



Kate Childs – Mentor Case Study

When the founder and former director of Hull Children's University, John Butterick, approached BBC Hull in 2011 about the prospect of working with them to create a new module, Kate was asked by her manager to lead the module. After seeing how much the children enjoyed the module and relished the opportunity for extra-curricular learning, Kate decided to volunteer as a mentor for other Hull Children's University experiences in her own free time.

Since becoming a mentor, Kate has volunteered on a huge variety of experiences, from the locally based *Ambassadors of Hull*, which sees the children learn more about their city through different activities such as designing and conducting a survey, to the residential *Night at the Museum* experience which takes the children all the way to London for a sleep over at the Natural History Museum. Her favourite trip so far has been the *London with Parliament* experience as the long days with lots of walking around London really give the mentors a chance to get to know the children.

Kate has found working as a mentor thoroughly enjoyable and has learnt a great deal about herself through the experience. She would definitely recommend being a mentor to anyone who is looking to help inspire and encourage some of the most deserving children in our area. She believes that by building confidence within children and giving them an insight into experiences they might not otherwise have, it will encourage them to commit more to their studies and see the benefits of their work, which in turn will give them a far greater chance of success in the future.