Teacher Education in the UK: Primary & Post-Primary

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Careers Advisor
Career Development Centre

Every effort is made to ensure that information is correct however it is essential to check all details at source before making decisions.
Teacher Education UK
Primary and Post-Primary
England/Wales

- Centralised Applications – [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)
- Select UCAS Teacher Training
  - Universities in England and Wales

- No closing date (England and Wales)
- Applications open October each year
- Advisable to apply as early as possible
Teacher Education UK

Primary and Post-Primary

Scotland

- Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)
- Centralised Applications – [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)
- Select UCAS Undergraduate
  - Universities in Scotland

- Closing date: 15\textsuperscript{th} January 2018
Postgraduate/Professional Certificate in Education (PGCE)

Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)

- Primary / Secondary – One year Course
- Most courses are 60 credits
- Some courses offer additional Masters credits
  - Clarify with training providers whether they provide this option

- Courses in Ireland have 120 credits
- Getting as many credits at Masters level as possible will help when applying for registration to Irish Teaching Council on your return to Ireland
Becoming a teacher in the UK

If you're considering teaching in a UK state school, you'll need to have a degree, and a recognised teaching qualification. Initial Teacher Education or Training (ITE) programmes across the UK are broadly similar, providing a combination of academic study and time in school, as you learn about key teaching methods. However, the routes, entry requirements, and statutory teaching standards are different depending on where in the UK you plan to train, and ultimately, teach. You can apply through UCAS for the main postgraduate and undergraduate teacher training programmes in England, Wales, and Scotland.

Train to teach in England
Find out more about university and school-led routes, ITT programmes including PGCE, School Direct, and SCITT, the professional skills tests, and achieving Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).

Train to teach in Wales
Find out more about university-led postgraduate and undergraduate teacher training, the Graduate Teacher Programme, eligibility, funding, and achieving QTS in Wales.

Train to teach in Scotland
Find out more about eligibility for university-led Initial Teacher Education (ITE), including undergraduate programmes and PGDE courses in primary and secondary education.

Train to teach in Northern Ireland
Find out more about how to apply for university-led graduate Initial Teacher Education (ITE) programmes in Northern Ireland.

Choosing a career in teaching
Before you apply, find out more about what a career in teaching could offer you – from salary and progression, to first-hand experiences of what teaching is really like.

UCAS Teacher Training blog
Get top tips from current trainees, application advice from ITT tutors, and expert introductions to key issues in education to help you get ready for your training programme.
Training Routes

• There are a number of training routes handles through the UCAS Teacher Training website
• It is important that you choose a route that guarantees both a PGCE and QTS
  – This is the university/college (Higher Education) based route

• Useful Links
  – [http://targetpostgrad.com/study-areas/teaching](http://targetpostgrad.com/study-areas/teaching)
England – Entry requirements

GCSE = Leaving Cert Ordinary Level

- GCSE C in English and Maths
- GCSE C in Science (for Primary only)

- Some course providers may have additional entry requirements
  - Check on course providers’ websites for full entry requirements

- Professional Skills Tests (Literacy/Numeracy) required

- More information- [https://www.ucas.com/teacher-training-entry-requirements-england](https://www.ucas.com/teacher-training-entry-requirements-england)
Professional Skills Tests for England

• English (Literacy) and Maths (Numeracy)
• Must have sent in course application and have application number before applying for skills tests
• Must be taken online at official centre
• Centre in Belfast
• First attempt at test is free
• If unsuccessful must may for 2\textsuperscript{nd}/3\textsuperscript{rd} attempts
• If unsuccessful at 3\textsuperscript{rd} attempt can’t apply for teacher education again for 2 years
• Skills Tests Blog - https://www.ucas.com/connect/blogs/professional-skills-tests
• Tests booked online at https://www.skillstestbooking.com/sta-web/registration?execution=e1s1
Wales – Entry requirements

GCSE = Leaving Cert Ordinary Level

- GCSE B in English and Maths
- GCSE C in Science (for Primary only)

- Some course providers may require Literacy/Numeracy Tests or may have additional entry requirements
  - Check on course providers’ websites for full entry requirements

Scotland – Entry requirements

- Leaving Cert: HC3 in English and OC3 in Maths

- Some course providers may require have additional entry requirement
  - Check on course providers’ websites for full entry requirements

Applications

- Same on-line application for Primary and Secondary
- Can apply for 3 courses (England/Wales)
- Can apply for 5 courses (Scotland)

- **Not recommended** to apply for a mixture of primary and secondary courses on same form
How are places allocated?

