



**Shelley Horwood**  
**Reception Class Teacher (NQT +3,**  
**previous Nursery Apprentice**  
**Suffolk County Council**

## **WHY DID YOU CHOOSE AN APPRENTICESHIP?**

I initially decided to apply for an Apprenticeship at Hadleigh Community Primary School after completing a childcare course at my local college. Through completing this course I discovered that my dream role would be working within a primary school rather than a private day nursery.

## **WHAT WAS IT LIKE DOING AN APPRENTICESHIP?**

My apprenticeship role allowed me the opportunity to develop my practice and further my knowledge of how children learn and develop. While working and studying can be a daunting aspect for many the way in which the two are closely interwoven helps keep workloads manageable while the support of your in work mentors is invaluable. The opportunity to see the day to day running of a setting gives a vital insight into what you are training for, allowing yourself to be certain that the job you are training for is the one you definitely want!

## **HOW HAS THE APPRENTICESHIP HELPED YOU IN YOUR WORK?**

This apprenticeship cemented my interest in teaching primary aged children and gave me the inspiration to further my knowledge and qualifications. After completing my apprenticeship I completed my degree in childcare alongside a full time teaching assistant post within the Reception class. I then left to complete a one-year teacher training course before being lucky enough to return to the school as a NQT two years ago.