

Theresa Craven's Full Story

From struggling academically at school to becoming an inspiring tutor, Theresa used her own educational experiences to drive success in others. Theresa currently thrives in her role as a *Supporting Teaching & Learning in Schools* course runner and completes excellent partnership work with local schools and children's centres in order to recruit new learners, develop appropriate resources and ensure teaching and learning is fully linked to the employment requirements of the local area. Theresa engages and supports these learners in a holistic way that helps people make changes to their lives both professionally and personally.



Festival of Learning is back for its 25th year to celebrate lifelong learning and the benefits it has on people, society and the economy. Inspirational individuals, tutors, projects and employers across the UK are being awarded as part of the Festival - showcasing the impact the learning their lives and the lives of others through learning. The Festival of Learning is part-funded by the European Social Fund (ESF), which focuses on improving employment opportunities, promoting social inclusion and developing the skills of the potential and existing workforce by providing the help people need to fulfil their potential and turn their lives around.

Theresa joins 28 inspirational regional and national winners that have been selected for a range of awards across the four categories - including awards for individual learners, employers, innovative projects and inspirational tutors. There are also awards specifically for learners and projects funded through the European Social Fund.

Theresa says, "Personal experience of failing academically in school have had a profound effect on me. I am determined learners have the opportunity to thrive whether on a non-accredited course or a recognised qualification.

Theresa continues, "I am happy and fulfilled as a person when interacting with all learners either in the classroom or a work based learning environment.

Stephen Evans, CEO of Learning & Work Institute, which leads the Festival of Learning Awards said: "Theresa exemplifies the qualities of an exceptional tutor and we are pleased to present her with our Festival of Learning Award as South West Tutor of the Year.

"This award is in recognition of Theresa's fantastic work to inspire her learners, many of whom have returned to education and employment after a considerable period, demonstrating what is achievable with the right support and positive inspired teaching".