- Application Form including Personal Statement
- Interview in U.K.
- Teaching Observation – VERY important!

- Review information on UCAS.com and on course providers websites
  - The provide tips on what they like to see in an application form/personal statement etc.
Finding colleges

• [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)
  – Click on Course Search
  – Click on Teacher Training (England/Wales)
  – Click on Undergraduate (Scotland)

• Select Primary or Secondary

• Select subject
  – If applying for primary select Primary again under Subject
Researching UK Colleges

- Visit college website
  - Research course and college
  - Confirm specific college entry requirements
- Consider location – airport / transport
- Make list of preferences
Funding – England & Wales

- Information subject to change
- Loan will pay your fees – Up to £9,000stg
  - Exact amount determined by individual institutions
  - Fees paid directly to university
  - Loan is repayable once you start teaching and are earning more than £22,000

- Apply to Student Loan Company to cover course fees (after offered place on course)
- Further Information - [https://www.gov.uk/student-finance/eu-students](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance/eu-students)

- Future Implications of Brexit are unknown
Funding – Bursary / Scholarship

- Bursaries or Scholarships offered
- Depends on standard of degree and subjects studies
- 2018 Entry - Not offered for primary (except Primary Maths)

England
- Scholarships - https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/funding-and-salary/overview/scholarships
- Bursaries - https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/funding-and-salary/overview

Wales
- https://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/media/196141/sfw_initial_teacher_educati on_fs_1718_en_d.pdf

Scotland / Northern Ireland
- Training Bursaries not offered
## The financial offer for maths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligibility 2018/2019</th>
<th>Early-career payments</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trainee with 1st, 2:1, 2:2, PhD or Master's</td>
<td>£10,000</td>
<td>£30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>£20,000 bursary</td>
<td>£32,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£22,000 scholarship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The scholarships and bursaries for other subjects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Eligibility 2018/2019</th>
<th>Bursaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scholarships</td>
<td>Bursaries for Trainee with 1st, 2:1, 2:2, PhD or Master's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>£28,000</td>
<td>£26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>£28,000</td>
<td>£26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>£28,000</td>
<td>£26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computing</td>
<td>£28,000</td>
<td>£26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>£28,000</td>
<td>£26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>£26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classics</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>£26,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bursaries for other subjects</th>
<th>Trainee with 1st/PhD</th>
<th>2:1/Master's</th>
<th>2:2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>£15,000</td>
<td>£15,000</td>
<td>£15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D&amp;T</td>
<td>£12,000</td>
<td>£9,000</td>
<td>£0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History, Music, RE</td>
<td>£9,000</td>
<td>£4,000</td>
<td>£0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Maths</td>
<td>£6,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ITE incentive grants

Availability of ITE incentives is announced by the Welsh Government on an annual basis. The table below shows the availability, subject coverage and level of grant available to Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) students.

ITE incentives that will apply in Wales in 2017/18:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree classification</th>
<th>Postgraduate secondary courses in physics, mathematics, chemistry and Welsh</th>
<th>Postgraduate secondary courses in modern languages and ICT (computer sciences)</th>
<th>Postgraduate secondary courses in all other subjects and postgraduate primary courses</th>
<th>Additional primary supplement for those with first class degrees in English, Welsh, mathematics and science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>£20,000</td>
<td>£15,000</td>
<td>£3,000</td>
<td>£3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:1</td>
<td>£10,000</td>
<td>£6,000</td>
<td>£0</td>
<td>£0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:2</td>
<td>£5,000</td>
<td>£0</td>
<td>£0</td>
<td>£0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eligible students who are ordinarily resident in Wales and start full-time postgraduate ITE courses in 2017/18 could also get a Fee Grant of up to £4,954. Grants are also available, depending on the subject studied, for eligible ITE students undertaking full-time, pre-service PGCE PGET/FE courses.

