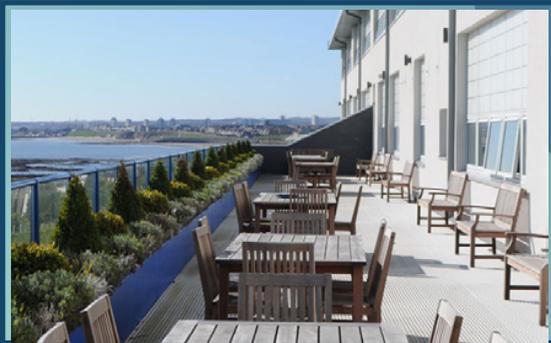


# Training to Teach

Our interactive guide to secondary teacher training across the North East of England



Growing together



Prince Bishops  
Teaching School Alliance

# Welcome

On behalf of everyone associated with Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance (PBTSA) we're delighted to welcome you to our school direct Initial Teacher Training programme.

Over the past few years, the importance of school centered teacher training has grown massively. Today, it is one of the most common ways graduates train to become a teacher.

Teaching is one of the most rewarding careers available. It is challenging, but the sheer joy of helping young people grow and develop their skills means it's a career like no other.

We know the world is changing; new subjects, new expectations, new ways of working all mean we need teachers who relish the opportunity to be innovative. That's why teaching is looking for well-qualified, talented, individuals. Whether you're a recent graduate or someone changing careers if you think teaching could be for you then we'd love to hear from you.

**"A senior classroom teacher can earn over £50K."**

So why would you choose to train with us at PBTSA? We offer a unique package. Our school direct Initial Teacher Training (ITT) programme is a mix of classroom, theory and joint working. Our secondary trainees learn their trade in a school - there's no better place to train. You'll have your own mentor who will support you as you begin to grow in confidence.

We provide you with support so you progress smoothly. Here at PBTSA we are very proud of our partnership approach to training new teachers. Our network of secondary schools working together offers world-class teacher training. Because you need to see a range of schools you'll train in at least two of our partner schools. We also offer specially tailored training days which ensure our trainees develop their skills quickly.

The fees for our school direct programme are £9,000. There are a range of subject specific **bursaries and funding**, including our unique bursary top up and SKE in partnership with the **Hild and Bede Trust for R.E** trainees.

At the end of your time with us not only will you have gained your Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) along with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) but you'll have developed a great network of colleagues who are ready to support you on the next phase of your exciting career.

We look forward to welcoming you to one of our programmes shortly.



**Lead Secondary School**  
**Whitburn Church of England Academy**

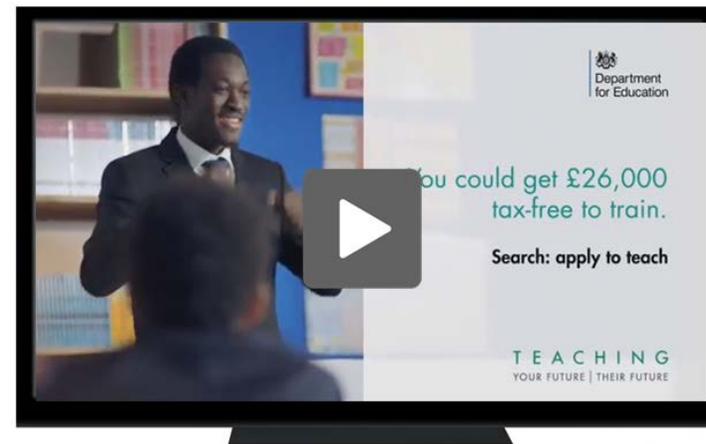
## PGCE - Level 7 Qualification

The PGCE element of the course is delivered in association with The University of Sunderland. You will have a personal tutor and will be fully supported during your academic study. The University of Sunderland 'World Leading' research in Education, according to the Latest Framework ( REF). Blend theoretical knowledge with action research through two assignments that complements the classroom practice element of the course.



**Level 7 qualification**  
**60 Masters credits** (credits are portable)

**Press play to learn more about teacher training.**



# Where are our school direct training schools?

PBTSA is part of a unique partnership of secondary schools working with young people from 11-19 years. You will train in at least two schools offer over the year so you can experience the variety of a different environment.

## Secondary Schools

1. Whitburn Church of England Academy - South Tyneside. Lead School.

2. Venerable Bede Church of England Academy  
Sunderland.

St Hild's Church of England  
Secondary School

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For more information about each school, please click on the relevant number on the map.



