Tutoring as PhD graduate

Name: Anna Gavela
PhD Research Area: Spanish
University: University of Leeds
Scholars Programme Course Title: Circumventing Censorship: Decoding Messages in the Arts
Tutor since: 2020

What made you want to apply to be Scholars Programme tutor?
I had completed my PhD 20 years previously but not had a chance to use it as it didn’t relate to the career I had pursued. I had read about The Brilliant Club and thought it would be a fantastic opportunity to use my research and do something positive for young people.

What has been the most rewarding moment of your journey so far?
It would have to be seeing a student realise that they are actually capable of producing a really good piece of written work - at the end of my last placement one student in particular absolutely lit up with joy when he got his feedback! This was a boy who had previously assumed he would go into a trade on leaving school and is now aiming to go to university.

What have you gained from being a part of the Scholars Programme community of researchers?
Having an opportunity to intervene in a positive way in young people’s lives, and hopefully make a small positive impact on the future workforce of the country.

Do you have any advice for someone looking to apply to be a Scholars Programme tutor?
Remember that the students are all individuals with different life experiences which will impact on their engagement in the course.

To find out more about becoming a Scholars Programme tutor, please click here