

**CASE STUDY: DANIELLE RYAN  
CLASS MUSIC TEACHER**



I made the decision upon graduating from the University of Queensland late last year, to begin my career as a primary music educator in London. Having no idea where to begin, I remembered Education Group as a representative had spoken to graduating music teachers about the possibility of teaching music in the United Kingdom.

Through correspondence with a member of Education Group, a position was arranged for me before I had even started packing.

Information regarding all the schools was sent in order to inform me of the places that I was to be working in.

Upon receiving my placements and a starting date, I had everything I needed. Well, nearly everything. A working holiday visa would actually be required in order to enter the United Kingdom and it was the one thing I did not yet have (due to unforeseen circumstances). With an extremely worried future employee, Education Group were able to set my mind at ease and even organised supply teachers to cover my place for that first week.

A great comfort in working with the people of this agency is that you are dealing with people you know – Education Group is not a faceless organisation. Upon my arrival in London, an informal meeting was immediately set up over coffee in order to provide me personally with directions and helpful information that I would need as a new visitor.

With this being my first move out of home and first trip abroad, I found myself alone one morning with no money to even catch a train (due to the fact that some money I had transferred from home had still not been cleared.) In a panic, I called Education Group and they were able to calm me down and organise a bank account with advance pay by the end of the same day. I believe this sole act went above and beyond the call of duty and I sincerely thank them for the effort and time taken to assist me.

Education Group is concerned about the welfare of members in their care (as that previous act no doubt demonstrates). The people are friendly and will check up on you from time to time to ensure that everything is running smoothly. The staff take an interest in you as a person, as well as ensuring that schools are satisfied with the performance of teachers provided.

At the moment I am enjoying all that London has to offer. A vibrant cultural life is evident and so far during my time here I have sat on stage with Daniel Barenboim, watched a video with a live orchestra providing the backing, seen Gergiev conduct, been to the opera and the list is growing. Many of these opportunities I would not have had if I hadn't made the decision to move to London to teach.

For me, the benefit of moving to London were that the people speak English, drive on the same side of the road (though I am still not sure what side of the footpath to walk down!) and there is a history here that dates back centuries that I am eager to discover.