

Becoming a Teacher



Who are we?

Emma Cornish

Lead for Portsmouth Primary SCITT

Georgina Crooks

HISP ITT Strategic Lead





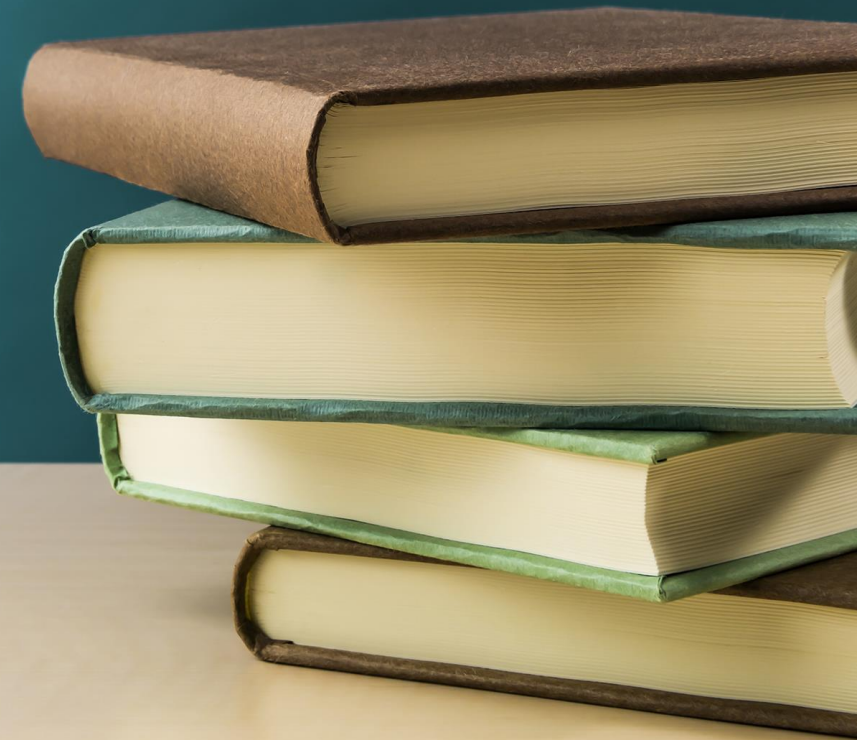
Routes into Teaching

Qualification Requirements

To teach in England you need Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). This can be obtained through a Teacher Training Programme.

To train to teach in primary and secondary schools in England, you'll need:

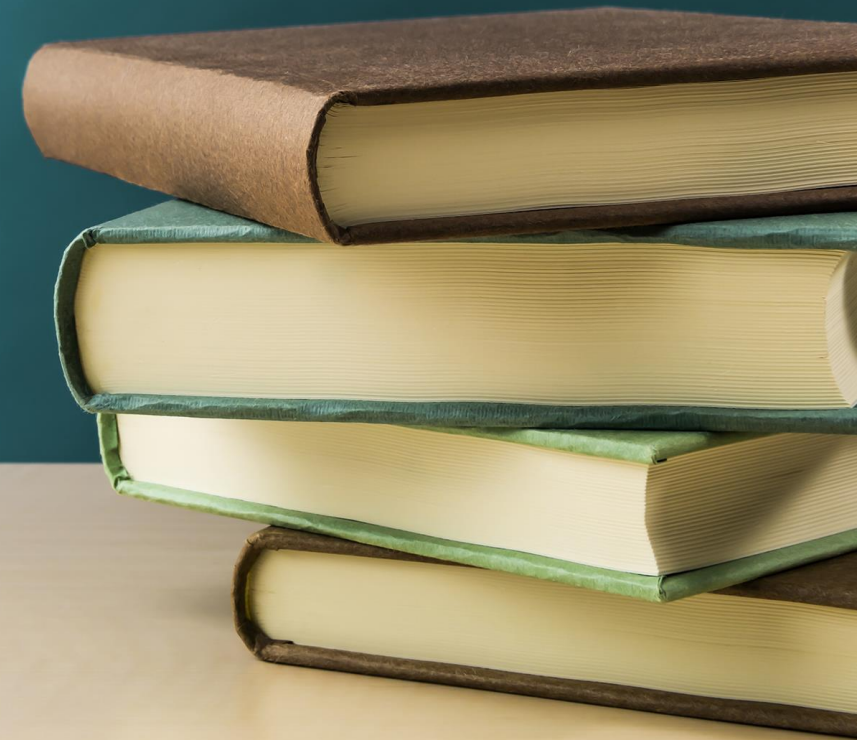
- GCSEs at grade 4 (C) or above in English and Maths
 - You'll additionally need a science subject if you plan to teach primary
- a bachelor's degree in any subject



