

Pen Portrait Rhys Corcoran



What is your job?

Assistant Headteacher in a Secondary School

What years did you attend Lewis School Pengam?

2000-2006

What qualifications/work experience do you need to achieve a job in your chosen field?

Currently an Assistant Headteacher of a secondary school in Cardiff. To achieve a job in my field you need to have a good set of GCSE grades in a number of subjects. Followed by A Level qualifications or equivalent and then you need to complete a degree in your chosen discipline. Additionally, you need to complete a years teacher training. However, as a teacher I recommend you continually aim to improve and look to explore opportunities to further your knowledge.

What happens in a typical day in work for you? For example the times of your day, your role and responsibilities?

Within my role I oversee the quality of teaching and learning; I also help develop teachers through professional development. The role of an assistant headteacher is one that presents many problem solving opportunities and requires you to be able to see the big picture. You have to forward plan and work with large groups of people on projects that really make a difference to young people. My average day starts at 8 and ends at 5 but you also do need to work at home or during the weekends to complete some tasks. I love my job as I find it entails so many different aspects other than my specific role. Ultimately, the most important element is you get to make difference in people's lives in lots of ways; this is hugely rewarding.

What do you enjoy about your job?

The pupils and their fantastic personalities. They make the day interesting and I get a huge sense of pride from seeing young people succeed. Additionally, you develop excellent relationships with your colleagues and this results in you working in some fantastic environments.

What do you find most challenging about your job?

Trying to find the balance of work and your personal life at times. When you enjoy doing your job it can sometimes impact your home life and it's hard to know when to take a break. However, enjoying your job is very important factor in my opinion.