



REIGATE GRAMMAR SCHOOL



RGS Careers

Routes into Teaching 2015-2016



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RGS GUIDE TO ROUTES INTO TEACHING

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Why Teach?

Job satisfaction: being able to see the difference you make to your students' lives is incredibly gratifying. Being able to share your passion with young people is really exciting too!

Helping to improve future generations: bringing out the best in every child and helping them to become responsible and kind global citizens is one of the most important jobs in the world.

Variety: no day is the same as another in teaching because when you deal with young people, different things are thrown at you all the time.

Prospects and progression: you can make what you want of your career whether it is running sports teams, being involved in pastoral care or organising the timetable; there are countless permutations!

Stability: there will always be jobs for teachers.

Salary: wherever you are in England, as a qualified teacher you'll start on a salary of at least £22,244, or £27,819 in inner London. There are also lots of chances to achieve salary increases and promotions.

Holidays: most teachers get 11-13 weeks of holiday per year, which is way above most other professions.

Skills you'll learn

As a teacher you develop a range of transferable skills. This means that even if you decide to leave the profession, you are incredibly valuable in many lines of work. Some of these skills include:

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Organisation
- ◆ Empathy
- ◆ Reflection
- ◆ People management
- ◆ Public speaking and confidence
- ◆ Conflict resolution and negotiation

Choosing the right route for you

There are various ways you can get into teaching. Each has its own benefits and downfalls. Before starting on a route, you must make sure you do your research and make informed decisions.

Here is a summary of the options currently available.

University-based Training (Primary and Secondary)

Post-graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) (Secondary and Primary)

[This is currently the most popular route into Teaching.](#)

Courses typically last one year when completed full-time.

These training programmes enable you to be recommended for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and to achieve a PGCE.

- Each university plans out its programme slightly differently to the others, so you must research before you apply. For every centre though, you'll get classroom experience by spending time teaching and being trained in at least two schools, for a minimum of 120 days (24 weeks) of the programme.
- And, you'll also spend time at the university or college you've chosen, working with a group of other students and being taught by university staff.

You can apply to up to three training programmes on your UCAS Teacher Training application. Places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so please remember that popular courses will fill up quickly. Some subjects will have a limited number of places available, so make sure you don't leave your application to the last minute!

Cost: £9,000

Funding Options: Up to £30,000 tax-free bursary depending on subject and degree class

Bachelors in Education (BEd) or BA/ BSc with QTS status (Usually, but not exclusively Primary)

You can gain a degree and qualified teacher status (QTS) together on a three or four-year course, combining academic study with learning practical classroom skills.

Combines university lectures and seminars with hands-on experience in a number of schools.

You can apply for this through UCAS in the same way as any other Undergraduate course

Cost: Varies depending on University

Funding Options: Up to £3,000 tax-free bursary depending on level of education

School-based Training

This means you go directly into schools and learn on the job with regular training sessions provided there, as opposed to learning in a University/ training centre and having placements.

School Direct

With School Direct, you're selected for training by a school or group of schools in partnership with a university.

You'll also study at the university, college or School-centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) centre they're partnered with.

If you're successful in your training, you might get a job in one of the schools in the partnership.

Graduates with around three years' work experience (there may be exceptions for STEM subjects) might be able to train on the job, with a salary from the start.

You'll train in at least two schools.

Schools will offer limited number of places and you will apply directly to the school- you can check available placements on the UCAS Teacher Training site.

Cost: For recent graduates it will cost £6,000 - £9,000 For graduates with 3+ years experience in graduate jobs, it should not cost them anything however, some providers do ask for a contribution towards the fees- this should be explicitly asked before accepting a role.

Funding: Up to £30,000 and if you have been working for 3+ years before starting your ITT, you could be paid a salary of about £16,000.

TeachFirst

The Leadership Development Programme (LDP) combines teacher training and a fully-funded PGCE with one-to-one coaching, enabling you to develop the skills and qualities to be a leader in the classroom and beyond

Involves 6 weeks of training at a Summer Institute in a university

Intensive 2 years in schools on a reduced timetable

You will be required to produce essays during your first year to gain a PGCE

You will be placed in schools that have a high proportion of children on free school meals (FSM)

There will be opportunities to do internships with companies during the summer holidays.

