



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

# Taking Action for Change



**ADDYSG CYMRU  
EDUCATION WALES**  
cenhadaeth ein cenedl | our national mission

## Zara

**A primary school teacher in Cardiff, Zara chose to teach when her own children started school. Zara shares how she was inspired to make a career change, from working as mortgage advisor and then a stay-at-home mum, to training to teach in Wales.**

“I went into teaching when I was 37 years old, I’d had two children by then. When I went to their schools to look around, I didn’t see any Black, Asian, or Minority Ethnic teachers there.

I went back and reflected on that, and I thought, ‘I can make that change. I can be that person that becomes a teacher.’

It’s been a journey! I first became a Teaching Assistant, to make sure teaching was the right decision for me. After that, I applied for my PGCE to become a teacher.”

**Since qualifying, Zara has found a real passion for teaching. She takes pride in her classroom reading corner of books that represent a wide range of backgrounds and cultures.**

“We have pupils from many different backgrounds at our school. Each year, I make sure to get books that represent all the children in my class, so we can learn together about each other’s cultures.”

**Zara wants to raise awareness of the support and resources available to teachers in Wales, particularly around diversity in education.**

“Wales has produced an action plan to become an Anti-Racist Wales by 2030. I’ve had training opportunities through DARPL (Diversity and Anti Racist Professional Learning), and the BAMEed Network.

Also, the new Curriculum for Wales means that schools can design their own curriculum, which are tailored to the needs of the children, parents, and wider community. We’re also learning about black history, which is now mandatory in Wales.”

**Zara is passionate that more people follow in her footsteps, to represent the diverse backgrounds of learners in Wales.**

“It is a privilege to be a teacher to be honest. It’s a profession where you get to enrich the lives of the next generation. If you’re passionate about becoming a teacher, please do it.

We need to represent the diverse communities in Wales.

If we don’t make that change, who will?”