# Secondary Training - Do I meet the criteria?

The requirements needed to become a Secondary teacher differ slightly from those for primary teachers, but to be successful you'll need a variety of skills, formal and informal. On this page you'll find details of the criteria you'll need to meet and, on the following page, hear from some teachers who have started their Secondary school careers.

## SECONDARY

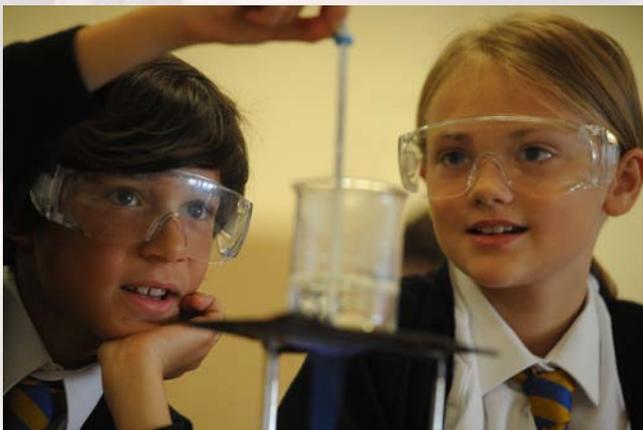
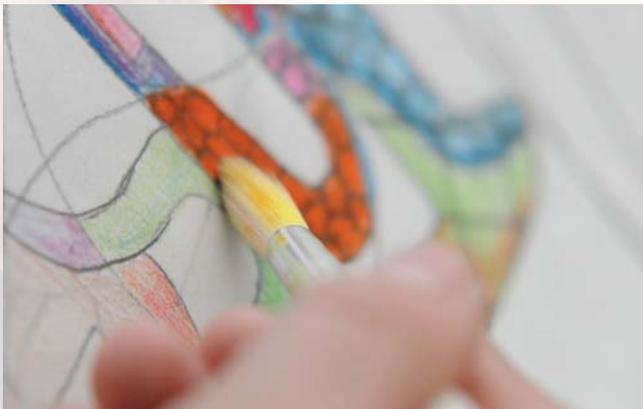
### Formal qualifications:

- GCSE grade C, or above, in English Language
- GCSE grade C, or above, in Mathematics
- GCSE grade C, or above, in Science
- Two A Levels at grade C or above
- A 'good' degree - 2:2 or above

### Skills & qualities:

- Organised
- Resilient
- Willing to reflect and learn
- Committed to improving the life chances for young people

References will be required in all cases, as will a well written personal statement which explains why you want to be a teacher and what you'd bring to the profession. Before you start any School Direct Training course with us you'll need to have passed your **Professional Skills Tests** and had some **experience of working in a classroom**. The Professional Skills Tests help ensure, regardless of the specialism, tomorrow's teachers have the core literacy and numeracy skills required. The tests are free and there is more information on passing the tests **available online**.



### MENTOR

Caroline Campbell  
Whitburn Church of  
England Academy,  
Prince Bishops Teaching  
School Alliance

### *Why did you choose to become a mentor with Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?*

I have enjoyed being a Geography mentor at my school, so was excited by the opportunity to be the Professional Tutor for our PBTSA ITTs. I have always been interested in how pupils learn and sharing new teaching and learning strategies with trainees. I absolutely love it when our trainees bring new ideas to the Academy and share them with each other and within their departments.

### *What is your advice to anyone who is considering training to teach?*

Always take any advice given. It may become overwhelming, but remember that responding to your areas for development and targets to improve will have a massive impact on you becoming an outstanding practitioner. Your mentor and other teachers and staff in your school have a wealth of experience that it is important to make the most of the opportunity to learn from them. Develop the ability to self-reflect; you will be continually asked to reflect on your lessons in order to improve throughout your teaching career.

### *What is the most important part of your role as a mentor?*

Children's education and well-being is central to the teaching vocation and being involved with the training of our next generation of teachers is the most important part of being a mentor to me. To help our ITTs to have the most positive impact on children is fundamental to our role as mentors.

# Secondary case studies



## CASE STUDY

**Hannah**  
School Direct -  
Secondary English

### *What inspired you to become a teacher?*

A lot of my friends are teachers and seeing how much effort and dedication they had for their students really inspired me to get into teaching as it's the type of job where you know you're making a difference.

### *Why Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?*

I chose to train with the PBTSA as they had a wide range of schools and specialist support on offer. Having a team of trainee teachers also helped as it meant that throughout the year I had colleagues around me going through the exact same things!

### *How effective has your route into teaching been?*

The route I took into teaching has worked really well for me. Being able to get stuck into school life right away meant that I was made to feel like a member of staff from the very outset. I have had a great training year and it has left me feeling eager and prepared for my NQT year!