Welsh Medium Improvement Scheme (Secondary only)

Student teachers starting postgraduate secondary ITE courses and training through the Medium of Welsh may be able to get the Welsh Medium Improvement Scheme grant. This is aimed at student teachers who need extra support to raise confidence in their ability to teach effectively in Welsh.
Funding - Scotland

• Apply for funding from SAAS
  (Student Awards Agency for Scotland)

See [http://www.saas.gov.uk/full_time/ug/eu/index.htm](http://www.saas.gov.uk/full_time/ug/eu/index.htm) for further details. Tel: 0044 300 555 0505 (option 2)

Future Implications of Brexit are unknown
Can I come back immediately after PCGE?

- UK - Probation Year for full recognition of qualification
- From January 2011 necessary to have QTS / TQ from country in which you trained before can be registered in Ireland

- Must do a Probation/Induction year in the UK
- See www.teachingcouncil.ie for details
Qualification Recognised in Ireland for Primary???

In past years the main shortfall related to Irish Exam
  – Irish Exam (SCG) /Adaptation Period (OCG)
    • Written
    • Oral
    • Aural
  – Certain exemptions if hold a Degree in Irish

From 2014 Primary Teacher Education in Ireland is a 2 year programme
so there is a shortfall in credits studied in UK when compared to Ireland...
  • Shortfall could be up to 60 credits (depending on the number of credits you
    completed during your course
  • Teaching may grant provision registration – contact info@teachingcouncil.ie.
    For further details see -
Qualification Recognised in Ireland for Secondary?

• When returning from UK in the past students had to sit an exam on the History of the Irish Education System

From 2014 Post-Primary Teacher Education in Ireland is a 2 year programme (120 credits) so there is a shortfall in credits and possibly number of hours of teaching practice studied in UK when compared to Ireland...

• Shortfall could be up to 60 credits (depending on the number of credits you completed during your course)

• Teaching may grant provision registration – contact info@teachingcouncil.ie. For further details see - http://www.teachingcouncil.ie/en/Registration/Registration-with-Conditions/
Postgraduate/Professional Certificate in Education (PGCE)

Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)

• Primary / Secondary – One year Course
• Most courses are 60 credits
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  – Clarify with training providers whether they provide this option

• Courses in Ireland have 120 credits
• Getting as many credits at Masters level as possible will help when applying for registration to Irish Teaching Council on your return to Ireland
Studying in the UK

Some UK institutions have made changes in response to the Teaching Council requirements

These colleges recommend staying in the UK for 3 years

1. Complete your PGCE/PGDE
2. Complete your Induction Year and possibly start taking some Masters credits
3. Spend another year teaching in the UK and complete the remainder of masters credits (180 credits in total)
Applying - UCAS

- Read tips/watch videos on www.ucas.com
Applying to UCAS

When adding your choices to your application, double check the availability of the programmes – you don't want to waste your time applying to programmes without spaces!

For training programmes in Wales, you can apply in Welsh.

1. First you register to use Apply
2. Then sign in to fill in the rest of your personal details
3. Some additional info (UK applicants only)
4. Then you add your programme choices
5. Your education so far
6. Your school and work experience
7. Then you write your personal statement
8. Then you get two references
9. Now you pay your fee and send your application
10. What if you want to make a change to your application?

Useful documents

If you've got a question about completing your application, read through the UCAS Teacher Training

You may also like to read

- Writing a UCAS Teacher Training personal statement
- After you send your UCAS Teacher Training application
- UCAS Teacher Training: your consumer rights
- References for teacher training

Related topics

- After applying
- Applying
- The application process

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Inspire a generation...

Career Development Centre
Northern Ireland

- Applications made directly to colleges
- Closing dates vary - some are November 2017
  - Check individual college websites
- Post-Primary
  - University of Ulster (Closing Date extended to January 2018)
  - Queen’s University Belfast (November Closing Date)
- Primary
  - University of Ulster (November Closing Date)
  - Stranmillis University College (Early Years)\#
  - St Mary’s University College (Irish Medium)

- Funding – Student Loans (EU) as in England/Wales
Entry Requirements - Northern Ireland

GCSE = Ordinary Level Leaving Cert

- GCSE C in English and Maths
- GCSE in Science (for primary only)
- Some course providers may have additional entry requirements
  - Check on course providers’ websites for full entry requirements
Any Questions?

• [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers)
• [careers@mu.ie](mailto:careers@mu.ie)

• **Careers Centre Help-Desk (talk to advisor)**
  - Monday – Friday
  - 10am to 12.30pm & 2.30pm to 4.30pm

• **Book a 15 minute Careers Meeting with an advisor**
  - call to Careers Centre to book