

Created by the Ministry of Defence and the Department for Education and delivered by the Education & Training Foundation, Further Forces supports anyone leaving the Armed Forces (or who has left in the last five years) to train as a technical teacher in the FE sector. The training is free to access, and it is free for FE providers to recruit a Further Forces trainee.

CASE STUDY: ANDREW MARSH

Andrew successfully gained employment as a Living Skills Trainer for the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) having served in the Royal Army Veterinary Core (RAVC) for 7 years.



WHAT WAS YOUR ROLE IN THE SERVICES?

I served in the RAVC as a training instructor and senior training instructor for seven years. This involved developing high quality training materials and providing ongoing advice, guidance and instruction to various ranks. I also received a Certificate of Commendation for Outstanding Service for training delivery and wanted to pursue the teaching and learning aspects of my role when I left the Services.

WHY THE FURTHER FORCES PROGRAMME?

Having spoken to various careers advisors, I decided to pursue a career in teaching. I was interested in either becoming a Primary School teacher (5-12yrs) or pursuing a career in Further Education (16+). I also had a special interest in working with people with additional learning needs. Having spent time researching different routes into teaching, I was feeling quite overwhelmed and disorientated about all of the different options. However, when I spoke to the Further Forces team, I breathed a sigh of relief as everything was clearly addressed and I felt very well supported to pursue my chosen career.

HAS THE PROGRAMME BEEN OF BENEFIT TO YOU SO FAR?

Once I enrolled on the programme, I was sent a Trainee Profile template which I completed with all of my existing experience and qualifications. The team used this to help match me up to employment prospects in the Further Education sector. I was offered significant support with reviewing and refining my application and, once I had been shortlisted, the Careers and Employability Service at the University of Portsmouth hosted a mock interview which was invaluable to me. I also completed a set of six workbooks that were designed to enhance my knowledge of FE teaching and the FE sector in general, as well as offering me essential and up-to-date advice regarding the Safeguarding and Prevent agenda in schools and colleges.

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WHAT DO YOU FORESEE YOURSELF DOING IN THE FUTURE?

I had already completed my Diploma in Education and Training whilst in my MoD role and now wish to focus on enhancing my knowledge and skills in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and achieve QTLS (Qualified Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector) through the Society for Education and Training. I am also currently learning Makaton and pursuing various other short course qualifications that will help me to enhance my skills in teaching students with disabilities and learning difficulties.

We have a Northern Hub, run by AoC, and a Southern Hub, run by the University of Portsmouth. You can contact either one and we will make sure you are talking to the right person.

FIND OUT MORE:

w: furtherforces.org.uk

Northern Hub: 020 7034 9965

e: info@furtherforces.org.uk

Southern Hub: 023 9284 5268