Qualification Requirements

Different training providers may also have specific criteria. For example, some may ask that you have a bachelor's degree class 2:2 or above.

Some training providers may consider candidates with pending GCSEs. If you do not have the GCSEs required, they may also ask you to sit an equivalency test or to offer other evidence to show your ability.





Additional Qualification Requirements for secondary teaching

For secondary courses, your provider will also want to make sure you have a good knowledge of the subject you're applying to teach.

This could be through having a degree in the subject, or having:

- an A level in the subject
- a degree related to but not in the subject – for example, your degree is in engineering, but you'd like to teach physics
- an unrelated degree but relevant professional experience

You can do a subject knowledge enhancement course before or sometimes during your teacher training to improve your subject knowledge. Your teacher training provider might make this a requirement of accepting you on their course if:

- you do not have a degree in the subject you're training to teach
- you completed your degree more than 5 years ago

If you've worked as an unqualified teacher

If you've worked as an unqualified teacher, you may be able to get qualified teacher status (QTS) through an assessment only programme.

- You can take the assessment only route to QTS if you already meet the standards for qualified teacher status, so do not need any further training.
- Instead, you will undertake a series of assessments. This may include lesson observations, providing a portfolio of evidence to show you meet the teachers' standards.
- The assessment programme takes up to 12 weeks.
- Fees range from about £1500 to £4000 but vary between provider so it's best to check with them for more information.
- Fees may be paid by you or your school at the start of the programme. If you're currently working in a school, talk to your employer about your funding options.





Assessment Only Eligibility

To be eligible, you need all of the following:

- to be able to show you meet the teachers' standards without any more training
- to have worked in 2 or more schools
- a degree
- GCSEs at grade 4 (C) or above in English and maths (and science if you want to teach primary)
- Specific entry criteria may vary by teacher training provider. You should ask them about eligibility before you apply.

Are teaching assistants eligible?

- If you've worked as a teaching assistant, it's unlikely you'll have the experience required for assessment only.
- There may be exceptional cases where teaching assistants have worked for a significant amount of time (at least 2 years) independently teaching classes and may be eligible.
- Talk to your provider about whether your experience makes you eligible for this route.

Qualifications from overseas

If you have qualifications from outside the UK, you'll need to show that they're the same standard as UK GCSEs and a UK bachelor's degree.

You can get a statement of comparability from the UK European Network of Information Centres (UK ENIC) to show the standard of your qualifications:



How to train if you do not have a degree

You need a bachelor's degree in any subject to train to teach in primary, secondary and special schools in England.

