WILL SHERWOOD

Educator & Curriculum Developer | Project Management | Researcher & Writer
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I am a personable, highly-articulate, and meticulously-organised professional with an impeccable eye for detail and demonstrable independent skills. I excel in and am passionate about Education and Curriculum Development, Project Management, and Research and Investigation. My versatility, presentational skills, and outstanding relationship-building enables me to thrive in client-facing environments. My extensive background in education, partnered with my work in research, writing, public speaking, and events, ensures I deliver high-quality, engaging experiences for stakeholders.

RECENT EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW **2023-2026**
Doctor of Philosophy in English Literature (PhD)

- **Strategic Planning and Time Management**: spearheaded and successfully managed a 100,000-word research project within a self-set 3-year timeframe.
- **People Management and Communications**: utilised Microsoft Outlook and Teams to direct a team of 3, ran monthly meetings to evaluate progress against targets and reconfigure project trajectory.
- **Research and Analysis**: conducted extensive archival research at the University of Oxford's Bodleian Library, formulating the project's key case studies on findings.
- **Synthesis and Writing**: employed critical thinking to distil and package vast quantities of dense information and data into coherent, digestible texts. These skills were honed through publishing research findings as public-facing content on blogs, websites, and in peer-reviewed journals, and award-nominated books: *The Romantic Spirit in the Works of J. R. R. Tolkien*, ed. by Will Sherwood and Julian Eilmann was shortlisted for Best Book and Best Article in The Tolkien Society Awards 2025.
- **Public Speaking**: refined presentational skills through speaking at international conferences. These inspired Guest Lecturer invitations from the Universities of Oxford and Edinburgh and the Tolkien Society and Byron Society.
- **Grant Writing**: secured £1000 of funding to conduct archival research at the Bodleian Library and present my findings at conferences.

Conference Administrator

- **Event Management**: collaborated in Board meetings, contributing ideas such as networking sessions that enhanced client experiences.
- **Data Management**: employed Eventbrite, Microsoft Office, and Excel to manage bookings for over 500 stakeholders during multi-day conferences.
- **Communications**: efficiently addressed requests prior to and during conferences.

SEED TALKS **2023-2026**
Public Speaker

- **Synthesis and Writing:** leveraged PhD research and teaching experience to produce a 2-hour public-friendly talk on 'The Epic History of The Lord of the Rings'.
- **Public Speaking**: delivered my talk to audiences of over 300 people across Britain. This prompted an invitation to Guest Lecture at the University of Norwich.

TEACHING AND LEARNING EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW **2024-2026**
Graduate Teaching Assistant

- **Instructional Design and Group Facilitation**: created and led synchronous and asynchronous seminars and tutorials for over 300 learners.
- **System and Process Design**: built, implemented, and reviewed feedback systems that improved student performance.

SIGNUM UNIVERSITY **2023-current**
Lecturer (Remote)

- **Digital Learning Design**: harness Microsoft Office, Discord, and Zoom to construct and facilitate remote, life-long learning curricula for adult learners.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S SCHOOL **2020-2023**
English as an Additional Language (EAL) Coordinator

- **Consultancy**: advised leadership to ensure the school complied with EAL law, policy, and pedagogical practice.

- **Research and Policy Writing**: conducted extensive research into EAL pedagogy, producing and presenting reports and the school's first EAL Policy to leadership.
- **Training Facilitation**: designed and facilitated training on EAL best practice which was lauded by staff and leadership.
- **Policy Implementation and Compliance Management**: oversaw the implementation of the EAL Policy through audits and staff surveys, prioritising staff support to achieve school-wide compliance.

Head of Music; Teacher of English
- **Departmental Management**: ran the Music department, acquired £1000 of annual funding to buy resources, monitored the departmental budget, and co-ordinating extracurricular activities.
- **Curriculum Development**: designed, implemented, and reviewed multimodal curricula, encouraging feedback from learners and staff through surveys.
- **Data Analysis**: evolved a data-informed approach to strategically review curricula according to areas for improvement, leading to my learners making the most progress in the English department between 2021-23.

HERNE BAY HIGH SCHOOL **2019-2020**
Teacher of English and Drama
- **System and Process Design**: sought out colleagues to develop and review multimodal curricula, learning resources, and assessments during Covid-19.
- **Communication**: harnessed Microsoft Office to manage learner and parent (stakeholder) communication, maintaining relationships across diverse audiences.

EARLY ENERGY CENTRE **2018-2019**
Choir Director and Teacher of Music
- **Curriculum Development**: fashioned bespoke curricular and learning resources tailored to meet the needs of learners for one-to-one teaching.
- **People Management**: directed 40 singers (clients) during rehearsals (meetings), reconfigured pre-existing learning resources to target areas of improvement highlighted during audits.

CANTERBURY COLLEGE **2013-2018**
Literacy Lecturer
- **Training Facilitation**: created and facilitated training on pedagogical best practice to staff at conferences and CPD sessions.
- **Onboarding**: facilitated onboarding, training, and professional development for new team members, fashioning SOPs to ensure staff compliance.
- **Digital Learning Design**: leveraged digital tools and technology such as Padlet and Kahoot! to optimise workflows, improve learner (stakeholder) engagement, and thus improve intrinsic motivation.

VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE

THE TOLKIEN SOCIETY (incorporated charity, 4200 members) **2020-current**
Education Secretary; Trustee
- **People Management**: directed the Education Team, facilitated onboarding, mentored candidates, chaired meetings, and oversaw the enhancement of the Society's educational policies and resources.
- **Strategic Planning**: shaped and led the implementation of the charity's educational strategy through international outreach events such as organising and hosting the annual Seminar and Reading Day.
- **Relationship Management**: enhanced the Society's global reach by building positive relationships with international educational institutes and over 200 authors by consulting on curriculum development, hosting outreach events, and editing and publishing seven conference proceedings.

Bursary Committee Member; Education Programme Coordinator
- **Finance Management**: assess funding applications, communicate results to candidates (stakeholders), and distribute funds.
- **Event Management**: programme organising for the Society's flagship conference, 'Tolkien 2027', ensuring a comprehensive and engaging agenda.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW: Associate Fellowship of Recognising Excellence in Teaching **2025**

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW: PhD in English Literature: Distinction **2023-2026**

CANTERBURY CHRISTCHURCH UNIVERSITY: Schools Direct, Qualified Teacher Status **2019-2020**

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER: Masters by Research in English Literature: Distinction **2016-2019**

UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH: BA (Hons) English Literature and Creative Writing: High 2.1 **2010-2013**
— *awarded the Music Award 2013 for 'exceptional contributions towards the University's Music scene.'*