

## **Windsor Teaching Alliance- Key Information**

### **Why train with us?**

Windsor Teaching Alliance offers extensive and exciting opportunities to train within both primary and secondary school contexts. We have enjoyed great success in both primary and secondary training, with 100% pass and employment rates at both primary and secondary level. Our trainees gain Qualified Teacher Status, a Post-Graduate Certificate in Educational Practice and 60 Masters credits and benefit from carefully planned and executed teacher training at all Key Stages.

Windsor Teaching Alliance (WTA) was formed in 2014. The Alliance is comprised of 18 first schools (year 1- Year 4), four middle schools (Year 5 – Year 8) and three upper schools (Year 9 – Year 13). Windsor Girls' School acts as the lead school for the alliance. We work alongside Bucks New University and the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead to deliver and facilitate high quality training at primary and secondary level, bespoke both to our trainees and to the Windsor context.

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead is a key partner of the WTA and has been a successful Initial Teacher Training provider of Secondary trainees since 2002. Trainees graduate from the programme with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and a Post Graduate Certificate in Educational Practice (PG Cert).

Windsor is a unique and vibrant town with an excellent reputation for education; it is an exciting and dynamic place to train to teach.

### **Training Programmes**

Within Windsor Teaching Alliance, we offer:

- Primary Salaried route
- Primary Training route
- Secondary Salaried route
- Secondary Training route

The Training Programme consists of three modules; Planning for Progression, Comparative Study and Understanding the Professional Role. Trainees divide their time between school placements and central training.

Trainees are based in a Lead School for four days a week with group training on a fifth day. There is also a second school placement in a contrasting environment.

Trainees are employed by the schools and can teach up to a 90% timetable. However, schools will ensure support and mentorship is clearly in place to help build up to this.

Central training takes place once a week in school training rooms within the Alliance. This training is carried out by Local Authority and SCITT Advisers, Headteachers/Leading Practitioners and Bucks New University lecturers. Training covers subject knowledge and generic elements of teaching such as Behaviour Management, Inclusion and Assessments, preparing trainees effectively for the challenges and rewards of a career in teaching.

For more information on the specific courses we offer, please follow the link and search for 'The Windsor Teaching Alliance':

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/find-training-programme>

## **Training Providers**

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (RBWM) has been a successful Initial Teacher Training provider of salaried route for both secondary and primary trainees since 2002.

RBWM SCITT work in partnership with Bucks New University (BNU) based in High Wycombe. Trainees graduate with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and a Post Graduate Certificate in Educational Practice (PG Cert) this is 60 Masters credits equivalent to a third of a Masters.

The RBWM SCITT works with the Windsor Teaching Alliance of First Schools, Middle Schools and Upper Schools. We also have a history of working with Independent Schools and welcome applications from this sector. There are also places available to work with Schools in other neighbouring Local Authorities.

Since 2009 100% of trainees have passed with Good or Outstanding assessments and 100% have gained employment. In 201-2017, 100% of trainees gained employment with the majority being employed within the Royal Borough.

RBWM SCITT is based within the Early Years and Childcare Advisory Service at Maidenhead Town Hall, giving us excellent access to a wide range of expertise, including Strategic School Leadership, Educational Advisers and Consultants. RBWM Initial Teacher Training was inspected by Ofsted in May 2013 and was graded Good in all areas:

'The Partnership has a clear vision for excellence that translates as a strong desire to develop excellent teachers and future leaders for its own schools' (Ofsted May 2013) 'The excellent knowledge local authority tutors have about local schools, and the very close relationship between the Local Authority and schools in the Partnership, which provide a very strong context for training teachers' (Ofsted May 2013)

## **Fees and Finance**

School Direct Training Programme is available to high quality graduates. You may be eligible for a bursary or scholarship of up to £30,000 to support you whilst you train. The Partnership has a tuition fee of **£6,000**. Trainees on this route will be supernumerary and will gradually build up to a 70% teaching timetable through constant support and mentorship. School Direct Training Programme (salaried) is an employment based route available to high quality graduates with at least three years' work experience who will earn a salary whilst they train. Trainees are employed on at least the Unqualified 1 pay point plus fringe allowance (circa £18,000). Trainees will be employed as members of the school and can teach up to 90% of a timetable. Further information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/funding-initial-teacher-training-itt-academic-year-2017-to-18>.

## **Entry Requirements**

- It is preferred that applicants have a degree level of 2:1 or above however, a lower class degree (2:2) will be considered if other qualifications or experience are strong and relevant.
- Applicants are required to have English and Maths GCSE grade C or above or equivalency before applying, a pending Science GCSE grade C or above or equivalency may be considered. Applicants not holding the required grade can access equivalency tests at <http://www.equivalencytesting.com/>
- Overseas qualifications must be verified by UK NARIC details at: <http://www.naric.org/>
- It is an expectation that all applicants have passed the skills tests prior to attending for interview. If this is not the case applicant must have the skills tests booked and provide evidence at interview.

## **Previous Employment**

For the salaried route, it is a requirement that trainees have at least 3 or more years of career experience and can show any transferable skills into teaching.

## **References**

Applicants will be required to provide details of two referees. The principal referee is asked to provide a reference that is mainly academic or employment based and the second is asked to provide one that is mainly character based, this cannot be a family member.

## **What we are looking for:**

### **School Experience**

We have a requirement that applicants have spent at least two weeks or more recent work experience/observations in an early years setting or primary school. In addition, any other experience of working in an organisation with young people eg. school, youth centre, scout/guide group, church or voluntary organisation will be an advantage.

Please tell us about any other attributes, knowledge or transferable skills you possess related to working with young people or within education and any evidence of organisation and communication skills plus a commitment to the programme.

- Applicants who wish to be trained in RBWM Borough Schools - We are looking for trainees who live in or close to The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. It is an expectation that successful trainees will be employed within the Borough therefore, living close to The Royal Borough is an advantage.
- Applicants who wish to be trained out of RBWM - We are happy to train in schools outside of RBWM so long as the distance is within a 20 mile radius.
- Applicants who wish to be trained in an Independent School - All independent applications are welcomed from schools within a 20 miles radius for self-funded places.

Thank you for your interest in training within the Windsor Teaching Alliance; we wish you every success with your application.