROM START TO FINISH WAS IMMENSE. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT WORKING WITH THE STUDENTS IS THE MOST REWARDING PART OF THIS EXPERIENCE. TO WATCH THE ENTHUSIASM AND CURIOSITY ON THEIR FACES DURING LESSONS IS THE MOST HEART-WARMING AND REWARDING EXPERIENCES FOR ME.

I WAS GIVEN ALL SUPPORT I NEEDED THROUGHOUT ALL ASPECTS OF THIS FANTASTIC AND QUITE UNIQUE PROGRAMME. CTPP HAS CREATED AN HOLISTIC APPROACH TO TEACHER TRAINING AND MAKE ALL TRAINEES FEEL THAT THEY MATTER.