## **Philosophy of Education Statement**

**Natalie Lewis** 

Children spend 13 of their years at school and for many of them it is far from something they enjoy. Every child deserves to enjoy learning and to be engaged in meaningful ways each and every day. I was not a child who enjoyed school. I struggled and always felt that school was simply not the place for me. Now, as an adult who has finally experienced school in a positive manner, I am determined to become a teacher who does everything in their power to engage my students and have them enjoy learning. When meaningful lessons are taught in a fun and engaging way students absorb more information. I plan to make the most out of every lesson and ensure that I can maximize engagement through thoughtful and well-planned activities. The environment in which I first experienced school was not a nurturing place for me and I know better than anyone the negative impact it had on both my learning and my perception of school. If I can do everything I can to engage with students and have them enjoy their time learning, then I feel as though I will be a successful teacher.

In order to be engaging to all students I need to keep in mind that all learners are unique and to build my lessons with a universal design for learning at the heart of them. By developing lessons that will not only be fun, but also be able to engage with all learners, I know that I will be doing my best to ensure that no students feel the way that I did during my time in school. Every student matters and deserves to learn. I truly believe that. I know that it will increase the amount of work I need to put into planning, preparation, and the actual implementation of lessons but it is worth it.