

“Journeys to Excellence” – Tutoring in Northern Ireland

The tuition industry in Northern Ireland has been growing consistently over the past decade, with school entrance exams becoming more competitive; parents looking to give their children the best chances, and a mounting need for tailored, additional support. This is where we come in. My name is Katie and I established Excel In Education Tutoring School in 2015, to provide a unique, professional and innovative approach to tuition in Northern Ireland. Having been tutored myself for twelve years, I am a resolute advocate for supplementary education and know just how beneficial tuition can be. I am always saying to my Mum that sending me for extra Maths help was the best thing she ever did! The enjoyment and confidence that I gained from the experience of my whole Academic journey was what sparked my passion to establish my own tutoring business, and I am absolutely ecstatic that it is the first tuition company in Ireland to be professionally registered with, and recognised by, The Tutors’ Association.

The last 18 months have been something of a whirlwind, and I am proud to say we now boast more than 50 students and are moving into the next phase of our development. Tuition is unlike any other ‘job’. For me it is not simply ‘work’- it is my passion, my calling, and it has taken over my life (and my kitchen table, office, car... you get the idea), and I wouldn’t have it any other way. As a full time career, it is amazing to do something every day that is helping develop and support students on what we call their ‘Journeys to Excellence’. The feeling you get when a student’s eyes light up when they understand a topic that has been niggling away at their confidence; or when a child reads an entire book unassisted for the first time; or when a student realises their potential; or when you see all your hard work paying off is simply the most rewarding - and emotional - moment.

I believe the role of a Tutor is both diverse and fluid. With individual, and often idiosyncratic, needs, personalities and learning styles, each child’s expectations and requirements of their Tutor can vary wildly. Students may need a mentor, an educator, a listening ear, a motivator, an advisor, a counsellor, a coach, a challenger - or any combination...and the list goes on. Our role as Tutors is all-encompassing and that is exactly why I LOVE the daily challenges and successes our profession offers. No two children are the same, and, as such, no two tutors are either. However, in my humble opinion, what unifies us is that if we are enthusiastic, supportive, imaginative, flexible and constructive, we can engender independent, happy and confident learners.

Our ethos is:

- to *explore* the subjects by deepening understanding and broadening knowledge
- to *encourage* our students to strive for excellence and achieve their potential
- to *empower* students by opening doors and overcoming obstacles that previously restricted them

We are all on our own ‘Journeys to Excellence’, both Tutors and Tutees alike, and I am excited to see what the future holds for us and our affiliation with The Tutors’ Association – and we’d love you to connect with us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ExcelInEducationTutoringSchool