

Andrew Taylor

YOU GOT THIS!

Thriving as an early career teacher with Mr T

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This book is dedicated to the amazing NQTs I have mentored.

BS, MC, AM, JT, TA, MB, SH, MS, JN, HB, CR, CB, GD, LF, LB, ES, LM

Each one of you has shaped the mentor, teacher and person I am today.

To LG, PE and EJP – your belief in me and the opportunities you gave have led me to where I am now. Thank you.

Finally, to Mrs T and the little Ts – your love and support is invaluable and I could not do what I do without you beside me.

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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

This book is here to help you. Much like the work I do on Twitter, it is full of advice, tips and strategies to help you to thrive as you embark on your teaching career. I wanted to create a book that, at various points in your teaching career (or teacher training), you could take from the shelf to guide and reassure you. It is based on my experiences, and whilst I recognise that every teacher and school is different, and that difference should be celebrated, hopefully there will be plenty in here that can support you in your practice.

The book is organised into chapters that focus on key priorities for early career teachers (ECTs) and in a way that should help you to quickly navigate and find the information that you need. The book can be read chronologically, but I have written it in a way that means you can dip in and out of it depending on the area on which you are looking for advice. Each chapter contains the following features:

Daily tip

The daily tips are taken straight from my work on Twitter. In 2018, I set up my Twitter account, @MrTs_NQTs, as for the previous ten years I had been working as an NQT mentor and over that time I had seen that the support I was offering to NQTs was not always replicated elsewhere. I wanted to develop a place where NQTs and ECTs could seek advice, ask questions and receive support to help them to navigate their early career.

Chapter introduction

Each of the chapter introductions briefly describes the topics/areas that will be covered. These are intended to help you to quickly navigate to the area of interest.

Coaching moment

Within each chapter you will find coaching moments to help you to reflect on where you are in your current journey and to think about where you need to go next.

Thoughts from an ECT

You will find the thoughts and experiences of other ECTs near the end of each chapter. It is important to me that the voices of ECTs are amplified, and I hugely recognise what ECTs have to offer the profession and the support and reassurance that they can offer to each other.

Key takeaway

The key takeaway at the end of each chapter provides a summary of the key points discussed for you to consider before moving onto the next chapter.

The book was written keeping the Early Career Framework (ECF; DfE, 2019) in mind. The ECF was devised to provide a consistency in access to CPD for those in their early teaching career, and the concepts and ideas that it presents are there to give you a strong foundation on which to build your career. You will notice overlaps and similarities in some of the areas, as I wanted to ensure that this book would support you in thriving during your ECT induction.

I hope that you enjoy reading it and that it helps you to navigate your journey in teaching. Let me know what you think and come and find me at @MrTs_NQTs on Twitter.

I also want to take this opportunity to say congratulations. Whatever stage of your teaching career you are at, you are making a huge difference and a positive impact on the lives of the pupils that you teach. You should be hugely proud of what you have chosen to do and the difference that you are making every day.

I hope that there is something in this book that can help, reassure or inspire you to be the best teacher that you are capable of being. Remember that there is only one you, and that your journey in teaching is uniquely yours.

Remember, your best will always be good enough.

#YouGotThis

Mr T