



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Teaching the Future



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Jaziea

Jaziea's inspiration to pursue a teaching career came from her mother, who also embarked on the same path.

"I've always wanted to be a teacher from as long as I could remember. But I don't think I actually thought it could be a reality until my Mum started to train. And I think that was the moment where I really thought, wow I can do this."

Like many other Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic teachers, Jaziea was inspired to pursue a career in teaching after taking note of the lack of ethnic minority teachers in her schools as a child. Jaziea recalls how this experience shaped her perception of teaching as a career.

"I started off in primary school, in Grangetown, and there weren't any Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic teachers there. I moved in year 2, to a different primary school, and I think I was the only Black child, maybe there was one other, and there were no teachers that were Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic. As I got older, I did start to notice that maybe teachers aren't Black."

Jaziea's personal experience has shown her how the underrepresentation of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic teachers in schools can negatively impact minority ethnic students. She explains how the inclusion of ethnic minority teachers in the classroom can set the tone for an impactful learning experience.

"It's letting students see that people like them are teaching in Wales. I think it's really important that they see teachers from diverse backgrounds speaking Welsh. You could make a huge difference."

Jaziea emphasises the generational influence of teachers, expressing the extensive role they play in laying the foundations for the rest of their students' lives. That, she believes, is the greatest thing about being a teacher.

"What other career could you inspire people to be anything. A teacher can teach a class and you could have a doctor, a nurse, and you are inspiring the next generation, that's a huge responsibility and a huge joy."