

Priya Sharma

TEACHING ASSISTANT



CONTACT

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PROFILE

Education Studies graduate from the University of Bristol with **200+ hours** of classroom experience across Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 settings. Passionate about inclusive education and supporting children with additional learning needs. Designed and delivered a phonics-based literacy programme that improved reading ages by an average of **4 months** across a group of 8 pupils. Calm, patient, and committed to helping every child reach their potential.

EXPERIENCE

Sep 2024 – Jun 2025

Classroom Volunteer, St Mary Redcliffe Primary School, Bristol

Volunteered one full day per week in a Year 3 classroom as part of the Education Studies placement programme.

- Supported **28 pupils** across literacy and numeracy lessons, working closely with the class teacher and SENCO
- Led small group reading sessions for **6 pupils** identified as below expected reading level, meeting **3 times per week**
- Assisted **2 children with EHCPs** (Education, Health and Care Plans) during structured activities and transitions
- Prepared classroom resources and displays for **4 topic units** throughout the academic year

Jan 2024 – Jul 2024

After-School Club Supervisor, Bristol After School Club (BASC), Bristol

Supervised children aged 5-11 during after-school sessions in a registered Ofsted setting.

- Responsible for the safety and engagement of up to **35 children per session, 3 evenings per week**
- Planned and delivered **20+ creative activities** including arts and crafts, outdoor games, and storytelling sessions
- Completed safeguarding training and maintained accurate attendance registers and incident logs

EDUCATION

Sep 2022 – Jul 2025

BA (Hons) Education Studies in Education Studies, University of Bristol, Bristol

Graduated with Upper Second Class Honours (**2:1, 66% average**). Dissertation on the impact of teaching assistant interventions on reading outcomes for disadvantaged pupils in Key Stage 1, graded **71%**.

- Relevant modules: Child Development, Inclusive Education, Literacy & Language Development, Education Policy, Research Methods in Education
- Completed **200+ hours** of school-based placement across **3 different primary schools** in Bristol
- Received commendation from placement mentor for "exceptional rapport with pupils and a natural ability to differentiate support"

SKILLS

Classroom Support (KS1 & KS2) • Phonics & Guided Reading • SEN Awareness • Behaviour Management • Lesson Resource Preparation • Safeguarding (Level 2) • First Aid (Paediatric) • Microsoft Office • Google Classroom • Communication with Parents • Patience & Empathy • Teamwork • Organisation • Adaptability

CERTIFICATIONS

Aug 2024 – Aug 2024

DBS Enhanced Certificate, Disclosure and Barring Service

Sep 2024 – Sep 2024

Paediatric First Aid (12-hour), St John Ambulance

Sep 2024 – Sep 2024

Level 2 Safeguarding Children, EduCare

LANGUAGES

English - Native • Hindi - Fluent • Punjabi - Conversational

PROJECTS

Jan 2025 – May 2025

Phonics Literacy Programme - Year 1 Intervention

Designed and delivered a structured literacy intervention programme as part of a university-assessed placement project.

- Worked with a group of **8 Year 1 pupils** who were reading below age-related expectations
- Delivered **30-minute sessions, 3 times per week** over **16 weeks**, using systematic synthetic phonics
- Average reading age improved by **4 months** across the group, with **3 pupils** reaching age-related expectations by the end of the programme
- Created a resource pack of **15 custom phonics games** that the school continued to use after the placement ended

Oct 2024 – Apr 2025

Homework Club - Easton Community Centre

Co-founded a free homework club for primary-aged children in the Easton area of Bristol.

- Ran **weekly 90-minute sessions** every Wednesday for **24 weeks**, supporting **12-18 children per session**
- Focused on maths and English homework, with additional reading support for **5 EAL (English as an Additional Language) pupils**
- Recruited and coordinated **4 other university student volunteers** to help run sessions

REFERENCES

Mrs. Karen Whitfield

Year 3 Class Teacher, St Mary Redcliffe Primary School, k.whitfield@stmaryredcliffe.bristol.sch.uk, +44 7700 900 642

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

Sep 2023 – Jun 2025

Student Ambassador - University of Bristol Widening Participation

Represented the university at outreach events aimed at encouraging students from underrepresented backgrounds to consider higher education.

- Led campus tours and Q&A sessions for **15 school groups** totalling **400+ Year 10 and 11 students**
- Delivered **6 presentations** at local secondary schools in South Bristol about student life and the application process

Jan 2023 – Dec 2023

Volunteer - Barnardo's Children's Charity Shop

Volunteered weekly at the Barnardo's charity shop in Clifton, Bristol.

- Worked **4-hour shifts** every Saturday for **12 months**, handling stock sorting, till operation, and customer service
- Helped organise a summer fundraising event that raised **£1,400** for children's services