

Secondary PGCE Programme

The Full Time Secondary PGCE programme is designed to be completed on a one-year Full Time basis, and offers trainee teachers the opportunity to gain a Postgraduate Award (with Masters Level Credits) alongside the recommendation for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).

The PGCE equips trainee teachers with the range of academic, professional and vocational knowledge, understanding, skills and values necessary to become a high quality and skilled classroom practitioner within their chosen subject specialism. It also aims to develop trainees' reflective and analytical skills as well as providing practical experience in planning effective lessons and learning strategies which impact on all learners in the classroom.

Hands-on classroom experience, opportunities to further subject knowledge and establishing a wide range of exciting, innovative and interactive teaching methods are integral to the programme. Trainees develop their own learning skills and reflect upon, and take charge of, their own development as a trainee teacher. Trainees gain knowledge of how children learn and how their needs differ. The essential strategies for the core skills of planning, assessment, teaching and class room management, along with an understanding of the education system, and of the wider professional role of a teacher in school are embedded throughout the trainees' journey.

All trainees engage with key training areas during the programme including Key Stage 2 and transition, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Post 16 Teaching and learning and working with learners for whom English is an Additional Language.

Practice based training takes place on two assessed professional practices: Professional Practice 1, which is divided into phase 1a and phase 1b. Trainees initially observe and support the classroom teacher and the learners' progress before gradually building up to a 50% timetable in phase 1b. This practice is followed by Professional Practice 2 which is designed to consolidate the trainees' progression and develop their approaches to all aspects of the role of a secondary teacher.

PGCE Professional Practice 1 (Phase 1a and Phase 1b)

The Post Graduate Professional Practice 1 is divided into two phases. The initial phase, Professional Practice 1a, begins with a one week observation during which time trainees should be encouraged to support Curriculum Mentors, teachers and learners in lessons. This induction will provide trainees with the opportunity to undertake structured observations and reflect on the setting's policies, practice and ethos. Trainees will familiarise themselves with routines and expectations alongside the Teachers' Standards, in the context of the practice setting.

As the practice develops, trainees will gradually engage with the process of planning, delivering and evaluating under the guidance of the Curriculum Mentor. At this early stage of training, delivering parts of lessons, team teaching and supporting small groups are appropriate teaching activities. By the end of Professional Practice 1a, trainees should have taught whole lessons with each of the classes they will be teaching during the second phase of this first Professional Practice, phase 1b. During Professional Practice 1b all trainees are expected to teach approximately 50% of an NQT timetable (approximately 10 hours) across the age and ability range within the school.

KS4 and post-16 experience, if available, are important for the trainee's professional development and all trainees are expected to share in all the usual teacher responsibilities: form tutor, break duty, extra-curricular activities, parents' evenings, open days.

As part of their training on Professional Practice 1, PGCE trainees will require KS2 experience of 3 days in one of the settings Primary feeder schools.

PGCE Professional Practice Phase 2

This is a solo period of Professional Practice in school/college. Trainees develop medium and short term plans during the placement. They will take on the full role of class teacher for approximately 70% of the timetable (approximately 13 -14 hours).

The first two weeks of Professional Practice 2 will be an induction and observation period. The trainee will not have a formal teaching role during the induction and preparation weeks, although trainees should be encouraged to support the Curriculum Mentor and teachers in lessons.

Trainees should fully engage with the process of planning, delivering and evaluating lessons and learner progress under the guidance of the Curriculum Mentor. At this final stage, it is also appropriate for them to team teach and support small groups e.g. revision/booster/master classes.

The main aims of Professional Practice 2 relate to trainees developing greater professional autonomy and refining their understanding of effective teaching, learning and the use of formative and summative assessment to assess learner progress. Trainees should show reflections upon and evaluations of practice with clear evidence to show how the Teachers' Standards are being addressed and how the evaluative process is informing self-improvement and pupil learning.

As part of their training on Professional Practice 2, PGCE trainees will require KS2 experience of 2 days in one of the settings Primary feeder schools.

