

## A view from Induction Co-ordinator - Chris Burton

Chris is Deputy Headteacher at Foxyards Primary School in Wolverhampton and says “We are very lucky to have four ECTs as part of our team, all on their own journeys through the ECF. Managing and supporting the needs of four individual growing teachers could be complicated, however thanks to the structured approach to ECT support, we feel we have been able to ensure the right balance between bespoke and personalized support whilst maintaining the right pace for development. The self-guided study units available through StepLab have been key in starting conversations with ECTs which have then led into coached sessions around the focus area.

As a mentor I have also valued the opportunity to meet with other mentors through the clinics and conferences and this CPD has been key in ensuring our mentors help ECTs to continue making excellent progress in their teaching”.

## Laura Kilgallon

*“I can hardly believe I’m in the third term of my first year of teaching... The time has flown and with it there have been some brilliant highs alongside some challenging moments!*

*I have been very lucky and work with 3 other ECTs. Sharing our experiences is hugely helpful, which is why I have also found the conferences a fantastic experience. Being able to network with a variety of people in different year groups and schools provides another layer of support which has helped enhance my practice and provided lots of inspiration.*

*Having a dedicated ECT mentor has made all the difference to my experience so far. There have been times where I have felt overwhelmed, and he has never failed to make me take a breath, stand back and reflect. Equally, he is the first to celebrate success and acknowledge your ‘wins’, delivering constructive feedback to constantly help me improve. His knowledge and approachability has supported me every step of the journey. Plus, he has taught me that you always need*



*to keep sight of your sense of humour, which is serving me well! “*

## Frankie Healey

“I’m Frankie and I am in my second year as an ECT at Foxyards Academy.



I qualified as a Teacher in 2020 during the pandemic which meant during my training year I missed out on a big chunk of in-school experience.

Beginning my ECT journey after covid-19, I was very apprehensive, however, the support and guidance I have received has been brilliant. I have had immense support from lots of different people from various roles within the trust, and especially my mentors. I have a great relationship with my mentors and feel I can always approach them if I have a concern or just simply need advice on something.

My mentors have given me lots of positive praise which really keeps me motivated. All my next steps as an ECT are carefully thought out and I’m able to manage my targets in small steps for quick wins. Overall, I am really enjoying my ECT course, and am glad to be a part of such a supportive trust.”