Name: Sara Dimmock

Department and year of graduation: Language and Linguistic Science, 2014

Why did you decide to get involved with YSIS?

I have always wanted to pursue a career in teaching but my experience before university was limited to outside of the classroom environment so YSIS seemed like the perfect opportunity to further my skills.

Have there been any surprises?

I was surprised at how much trust the teachers put in me and the confidence they had in my abilities; it really helped me to challenge myself and develop my teaching skills.

What have you gained from your experiences with YSIS?

So many things! Perhaps most importantly I have had a realisation that I can’t imagine anything that I want to do more, than to teach.

What advice would you give students considering taking part in YSIS?

Do it. Even if you don’t want to go into teaching there is so much to be learnt from a YSIS placement. It’s also a great way to escape the “student bubble”, one of the things I have enjoyed most about all of my placements is getting to know people from the community we live in – I’ve met some wonderful human beings!

I would encourage students to be proactive in their placements in order to get the most out of them; teachers are very busy people and really welcome students who don’t wait to be told.

Sara co-founded the YUSU volunteering project Inkwell in her third year. In 2014 Sara started a primary PGCE at York St John University.