Phase 1	Length of Professional Practice Whole Class Teaching Commitment PGCE Phase 1 Payment	18 Weeks 50% £600 £800 (Sciences, English, Maths)
Phase 2	Length of Professional Practice Whole Class Teaching Commitment PGCE Phase 2 Payment	13 Weeks 70% £800 £900 (Sciences, English, Maths)

Secondary PGCE Flexible Programme (Full Time and Part Time Routes)

The Flexible programme is a unique training pathway that is specifically designed to meet trainee need. It offers a blended approach to learning, enabling distance trainees to study more flexibly. There are several induction/registration points throughout the academic year, providing a personalised training plan designed to meet individual needs. Within the programme there are four pathways:

Flexible Pathway A

This assessment-only route is for applicants who have already undertaken substantial and successful teaching experience in a variety of roles in secondary schools and in further education colleges and who will be able to demonstrate that they have met the Teachers' Standards. This route may allow trainees to gain their recommendation for the award of QTS within a minimum period of one term.

Flexible Pathway B

This route is for the increasingly large number of colleagues who work in schools and colleges unqualified in a variety of roles and may wish to gain credit for their prior experience and learning. Pathway B enables candidates to gain a PGCE qualification with the recommendation for the award of QTS. The training plan may cover a period of up to three years allowing a trainee to meet other needs they may have, such as part time work or carer responsibilities.

Flexible Pathway C

This route is usually provided for trainees who need to undertake the whole of a conventional ITT PGCE, but are unable to attend a one-year Full Time course. It allows trainees to attend face-to-face and to use distance learning on a part time basis, normally over a period of up to three years, gaining a PGCE award and the recommendation for the Award of QTS without committing themselves to a Full Time programme.

Full Time Flexible Pathway

This pathway is designed to meet the needs of distance trainees who are able to commit fully to a 12 month training route but need to train at a distance.

PGCE Flexible Professional Practice Autumn Term

The Flexible Programme enables trainees to complete their Professional Practice at a time that best fits their needs during their training programme. Flexible trainees may be completing their Professional Practice 1a, 1b or 2 during the Autumn Term. The requirements for the professional practice remain the same as the Full Time PGCE however, a Flexible trainee may choose to complete their Professional Practice 1a and / or 1b part time, a minimum of 3 days per week. If you would like to work with a Flexible trainee during the Autumn Term, please indicate which Professional Practice you would like to offer; Professional Practice 1a, 1b or 2 (you may offer all three).

PGCE Flexible Professional Practice Spring Term

The Flexible Programme enables trainees to complete their Professional Practice at a time that best fits their needs during their training programme. Flexible trainees may be completing their Professional Practice 1a, 1b or 2 during the Spring Term. The requirements for the professional practice remain the same as the Full Time PGCE however, a Flexible trainee may choose to complete their Professional Practice 1a and / or 1b part time, a minimum of 3 days per week. If you would like to work with a Flexible trainee during the Spring Term, please indicate which Professional Practice you would like to offer; Professional Practice 1a, 1b or 2 (you may offer all three).

PGCE Flexible Professional Practice Summer Term

The Flexible Programme enables trainees to complete their Professional Practice at a time that best fits their needs during their training programme. Flexible trainees may be completing their Professional Practice 1a, 1b or 2 during the Summer Term. The requirements for the professional practice remain the same as the Full Time PGCE however, a Flexible trainee may choose to complete their Professional Practice 1a and / or 1b part time, a minimum of 3 days per week. If you would like to work with a Flexible trainee during the Summer Term, please indicate which Professional Practice you would like to offer; Professional Practice 1a, 1b or 2 (you may offer all three).

Phase 1a	Length of Professional Practice PGCE Flexible Phase 1a Payment	Dependent on training plan £250 £350 (Sciences, English, Maths)
Phase 1b	Length of Professional Practice Whole Class Teaching Commitment PGCE Flexible Phase 1b Payment	Dependent on training plan 50% £350 £450 (Sciences, English, Maths)
Phase 2	Length of Professional Practice Whole Class Teaching Commitment PGCE Flexible Phase 2 Payment	Dependent on training plan 70% £800 £900 (Sciences, English, Maths)
