

Why Train With Us?

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We are an established alliance and we work in partnership with other high performing schools within the borough. Our aim is to deliver outstanding ITT provision in our PGCE General Primary (5 – 11) delivered by outstanding practitioners who have all been designated Specialist Leaders of Education taken from the schools in our alliance. We have a strong commitment to providing a stimulating, challenging and rewarding training experience. The length of the course is 1 full academic year.

We have an exemplary employment record detailed below:

Year 1 - 19 out of 19 Associate Teachers gained employment

Year 2 - 16 out of 16 Associate Teachers gained employment

Year 3 - 17 out of 18 Associate Teachers gained employment

We have 20 Associate Teachers training with us this year

Our partnership of schools provides a diverse range of settings which include school with predominantly EAL learners and faith schools. Our training is delivered in partnership with the University of Cumbria who are the 3rd largest School Direct higher education partner in the UK. Lectures from the UOC will be delivered on site at Wensley Fold in Blackburn

At the end of the last academic year 2016/2017, 16 Associate Teachers gained employment within Blackburn with Darwen and Lancashire.

Quotes from our trainees and our Headteachers include:

'I am so pleased I chose TEAM alliance school direct route for my PGCE as from Day 1 I was straight into school life and very quickly gained a full understanding of the challenges and expectations of the job' - trainee

'I am very excited to begin my first teaching post and feel very prepared following a thorough and rigorous course with the highest expectations from TEAM' - trainee

'The students that we have had have been of such a high calibre and the course has prepared them so well that we have employed them both' - Headteacher
The course has provided me with one of the strongest NQT candidates that I have seen - Headteacher

'Well organised, well-structured and well monitored, The students spend more time in the classroom on this course and the support that they get ensures that they are very well prepared for their first job as a teacher - Headteacher

Entry Requirements

Minimum degree required:

Requirements

A 2:1 degree is preferred, however applicants with a 2:2 honours degree will be considered and a decision made based on the overall strength of their application in competition with other applicants

Three GCSE's at minimum grade C or above at the point of application to include English Language, Mathematics and Science.

Successful completion of the QTS skills test in literacy and numeracy.

Some school Experience would be recommended in order to support you in the interview process, however, this is not essential

A satisfactory academic (university) reference OR a satisfactory professional reference if more than three years since academic study.

The ability to discriminate key ideas and express arguments.

All candidates must demonstrate professional suitability through interview and must obtain medical and enhanced DBS clearance according to established university procedures.

What We Are Looking For

We seek to recruit

Trainees who possess a genuine desire to enrich the lives of young children and who can conduct themselves in a manner fitting of the teaching profession. You should be committed to becoming an outstanding classroom practitioner whom children value and respect

This is the course for you if you are:

A graduate who is genuinely motivated by the prospect of a career in teaching

Interested in benefitting from a school-based approach to teacher training

Passionate about learning to teach from highly experienced and respected professionals

Keen to experience a wide variety of different school settings throughout Blackburn with Darwen including Aided schools and as such we will be seeking applications from some candidates who support the Christian Ethos

Enthused by the prospect of working alongside teachers in good and outstanding schools.

How We Select Our Trainees

Process

If shortlisted, candidates will undertake a rigorous interview process to establish their suitability for the Alliance's School Direct Programme.

During your interview we will be looking for evidence that you meet the following criteria:

Professional Attributes:

The candidate demonstrates appropriate professional attributes by demonstrating they establish, build and maintain effective professional relationships in both group and one-to-one situations through appropriate interpersonal skills adapting verbal and non-verbal language where required. The candidate responds to colleagues respectfully, courteously and constructively, and appears sensitive to the diverse needs of children and adults. They can critically discuss a relevant and recent educational issue and consider the implications for children, staff, parents and carers, and other stakeholders in education.

During your interview day you will be expected to do the following:

- * Teach a small group of children
- * Complete a written task
- * Answer questions in a formal interview
- * Support children in their learning

Our interview days are rigorous, thorough and we expect all candidates to present themselves in a professional manner, designed for us to get the best applicants possible onto our programme.

About This Training Programme

A Unique Course

Through the delivery of this Primary PGCE course the Alliance is committed to ensuring that our trainees gain the highest level of primary teaching experience and professional development through the close link with our exceptional partner schools allowing you to relate learning from sessions instantly and directly to a classroom environment.

Assessment.

This is a full-time programme and the majority of time is spent in school, as it is a Post Graduate Certificate in Education it includes some work at Masters level (level 7). In recognition of the high levels achieved by students on this programme they are rewarded with 60 Masters level credits.

The course consists of five modules:

1. Raising achievement of Children
2. High Quality Learning and Teaching.
3. Leading and managing change in the primary school.
4. Pedagogy and Practice.
5. Cumbria Teacher of Reading

Placements:

From the very beginning of September you will be embedded in a local partnership school where you will be learning from teachers in school alongside input from university lectures on a weekly basis who will guide and support you through all stages of your development and assessment.

Our Partnership Schools include:

Our Partnership schools are:

Roe Lee Park Primary School, Emerald Avenue, Blackburn BB1 9RP

St Silas C of E Primary School, St Silas Road, Blackburn BB2 6JP

Avondale Primary School, Durham Road, Darwen BB3 1NN

St Gabriels C of E Primary School, Wilworth Crescent Blackburn BB1 8QN

Lammack Primary School, Lammack Road Blackburn BB1 1LH

Blackburn the Redeemer, Jack Walker Way, Blackburn BB2 4JJ

Blackburn St Thomas CE Primary School, Newton Street Blackburn BB1 1NE

Daisyfield Primary School, Clinton Street Blackburn BB1 5LB

Feniscowles Primary School, Livesey Branch Road, Blackburn BB2 5EG

St Peter's RC Primary School, Hawkins St, Blackburn BB2 2RY

Longshaw Infant School, Crosby Road, Blackburn BB2 3NF

Longshaw Junior School, Park Lee Road, Blackburn BB2 3NX

St Cuthberts Primary School, St Albans Road, Darwen BB3 OHY

St Stephens Primary School, Robinsons Street Blackburn BB1 5PE

St Barnabus C of E Primary Academy, Knowlesly Road Darwen BB3 2JA

Brookhouse Primary School, Troy St Blackburn BB1 6NY

Shadsworth Junior School Arran Avenue Blackburn BB1 2ET

St Leonards Primary School, Whalley Road, Blackburn BB6 8AB

What are my career prospects?

School Direct has an expectation of employment for those who have successfully completed the programme. As an alliance of schools we guarantee that you will receive help and support to obtain an interview through the Blackburn with Darwen NQT Pool. You will also receive extensive training in application form completion, interview technique and other skills to aid you in gaining employment.

To be an outstanding teacher takes energy, commitment and dedication. If you feel ready to train within the fast paces, professional environment of a busy school, then the School Direct route may be the best choice for you

For more information contact:

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