



Hana Alathemneh

Maths Tutor



Comments from Hana

I joined the Adult College in 2018. I was previously studying a Teaching Assistant level 3 course in Walthamstow when some of my friends recommended the Adult College to me.

When I started my journey at the Adult College I didn't think I would teach or even get a teaching qualification I was just thinking about gaining an English qualification and volunteering. I just wanted to get to know other people and from there my goals and dreams got bigger and bigger. Even now I am thinking of things I can do in the future.

I enrolled on an English Level 1 course and the Grow Our Own programme and did the Education & Training level 3 qualification, which was free at the time.

It was the tutor for the course, Carole Young, who suggested to me that I was ready to be a tutor and that gave me encouragement and made me think about teaching.

I applied for a position at the college straight after the education and training course had finished. I was studying English level 2 when I got offered a position as a maths tutor. After I applied for a family learning position too.

Before I was due to start teaching my maths classes they got cancelled because of the pandemic. After the pandemic I got the chance to teach with the vocational team so I taught with them for 2 years delivering a Work Based Academy Workshop. This helped to build my confidence and encouraged me to do my level 5 qualification in education and training.

Another person at the Adult College who helped me a lot was Bahia (FEML Curriculum Manager and Maths Tutor) She supported me a lot especially after I had my observations and professional discussions. She always helped me to identify weaknesses and set goals for myself that really helped me to achieve my goals. One of her goals for me was to teach GCSE Maths and when I achieved this goal it was amazing for me.

The support at the Adult College is amazing. There is a very supportive environment. Carole Young (Curriculum Manager for Vocational Skills & Employability) and Bahia gave me lots of confidence, encouragement and advice. The feedback they gave was not only positive but constructive too.

I volunteered in 2018 whilst studying English and education and training . I volunteered with an ESOL class that Nasrin Shaikh (LSA and SEND tutor) was delivering. The experience gave me a lot of confidence too. Prior to volunteering I took part in an intensive volunteering training programme which helped me to learn how to do assessments for learners and how to teach ESOL and in particular pre-entry ESOL. It was really useful.

The advice I would give to people studying at the college is,
"Don't give up – some people give up at the first stage but you have to carry on and work hard. Think about small steps not a big goal at once.