Cost: £0

Funding options: Trainees are paid as unqualified teachers earning, £15,000 – £19,800 depending on location

Requirements

The basic requirements for GCSE grades if you want to train to teach are

At Secondary level in England: Grade C in Maths and English
(B in both for Wales)











At Primary Level in England: Grade C in Maths, English and one Science
(B in all 3 for Wales)

To gain QTS you must have a degree.

To gain QTS you must sit a Maths and an English skills tests.

To apply for Teach First you must have at least a 2:1 in your bachelors degree

Top 5 Universities for Studying Education

Ranking (compared to 2015)	University	Student Satisfaction (out of 5)		Graduate Prospects (out of 100)		Overall score (out of 100)
1	<u>Cambridge</u>	4.15		84		100.0
2 (+4)	<u>Glasgow</u>	4.29		98		98.7
3 (+2)	<u>Durham</u>	4.22		88		97.7
4(+21)	<u>Southamp- ton</u>	4.35		86		96.4
5(+7)	<u>Dundee</u>	4.38		91		95.3

Testimonials

Level: Primary (Infant and Juniors)

Subject: Specialism in English

Route: Bachelors in Education (BEd)

Why teaching? I chose teaching because I wanted to work with kids and teaching seemed a good path.

Why did you choose the route you did? The college I went to is one of two teaching colleges in Northern Ireland (where I'm from), so when I was accepted, I went ahead with the course. I didn't really consider other options because I didn't really know about them.

What are the good things about this route? I think that the positives about completing a BEd is that you have 4 years to work out what your preferred age group is. I opted for KS2 but have since discovered that I love working with KS1 and Nursery. You also get to see a lot of teaching styles as you will work in lots of different schools with different teachers. I think that we all build our teaching styles on good teachers that have influenced us.

As regards the career, it's something you can travel with. I have worked all around the world! It's the best thing because having experience in the English system means that you are incredibly desirable in loads of amazing international schools.

What are the drawbacks of this? The drawbacks of me completing my degree at home is that I really am only going to get work in catholic schools at home, but this is probably a regional thing. Either way, the key is to really research the course and make sure it leaves doors open.

Level: Primary

Subject: Specialism in Physical Education

Route: Bachelors in Education

Why teaching? I have always known that I want to be a teacher.

Why did you choose the route you did? I was first attracted to the course by the excellent reputation Roehampton has for graduate teachers, which I knew about from the work experience I gained before applying for the course.

What are the good things about this route?

The course covers everything from food technology and sculpturing to long division and inclusive education. Unlike some of the other universities I looked at, Roehampton focuses on how to teach, rather than what to teach. My second favourite thing about the course so far is the wide range of subjects that I have studied; some days it's like being back in primary school! But my favourite part of the course has to be the six weeks I spent teaching in a school at the beginning of the Spring Term. Being on placement was the most rewarding experience and as if I wasn't sure already, I am now certain that I am on the right course for me. The course not only gives you a degree at the end of the three years, but also a qualification, allowing you to go straight into teaching, avoiding the need for a PGCE. In my opinion Primary Education is the best course for almost anyone because not many other courses involve finger painting and blind football!?

What are the drawbacks of this?

Not many but be prepared to work hard as I have found that my course has more contact hours than other courses.

Level: Secondary

Spanish to KS3 and French to A Level

Route: Schools Direct route offering PGCE qualification

Why teaching? Teaching was always the job for me as it offers a chance to inspire young people in an innovative way that will lead to a successful future. Teaching gives me to work with the subject I am passionate about, whilst allowing me the opportunity to share this with young people who might not have previously recognised the benefits of a language.

Why did you choose the route you did? I chose the Schools Direct route with PGCE Qualification as it allowed me to stay in the local area, which was a key factor for me. As there is a shortage of Modern Foreign Language teachers, I was also able to benefit from a salaried training position. However, the biggest attraction to this route was the hands on experience I was able to gain through spending optimum time in the classroom.

