

# Routes into Teaching

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## **Introduction:**

There are a number of different routes into teaching. The exact qualifications needed are best checked using the Teacher Training Agency (TTA) website: [http://www.canteach.gov.uk/routes\\_into\\_teaching/index.php](http://www.canteach.gov.uk/routes_into_teaching/index.php) "Where are you now" section. Entrants to the profession need to be in receipt of a degree and require GCSE grade Cs in English and Maths, plus Science (if born after 1 September 1979).

### **- Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)**

University based course. Most last 1 year full time (or two years part time). They provide a mixture of education theory and practice. Applications are through Graduate Teacher Training Registry (GTTR): <http://www.gttr.ac.uk/>. Look carefully at closing dates: Primary (mid December); Secondary (June). Beware: places go quickly!

### **- School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT)**

School based course. Students gain practical classroom skills from the start. Training is organised by the school and can include input from institutes of Higher Education. Covers Primary and Secondary schools. Closing dates (as for PGCE).

### **- Flexible Routes**

For those who cannot afford to take a year out to train. This route is based around options that include distance learning, evening, weekend working or even short intensive spells. Check with the Teacher Training Agency (TTA) or local Universities. **TTA Advice Line 020 7925 3700.**

### **- Graduate Teacher Programme (GTP)**

Aimed at career changers aged 24 or over (in current employment) with a degree. Programme is school based and individuals are employees of the school while they are trained. Competitive scheme: applicants stand a better chance if they fall into one of the priority subject categories. Most places available through Designated Recommending Bodies (DRBs) (some places direct through TTA). Deadlines for registering are termly. **GTP Advice Line 01245 454 4444.**

### **- Registered Teacher Programme (RTP)**

Aimed at those aged 24 or over who have completed 2 years of a degree or have spent 2 years in HE (or part time equivalent). Can spend up to 2 years completing a degree while at the same time working as a teacher to gain Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). Must find a school that will employ you. **RTP Advice Line 01245 454 4444.**

### **- Fast Track**

Professional development programme aimed at developing the next generation of school leaders. Graduates require a minimum of a 2:1. Entry is through an enhanced PGCE at a Fast Track ITT provider. The scheme identifies individuals through a competitive assessment process. Having gained a PGCE, applicants move posts every 2 to 3 years to broaden experience. There is a list of specialist subjects from which to choose. Programme provides up to 5 years school support. Tough competition. Fast Track trainees attract an additional £2000 p.a. on salary.

### **Incentives:**

#### **- Bursary**

“Home” or “European” trainees may be entitled to payment of course fees and a £6000 tax-free bursary (£150 per week) from the Government.

#### **- Golden Hellos**

May be available in priority subjects (English (including Drama), Maths, MFL, Design Technology, ICT, Science) as a £4000 taxable payment. Available in the maintained sector after completion of the Induction Year.

#### **- Repayment of Teacher Loans**

Requires entry into the profession immediately after training. Could get loan paid off after 10 years in a priority subject (English (including Drama), Maths, MFL, Design Technology, ICT, Science).

#### **- Secondary Shortage Subject Scheme (SSSS)**

Trainees (graduates and undergraduates) can apply for a means tested hardship fund. Less than 25 years of age: £5000; over 25 years of age: £7500  
Applies to Design Technology, ICT, Maths, RE, Geography, MFL Music, and Science.

### **Useful Contacts:**

Teacher Training Agency (TTA)	<a href="http://www.canteach.gov.uk">www.canteach.gov.uk</a>	020 7925 3700
Fast Track Teaching	<a href="http://www.fasttrackteaching.gov.uk">www.fasttrackteaching.gov.uk</a>	01491 845 730
Graduate Teacher Training Registry	<a href="http://www.gtr.ac.uk">www.gtr.ac.uk</a>	0870 1122 200
GTP / RTP Schemes	<a href="http://www.canteach.gov.uk">www.canteach.gov.uk</a>	01245 454 4444
Teaching Information Line		0845 6000 991

### **Universities:**

University of Newcastle upon Tyne	<a href="http://www.ncl.ac.uk">www.ncl.ac.uk</a>	0191 222 6581
Northumbria University	<a href="http://northumbria.ac.uk/">http://northumbria.ac.uk/</a>	0191 215 6006
University of Durham	<a href="http://www.dur.ac.uk/">www.dur.ac.uk/</a>	0191 334 8310
University of Sunderland	<a href="http://www.sunderland.ac.uk">www.sunderland.ac.uk</a>	0191 515 2000
Open University	<a href="http://www.open.ac.uk/">www.open.ac.uk/</a>	01908 653 231

**Gateshead Council Contacts:**

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