Shane Kelly

Graduate Diploma in Education (Primary) – part time

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My first experience of the course was a little bit over whelming. I walked into a lecture theatre containing about 170 other students, number of people I knew was zero, being 34 heading towards 35 the little voice in the back of my head saying “really, you’re the odd man out,” but to be honest that couldn’t be further from the truth. Age is irrelevant, it’s what you have in common with these other people in your course, and that’s how you can create friendships and bonds with other students.

Why I chose teaching, that’s pretty simple. For all of my adult life I’ve been involved with children. I like helping people, and I want to give something back. I want to have a profession, and when I looked at it combining the two was fairly simple.

When I got the official go ahead in January, the letter arrived, it was the happiest moment in my life bar the birth of my children, and as a grown man yeah I did have a tear in my eye, through the excitement and pleasure I received through that letter.

Where I’d like to make a difference is in the classroom. I’ve had my son complete primary school last year, and my daughter’s in her second year of primary. I want to be involved in the room, with the students, one on one, helping. It’s something that drives me.

In five years time, I know I’m going to be here still. I’m a long way off when I go part time, I understand that. This is a marathon it’s not a sprint. I’m going to have my ups and I’m going to have my downs, but I know what my goal is. And it’s to graduate, and become a teacher.