

Train to Teach with...



The Two Counties Teacher Training Partnership (University of Reading ITE Hub)

Who are we?

The Two Counties Teacher Training Partnership offers a direct route into teaching where successful applicants receive predominantly school-based training in our partnership's schools. By following this route, trainees can have some degree of control over where their school practice is based geographically.

The Two Counties Partnership is made up of neighbouring secondary schools in western Reading, West Berkshire and Hampshire; all of which are within a 25-minute drive from each other and most of which are on good public transport systems from central Reading. We offer full time secondary PGCE with QTS (Postgraduate Certificate of Education with Qualified Teacher Status) courses that are all planned and delivered in collaboration with The University of Reading's Institute of Education. At the very heart of our model of ITE (Initial Teacher Education) is the drive to produce outstanding teachers who become reflective professionals able to secure the best outcomes for all children whatever their ability.

Our Initial Teacher Education hub schools are:



- The Willink School
- Little Heath School
- Theale Green School
- King's Academy Prospect School
- The Wren School
- Denefield School
- The Hurst

As a Partnership our purpose is to:

- Enable trainee teachers to gain the knowledge and the skills necessary to become practical, resilient, independent and reflective practitioners.
- Provide you with the tools to develop into an outstanding teacher.
- Provide an appropriate context in which to train.
- Collaboratively design and deliver a training and assessment programme using the expertise of experienced and successful teacher.



What are we looking for in a candidate?

We are looking to recruit talented candidates who have the qualities suited to a career in teaching and the drive to make it happen. The main personal qualities we seek are:



- ✓ Good interpersonal skill
- ✓ Organisation and time management skills
- ✓ A positive outlook with a passion for their subject
- ✓ Creativeness, a willingness to try new ideas and to take a risk
- ✓ A high degree of motivation and resilience
- ✓ The ability to be reflective

Our 2025/6 Entry Requirements are as follows:

- Degree, related or unrelated to the subject you wish to teach (a Subject Knowledge Enhancement course may be required [Subject knowledge enhancement \(SKE\)](#))
- GCSE Grade C (4) and above in English, mathematics and science
- All original certificates will be checked and verified

Teacher training places for 2025/6 are available in the following subjects:

Science (with Biology, Chemistry or Physics)	Maths*	MFL
English	History	Physical Education
Geography	Art	Design Technology

**All our schools are part of the Mobius Maths Hub which is based at The Willink.*

Our Programme

You will undertake 2 school placements of equal lengths across the academic year (September – July), changing placement school within the Two Counties hub in February. You will also do a final, shorter Enrichment Placement at a 3rd school in June.

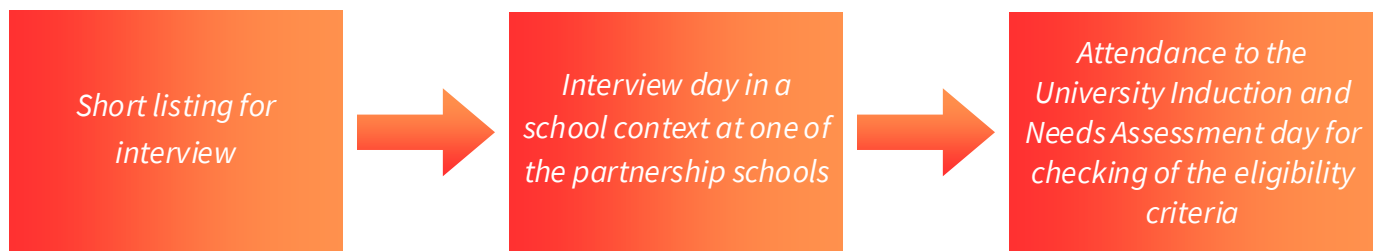
Training will be led by experienced staff in each school and will involve meetings, workshops and other activities. Being based in a school, a trainee will quickly come to appreciate the nature of teaching and learning in the workplace and will see how to put theory into practice every day.

The University based training days will support the school-led programme and give trainees the opportunity to learn from the experience and enquiry of others in the Reading Partnership. The ITE programme is designed to build confidence and subject knowledge and equip a trainee teacher with the skills necessary to becoming an effective classroom practitioner.

Throughout the training, support will be provided by a well-trained mentor. When ready, a trainee will start to take responsibility to deliver parts of lessons on their own. As they become more confident and competent, they will take on more responsibility until they are teaching full lessons.

Selection Process

The selection process has the following stages:



The Interview Day process will consist of:

- Pre interview task
- Classroom observation and interaction with pupils
- An interview
- A written task enabling you to show your level of Knowledge and skill in your chosen teaching subject

What Happens Next?

Applications need to be made through the Department for Education's 'Apply for Teacher Training' site.

Apply for teacher training: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training>

Finance

A Tuition Fee of **£9250** will be charged for the PGCE with QTS. UoR offer a reduction of £1500 in tuition fees for alumni students.

Trainees will be eligible for the standard student support package, including training bursaries, tuition fee, loans and scholarships if appropriate. Once a place is accepted, applications can be sought for tuition fee loans through Student Finance England, to cover the cost of training.

For 2025 to 2026 we are offering bursaries of:

- £29,000 in chemistry, computing, mathematics and physics
- £26,000 in biology, design and technology, geography and languages (including ancient languages)
- £10,000 in art and design, music and religious education (RE)
- £5,000 in English

Applicants may be eligible for a bursary if they have 1st, 2:1, 2:2, PhD or master's.

We are offering scholarships of:

- £31,000 in chemistry, computing, mathematics and physics
- £28,000 in French, German and Spanish (no other languages)

Scholarships are usually available to applicants with a 1st, 2:1, master's or PhD, though in exceptional circumstances they may be awarded to a graduate with a 2:2 and significant relevant experience.

You don't need to apply for a bursary – if you meet the eligibility criteria, you will begin receiving payments automatically by the University of Reading, as the teacher training provider.

Further information regarding Bursaries and Scholarships can be found here [Teacher training bursaries | Get Into Teaching GOV.UK \(education.gov.uk\)](#) and funding and financial information for non UK-citizens can be found here [Train to teach in England as a non-UK citizen | Get Into Teaching GOV.UK \(education.gov.uk\)](#).

Useful links

- Department for Education Education, training and skills - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk): <https://www.gov.uk/education>
- Train to be a teacher Train to teach | Get Into Teaching GOV.UK (education.gov.uk): <https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/train-to-be-a-teacher>
- [Teachers' standards: overview \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Qualified teacher status \(QTS\): qualify to teach in England](#)

Two Counties Initial Teacher Training Partnership - Key Contacts :

Lead School: General Enquiries – traintoteach@willink.w-berks.sch.uk

School Specific Enquiries

The Willink – Mr R Morgan	rmorgan@willink.w-berks.sch.uk
The Hurst School – Mr H. Morgan	Huw.morgan@thehurst.school
The Wren School – Ms V.Coleman	Vcoleman@wren.excalibur.org.uk
Little Heath School – Miss K. Elsdon	kelsdon@littleheath.org.uk
Denefield School – Mr A Wheeler	awr@denefield.org.uk
King's Academy Prospect School – Miss S. Pittman	spittman@kgaprospect.uk
Theale Green School – Ms T Hutchinson	thutchinson@thealegreen.w-berks.sch.uk