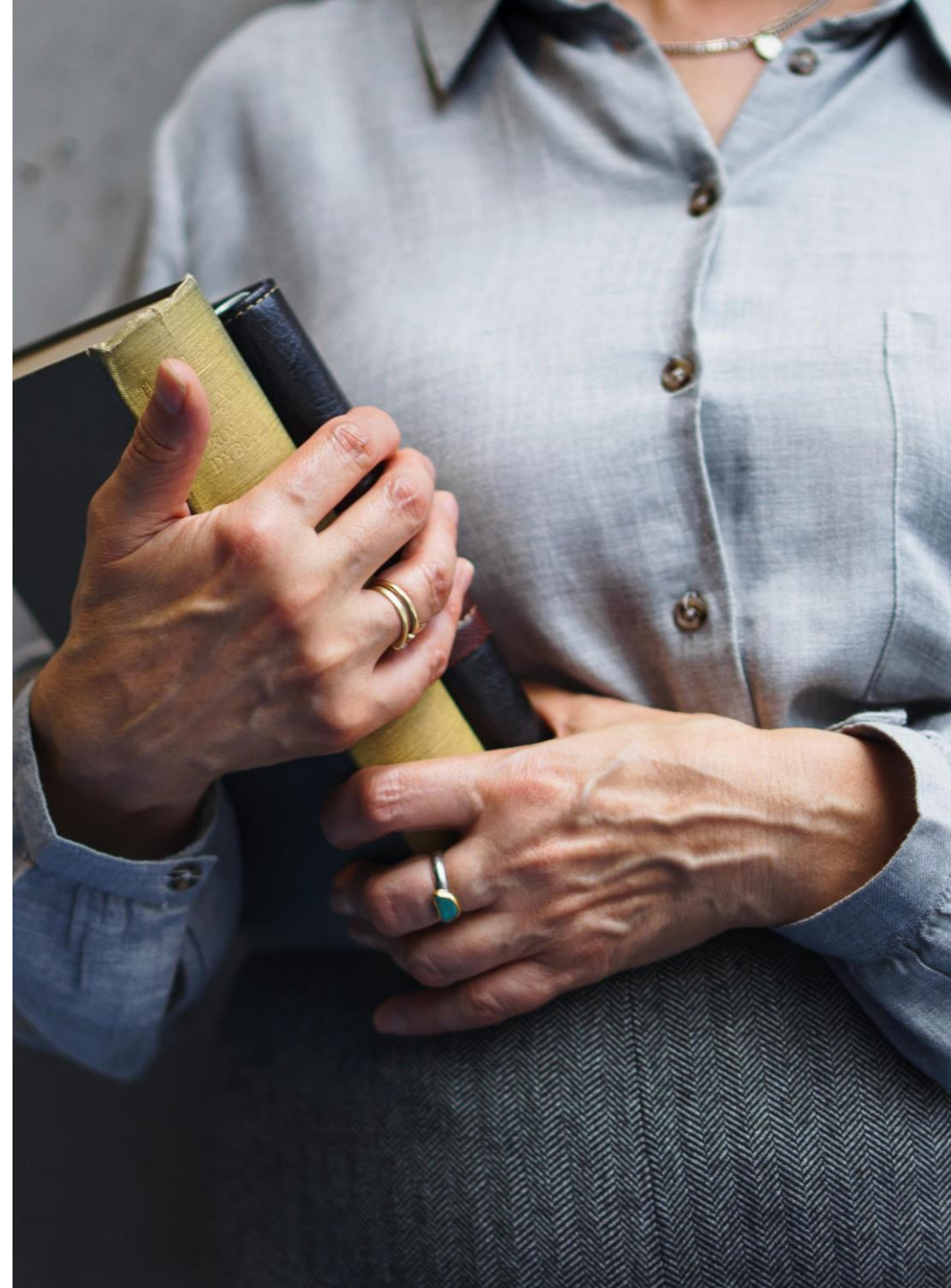
- For secondary teacher training, your provider will also want to make sure you have a good knowledge of the subject you're applying to teach.
- You can train to be a teacher as part of your bachelor's degree and get qualified teacher status (QTS).
- Degree courses that include QTS typically cost £9,250 per year and can take up to 4 years but you can get funding for your training.

Qualifications vary depending on the course. For example, you could get QTS with a:

- Bachelor of Arts (BA)
- Bachelor of Education (BEd)
- Bachelor of Science (BSc)

As part of selecting your degree course, you will need to decide if you want to train to teach at a primary or secondary level.

If you're a non-UK citizen who wants to study in England, you can visit the UK Council for International Student Affairs or information about studying at an English university.



Costs and Funding



Costs

Undergraduate and postgraduate teacher training course fees are around £9,250 per year.

