

Michael Elliott – Leader of Learning – Innovation & Teacher

Hi I'm Michael Elliott. I'm a Teacher at Stuartholme and the Leader of Learning - Innovation.

I really enjoy working with the younger students and I teach English and History. Studying English and History gives students a really wide range of skills. Skills in analysing, in detecting perspective, skills in writing and communicating. So really if you study history, the career options are many and varied. Large numbers of American CEO's, such as the CEO of the Bank of America are history graduates. So I think history is a wonderful subject in that it really doesn't shut you in, it actually opens up opportunities.

As Leader of Learning – Innovation, I'm involved mainly in working with other teachers to develop more innovative strategies that better address the needs of each individual student. One of the things we really have developed at Stuartholme is our use of technology. And one of the things it enables us to do is personalise the learning so that we meet the student at where they're at. So rather than teaching thirty students, you're teaching thirty individuals.

The tip I would have for parents is to really focus on the learning and not to worry so much about the grades. Schools are about learning, your daughter is about learning. The thing I stress to the girls in the classroom is it's not the grade that's important, it's that you're learning, that you know where you're going in your learning, that you know the next step you have to take in your learning journey. So whilst grades are important, the learning is more important.

The things I like about teaching at Stuartholme are firstly the students, they are a really engaged group of students, who are passionate about changing the world. And secondly the teachers. The teachers are very professional and they work in a collaborative atmosphere.