

Jo

Jo is passionate about learning and thrives on discovering new things. As Programme Leader for PGCE Secondary IT and Computing, her enthusiasm for the ever-evolving field of computing drives her teaching career.

"I was inspired to become a teacher because I love learning. Computing was something that was new, and I wanted to really develop those skills. I'm passionate about my subject, and I'm also passionate about making sure that individuals get the best out of their learning."

Jo discovered her affinity for teaching while working as a developer. She shares how her experience training adults to use technology taught her that she loved teaching others.

"I didn't initially think that I wanted to go into teaching. Firstly, I did a subject degree and went into developing, and that was a really good opportunity for me to find out that I wanted to go into teaching. Whilst developing I had an opportunity to be part of the training team, and that's where I really became inspired. It was because I was teaching adults how to use technology and realised that I loved that face-to-face interaction, I loved that communication."

For Jo, a lack of representation in the classroom motivated her to become the change she wanted to see and impact the education and career aspirations of learners and students from Minority Ethnic backgrounds.

"The closest I got to somebody that was from another country was during my French lessons. Having minority ethnic representation is vital. I would have liked to see somebody like me, but I didn't, so I think that's what made me feel like I needed to make that difference."

Jo's message to aspiring teachers is clear: be the catalyst for change and do it for children and young people who need people like you in their classrooms.

"My advice for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic background people coming into teaching is: do it. We need teachers like you. Because it's our future, and we need to make sure that our children have that representation everywhere."