



THE ALBION ACADEMY

Salford, Greater Manchester

Lead Teacher:
Michelle Hall

Role: English Teacher



CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME?

The way the tutorials run, obviously being quite high-achieving children, to be able to sit in a group of just 6 and to be able to formulate and express themselves better – this was noticeable in their engagement in other subjects as well as a result. The tutor having a PhD did have an impact once they knew what that meant. The tutor had a beautiful manner with the children and was really able to explain exactly how she's got to where she was and the breadth of knowledge, they were a bit in awe. They couldn't believe that you could continue on with education on to that level.

A lot of our students don't have access to wifi at home or devices other than mobile phones to complete their work on so it was a massive achievement for many of our students to be able to submit from home on their own. We had put time in to help the in school and support their writing so was great to have so many submit in spite of the challenges.

WHAT WERE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY TRIPS?

They learnt new information about so many things, they were absolutely in awe of the place. Our school is just outside Manchester, but a lot of the children have barely left Salford. So the first thing that they couldn't believe was that the university campus itself. They kept saying "It's like a city". One of the points when they were in the lecture theatre, they couldn't believe that many students could gather and listen together. It was all such a grand scale – it became really aspirational, to the point where they all decided that they were going to go to the University of Sheffield! Unfortunately they didn't get to go to the university of Manchester for the graduation event which would have been wonderful. But the whole accessibility of university was definitely a door that was suddenly opened for them.

One of our students Leon was completely overwhelmed by the whole thing – talking to the student ambassadors at the university he realised that there are so many niche societies. It made him realise that there are many other people who are interested in the same things and that want to celebrate that rather than do them on their own, that was a big deal for him.

WHY DID THE ALBION ACADEMY DECIDE TO RUN THE PROGRAMME?

I'm a career changer who got into education through teach first to work particularly in schools in disadvantaged areas and enhance the opportunities for children in those schools. As soon as I found out about TSP, I went straight to principal to let them know this was something I was really interested in being part of.

The school has been through a number of changes, now that there is a solid staff in place this has allowed for the opportunity to focus on attainment and progress, as well as work engaging with parents and the local community to give the school a better identity in the area. We run the programme with the Year 7- 9 who are progressing into their GCSE years, it is the perfect opportunity to prepare them for their options after school and what university life is like.

Click [here](#) to enquire about running The Scholars Programme in your school.