

A finalist for a Pearson Teaching Award after just seven months

Congratulations to Oliver McIntyre who has been shortlisted in



Pearson's . These are the equivalent of Oscars for teachers and are highly prized so it is all credit to Oliver that he is a finalist in the Outstanding New Teacher of the Year category, after just seven months of teaching.

Oliver teaches history and geography at [Hillcrest Shifnal School](#) in Shropshire, an independent school for boys and girls aged 5-19 with Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH). He excels in engaging the school's students – helping them to transition smoothly to secondary school or into a job.

He was nominated by his line manager Benjamin Cooper, Head of Academy Faculty, who said, 'Ollie has everything you want in a setting like ours; fantastic relationships with students, an engaging and unique teaching style and importantly he's someone who realises the importance of working as part of a team.'

Ollie can empathise with the students and see things from their point of view because he struggled at school on account

of his ADHD, ADD and other issues.

'While studying for my PGCE I realised that I most enjoyed working with students who struggled in lessons due to SEMH issues and learning difficulties and had behaviours similar to mine when I was a younger. I felt that I was able to make more tangible progress with these students than some of the other teachers.'

'The main aspect of the job that I enjoy is helping the students achieve something' said Oliver. ' I find that they often have low confidence in their own abilities and believe that they will be unable to understand or accomplish tasks. My favourite part is when they realise that they've got the answer right and we celebrate and praise their success.'

The winners of Pearson's National Teaching Awards will be announced in June at a glittering awards ceremony televised by the BBC.

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