

**Kavita Phakey,
Science Teacher
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Currently I am a lecturer at a College of Further Education teaching and assessing Biology, Health studies, Chemistry, English and Maths.

I have been involved intricately in designing the Access and Pre Access curriculum and contributed valuably in the revalidation process. Access to Science is a level 3 programme and the content is equivalent to A-levels. The learners invariably progressing on to University to do Degrees in Health related subjects: Biomedicine, Radiography, and Physiotherapy to name a few. Seeing them progress on to University and fulfilling their career aspirations gives me great satisfaction.

I have been working with the Equivalency Testing team since its initial start up days and been an integral part of its growth and success. Over the years hundreds of students have successfully completed the Science Biology and Combined Science home study programmes and examinations to achieve their potential and personal goals. Being responsible for designing the homework study packs and exam questions with final exam papers keeps me informed of current changes in science curriculum and How Science Works aspect. Having attended several Science in Society courses held at Cambridge University ensures full implementation of the Science curriculum in all course material keeping current issues and research in mind. Believing firmly in the ethos of lifelong learning I actively seek courses to update my knowledge in Science. Having had the privilege of learning with eminent scientists at Cambridge University and liaising with educators from all over UK, I try to bring that enthusiasm into the class, using ICT and innovative methods to teach difficult concepts, stretching student's imaginations. Lessons are thus planned and delivered effectively accommodating learners' needs, diversity and intellectual ability and therefore raising achievement.

As a teenager I admired my Zoology teacher who ingrained in me the desire to teach. I went on to do a Degree and then a Post Graduate Degree in Zoology. As soon as I completed my post graduation I was offered a place as Museum Curator in the University's museums for the Botany and Zoology departments where I was responsible for supervising four technicians and taking Nomenclature lessons for undergraduates. While working here I completed my B.Ed. in Secondary Education over long distance with intent to move into Secondary Education. Having taught in the primary sector myself I have a vast

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amount of experience in primary science curriculum-its demands and constraints. I taught children from nursery all the way up to Year 6 and was also involved in teaching in Special Education Schools in the Reception to KS4 stage. I learnt a lot about the spectrum of special needs and different teaching strategies, which was useful. However, even though I enjoyed teaching the breadth of the primary curriculum my real passion was to teach Science and that is the reason for moving into FE. I completed a P.G.C.E to update my knowledge and qualifications. Having completed long distance programmes myself I am aware of the importance of tutor feedback and practice material, as they are both linked intricately to student success.

From the initial concept of Equivalency Testing, to the present day I pride myself on the high standard of service we provide to all of our students their Universities and Employers.