Funding is available to help you train to teach. You can apply for a:

- tuition fee loan of up to £9,250 to cover your teacher training, so you do not need to pay course fees upfront
- maintenance loan of up to £13,022 to help with living costs
- You can still apply for a tuition fee and a maintenance loan if you already have a student loan.
- You will only have to make loan repayments once you're earning.

Student finance calculator will help you work out how much funding you could get:



Bursaries and Scholarships - Secondary

Bursaries

For 2024 to 2025 IFT are offering bursaries of:

- £28,000 in chemistry, computing, mathematics and physics
- £25,000 in biology, design and technology, geography and languages (including ancient languages)
- £10,000 in art and design, English, music and RE
- Applicants may be eligible for a bursary if they have 1st, 2:1, 2:2, PhD or master's.

Scholarships

IFT are offering scholarships of:

- £30,000 in chemistry, computing, mathematics and physics
- £27,000 in French, German and Spanish (no other languages)

Scholarships are usually available to applicants with a 1st, 2:1, master's or PhD, though in exceptional circumstances they may be awarded to a graduate with a 2:2 and significant relevant experience.

Scholarships also come with a package of additional benefits from the relevant scholarship body:

- tax free scholarship
- membership to the professional body
- subject specialist events and webinars held by professional bodies
- online and face-to-face workshops across the country
- subject specialist mentors and coaching
- community of scholars (ex-scholars, teachers, subject leaders)
- access to classroom resources
- continuing professional development (CPD) and networking events during ITT year and Alumni

Salaried Routes

There are a few teacher training courses that come with a salary. This means you will not have to pay tuition fees and will receive a salary while you train to get qualified teacher status (QTS).

The main salaried courses include School Direct salaried, postgraduate teaching apprenticeships (PGTA) and teacher training delivered by Teach First.

- All salaried courses are broadly the same, but the course length and qualifications you work towards may vary.
- These courses are in high demand and very competitive.
- For some salaried courses, teacher training providers may want you to have significant teaching or school experience (for example, if you're already working as an unqualified teacher or teaching assistant).
- Some also want you to have already arranged a school to work in while you train.
- You'll receive an unqualified teacher's salary – the exact amount will vary depending on the school you work in.



Salaried Routes

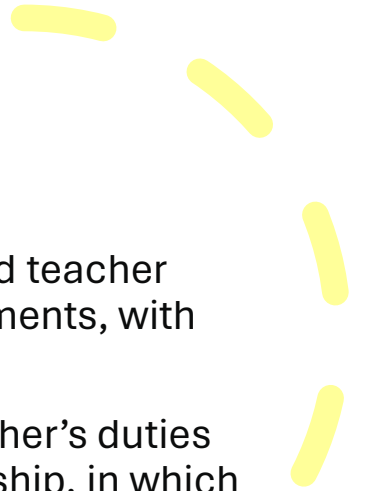
Salaried teacher training is usually similar to non-salaried teacher training – you’ll spend most of your time in school placements, with some theoretical learning.

- You will not perform more than 90% of a full-time teacher’s duties (unless you’re on a postgraduate teaching apprenticeship, in which case it’s 80%).

Full-time salaried teacher training will usually last:

- 1 academic year (September to July) if you’re on a School Direct salaried course
- 2 academic years (September to July) if you’re on a course delivered by Teach First
- at least 1 full year (September to September) if you’re on a postgraduate teaching apprenticeship – apprenticeships must last a minimum of 12 months

As well as QTS, you may also be able to work towards a postgraduate certificate in education (PGCE), but you may have to pay an extra fee.



What else do I need to know?



Bring your passion
and drive



Gain some school
experience if
possible



If you're a career
changer – bring your
transferrable skills
*(e.g. presenting
information,
analysing,
communication,
flexibility etc)*



Check qualification
type matches your
requirements



Check VISA
requirements; not
all providers
sponsor VISA.



[Government Apply Service](#)

How to apply

- Apply from October for course start the following September.
- Apply to up to 4 providers at once.
- Use the Government Apply Service.
- Training providers review and respond within 30 days.
- If application successful, provider will invite candidate to interview.
- Interview process will differ depending on provider.



Questions