

Simone Paris

Most people are a bit apprehensive of starting to learn again when they're an adult, and the tutors, everyone here is trained and they're nice people. There is nothing to be afraid of really.

My name is Simone Paris and I did a Level 3 award in Education and Training. It's basically teaching how to teach each adult who might not have had the best experience. It's for all kinds of courses, for leisure courses but also for qualification courses.

My husband is a tutor and I saw how much joy he gets out of teaching adults. I've done a bit of tour guiding as I'm a translator and while guiding tourists they listened to what I say and I really enjoy that.

As a translator I work from home so it's quite a lonely job, I do like interacting with people and I thought maybe I would like to teach. Or at least it would help me with how to speak to the tourists I give tours to.

When I studied to become a translator I basically had to provide my own lesson plan, I had to source where to go, what to do many decades ago. This was much more welcoming and all the material and everything was provided. I got a plan at the beginning of the course telling me what I'd learn, when and I really enjoyed that.

The tutor I had was really lovely, very approachable. When you go to school and university everyone can be 'suited and booted' but she (the tutor) was casual but very firm as well. So it was great.

People come from all kinds of background because that course is so varied. We had people who hadn't done much for a long time, we had someone who just needed the qualification and had been teaching. We all just really got along; it was really good socially as well.

You can speak to anyone, everyone is here to help, and everybody is so supportive.