

Thinking Ahead?

Teaching in Primary and Secondary Schools

Produced by
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Information and Guidance Team
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Learner Services

What does a Teacher do and where do they work?

Early Teachers, ensure through teaching and play that children from birth to 5 years old meet the standards set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage. They work in various settings including in various settings such as nurseries, preschools and reception classes <https://www.gov.uk/early-years-foundation-stage>

Primary School Teachers teach a range of subjects, usually to the same class, in the Primary National Curriculum in years 1 to 6 at key stage 1 (ages 5 to 7) and key stage 2 (ages 7 to 11). They could also specialise to teach Physical Education or Maths. <https://www.gov.uk/national-curriculum/key-stage-1-and-2>

Secondary School Teacher usually teach one main subject in the Secondary National Curriculum, to classes at key stage 3 (ages 11 to 14) and key stage 4 (ages 14 to 16). <https://www.gov.uk/national-curriculum/key-stage-3-and-4>

Primary and Secondary school teachers can work in a range of different types of schools. <https://www.gov.uk/types-of-school>

Please note that not all schools have to teach the National Curriculum

For more information about the role of teachers and **skills and qualities** required, see:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/browse-sector/teaching-and-education>

How do I get into Teaching?

Teaching in State funded schools:

To teach in a state funded school in England, you must have a degree, and gain Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) by following a programme of Initial Teacher Training (ITT). You will also need GCSE's at grade 4-9 (A-C) in Maths and English. If you wish to teach at Primary level you will also need a GCSE Science grade 4–9 (A-C). You'll also need to pass the professional skills tests in numeracy and literacy before you begin your teacher training, and have an enhanced background check by the Disclosure and Barring Service - DBS

Teaching in Non State schools - You can teach in independent schools, academies, and free schools in England without QTS, but it's a definite advantage to have it.

Undergraduate Teacher Training programmes – If you don't have a degree.

Some degree courses include Qualified Teacher Status (QTS), and you therefore qualify to teach once the degree is complete. Or, you can take a degree course in a relevant National Curriculum subject that doesn't include QTS, and then train to teach after you graduate, by applying for a postgraduate teacher training programme in order to gain Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).

Entry requirements for degree courses can vary, you will need to check each university. However, you are likely to need the minimum GCSE's requirements already mentioned, plus a relevant level 3 qualification, such as an Access to Teaching course.

Armed Service Leaders without a degree can train to be a teacher through the Troops to Teachers programme. (Check the website below for other entry requirements)

<https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/explore-my-options/teacher-training-routes/specialist-training-options/troops-to-teachers>

Postgraduate Teacher Training routes – if you do have a degree.

Postgraduate training/courses can either be led by a University or a School. The course to choose will depend on your subject, qualifications, experience, and where you want to train. See the link below to explore your options, including those who are experienced teachers with a degree, and also those who want to work with inspire young people from low-income communities to achieve their full potential.

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/postgraduate-teacher-training-england>

Early Years Teaching – If you have a degree and wish to specialise in teaching children from birth to five in **private nurseries** or **non-maintained school nurseries** you will need to gain Early Years Teacher Status, EYTS, rather than Qualified Teacher Status, QTS. Please note: the teaching information line confirm that if you wish to teach in a state maintained school nursery, you will need to gain QTS, and not the specialist EYTS.

<https://www.ucas.com/postgraduate-early-years-initial-teacher-training-england>

<https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/explore-my-options/become-an-early-years-teacher>

Overseas graduates – See this link if you gained a degree in a different country:

<https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/explore-my-options/overseas-graduates>

Where can I study?

GCSE's, Access and Undergraduate Degree Programmes

- Manchester Adult Education Service offer GCSE's in Maths and English but not Science. See: <http://www.manchester.gov.uk/adulted> for your nearest centre.
- Other colleges – Most local colleges offer GCSE's in Maths, English and Science, plus the Access to Teaching or Access to Higher Education courses.
- All universities and some colleges offer Degree courses in National Curriculum subjects (without QTS)
- Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU), offer 3 Undergraduate degrees that include QTS: Primary Education, Primary Education with Maths and Secondary Education with Maths. (Search 'QTS' on the course search tool)

Ask your advisor for a separate list of contact details for local Colleges and Universities. (the list also shows which colleges offer which GCSE's to adults)

Post Graduate courses/Training Programmes

A search tool for **all** Post Graduate Teacher Programmes, including school and university led, salaried and non-salaried programmes can be found at this link:

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-search-training-programmes>

Manchester Metropolitan University offer a range of PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate) courses for teaching in Primary and Secondary school subjects. They also offer some School Direct programmes.

<http://www2.mmu.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/> (Type PGCE in search bar)

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<http://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-certificate-diploma/postgraduate-certificate-courses/>

University of Bolton - offer a range of Postgraduate teacher training courses, however these are more tailored to teaching young people and adults age 14+.

<https://www.bolton.ac.uk/Subjects/Teacher-Training-Education/Teacher-Training/Home.aspx>

What are the job prospects for Teachers?

Education is a large employment sector both in primary and secondary schools but it is expected to decline between 2013-2023. However, there will still be a large number of opportunities because of its size. (www.economicmodelling.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/Greater-Manchester-LEP)

Other Information resources

Teaching Information Line: 0800 389 2500 <https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/>

University College Admissions Service (UCAS): www.ucas.com/teachertraining

Funding: www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching/funding

Manchester Adult Education Service (MAES) Learner Advisors can give advice on careers, education, training and support with job search. Make an appointment at your local centre: <http://www.manchester.gov.uk/adulted>

National Careers Service: Careers advice, job search, CV's and skills assessment.
Freephone: 0800 100 900 <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>

You are advised to check material facts as although every effort has been made to ensure that information given is up to date we are aware that information is subject to change. The website links are used to provide further information and are not intended to signify that MAES endorses such websites and their content.