What are the good things about this route? One good thing about this route is that it allowed me, as previously mentioned, to spend as much time as possible in the classroom gaining hands on experience. This is vital for your progression and gives the most realistic view of school life, in my opinion. Additionally, the support offered from both the training provider and the school placements themselves were excellent as all training was facilitated by current teachers offering a realistic vision of teaching.

What are the drawbacks of this? The drawbacks are few. However, one aspect to keep in mind is the balance between the teaching and the academic work. During the training year you will be required to complete numerous written assignments, which are manageable but take a great deal of personal organisation to complete alongside lesson planning and teaching. In addition, the support provided by course mentors can vary from school to school, so be prepared to ask for support when needed!

Level: Secondary

Subject: Maths to A Level

Route: Teach First Leadership Development Programme

Why teaching? I completely drifted into teaching since I was too intimidated to apply to banking and consulting, but I had always enjoyed using my knowledge to help others (as a tutor) so teaching also seemed like a natural profession for me.

Why did you choose the route you did? It was the only route I was ever aware of. I also enjoy the challenge of being thrown in at the deep end, since that's my preferred way of learning a skill. It also meant that I had a good lot of skills and experience on my CV and had worked in an organisation that was highly respected outside of education too. I did an internship with a consultancy firm with whom I now have a permanent contract so this was a massive benefit for me since I wanted to try other professions too.

What are the good things about this route? The benefits of this route are the huge challenge and early responsibility that lead to great development opportunities. I guess you could also say that working in a Teach First school was morally rewarding because of the opportunity to make a difference to those pupils who need it most

What are the drawbacks of this? The drawback was that I didn't have a sufficiently developed theoretical knowledge of pedagogy and, once in the full on working environment, the time and desire to develop this steadily diminished so that I never became the pedagogue that I could have been. Some also thought that working in challenging schools meant they were less likely to stay in teaching but this didn't really affect my decision.

Level: Secondary

Subject: Maths to A Level

Route: GTP (Graduate Training Programme)

Why teaching? It was something that had become a real interest after coaching my son at the local cricket club. I enjoyed the interaction with children. The other key driver was the fact that I was very disillusioned with my career as a Chartered Accountant and I wanted a career that I felt was going to be more rewarding.

Why did you choose the route you did? I couldn't afford to go to university Full Time for a year because I have a family to support. Also I did not want to go back to full time study at my stage of life.

What are the good things about this route? You learn on the job. You get observed regularly and this gives you instant feedback. I found the more "hands on" route better for me than learning all the theory first before putting it into practice.

What are the drawbacks of this? You are thrown straight into it. I taught a lesson on my first day (pretty daunting) but you really do find out if you are interested in the career and whether or not you can do it!

Teaching level: Secondary (11-18)

Subject: Chemistry

Why teaching? I chose teaching as I loved my subject and wished to have a career which still used it. I also wanted to have a job which had a positive impact on those around me and was dynamic and interesting. I felt that teaching would be all of these things.

Why did you choose the route you did and what were the benefits? I went through a university PGCE course at the University of Nottingham. I liked this route as I had positive relationships with the university lecturers, who had a strong research basis in their field. I was also able to benefit from the practical experience of the teachers I was placed with.

What were the drawbacks?

Drawbacks of this route include the fact that you have less experience in the classroom than other school-based routes, which can be a disadvantage as you embark on the NQT year. Also, the final placement, which involved a research project, was less useful and did not allow for much extra classroom experience.

What is RGS doing to help?

You are lucky because everyone teaching you has been through some sort of route; ask any of them about how they got where they are now?

There are regular talks given on a wide range of career types (You can meet and talk to teachers at the Careers Convention held biannually.

You can contact the Careers Department with any concerns about Teaching applications or interviews.

Towards the end of Lower Sixth, we put on UCAS Days to help students to prepare their UCAS applications. As part of this we will invite some former students in to take your questions about university life.

Useful Links

<https://wwwucas.com/ucas/teacher-training>

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

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/aug/22/routes-into-teaching-best-route>

<http://www.teachinscotland.org/getintoteaching/>

<http://teachertrainingcymru.org/home>



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