### *What would you say to anyone thinking of becoming a teacher?*

It isn't an easy job to do but it's absolutely worth it!



## CASE STUDY

**Mark**  
School Direct -  
Secondary Geography

### *What inspired you to become a teacher?*

I've always been driven by my passion for Geography, and have been fortunate enough to become a scholar of the RGS and a member of the Geographical Association. As part of these roles, I had a number of opportunities to disseminate my own research and the subject to audiences of all ages and sizes in a number of countries. Of all these opportunities, I enjoyed working with children the most. The interactions and relationships that come with teaching children are very enjoyable.

### *Why Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?*

I met PBTSA at a teaching event at my university and was impressed by their approachability and knowledge about the training programme. I later visited one of their teaching schools and was very impressed at how welcome I was made to feel and the professionalism of the training they provided. I felt that if I trained with PBTSA, I would be given the important support I would require. This has since proven to be true!

### *What would you say to anyone thinking of becoming a teacher?*

It's an incredibly rewarding but surprisingly challenging experience. I was fortunate enough to have a lot of experience with my background but the training did present new and unique challenges. However, it's definitely the children that make the job and I would advise anybody considering teaching to visit a school or volunteer with school groups to gain some experience.



## CASE STUDY

**Yasmin**  
School Direct -  
Secondary English

### *What inspired you to become a teacher?*

When children talk about what they would like to be when they are older, I always focused on becoming a teacher and used to pretend my teddy bears were my pupils! Now, I love working with young people. Every day is different. I went into secondary teaching because I wanted to bring more than just my subject specialist knowledge to the job: I wanted to play a part in the next generation's development into well-rounded members of society.

### *Tell us about your route into teaching.*

I completed a degree in English Literature and History before finishing a Masters in Modernist and Contemporary literature. I decided a SCITT course would be best for me as I wanted to spend as much time in school as possible.

### *Why Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?*

I chose PBTSA because of how organised and prepared my interview day was. I also accepted a PBTSA placement because I had heard how thorough the training would be and I was not disappointed!

### *What would you say to anyone thinking of becoming a teacher?*

It has taken a lot of resilience and persistence to finish the course, but it has also been one of the most rewarding years of my life. If you are hard-working and have a passion to work with young people then you can't go wrong - apply!

# How do I apply to PBTSA?

Once you're certain teaching is right for you the first step is to ensure you meet the **minimum criteria?**

You then need to ensure you understand the detail of the ITT programmes we offer. We run School Direct Training courses in the **north east**.

All our courses run from September to July with fees of £9,000. There are a variety of **financial packages** from Student Finance available to trainee teachers to cover the cost and fees of living expenses.

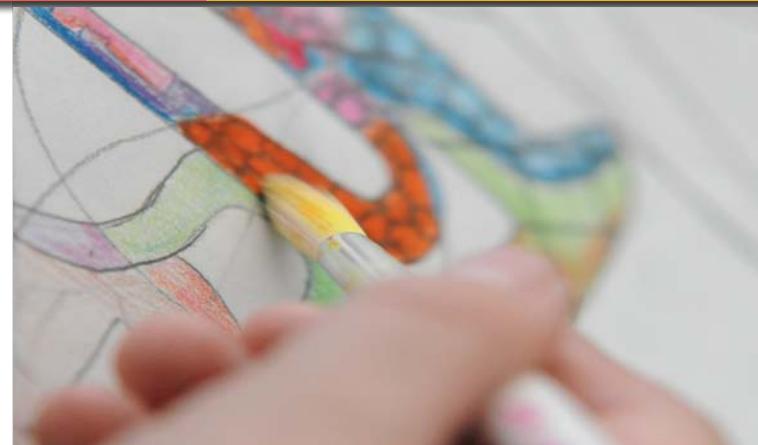
If you are satisfied you are in a position to proceed, you can apply via UCAS:

- Select the 'click here' box on the right
- Go to the "Search for a training provider" option
- Enter 23F for secondary training.

[Click here to apply using secondary training provider code 23F](#)

The training codes for PBTSA secondary are:

Art & Design	3D5F
Biology	2YM2
Business Studies	3D5H
Chemistry	2RTP
Computer Studies	3D5J
English	2HJ9
Geography	2JGM
History	2HJJ
Music	3D5K
MFL Spanish	32QN
MFL French	2JGQ
Mathematics	2JGP
Physical Education	3D5L
Physics	2JGN
Religious Education	2RTJ



# Summary

- PBTSA offers both secondary Initial Teacher Training.
- Course fees are £9,000 but there **bursaries and funding** available.
- We are part of a network of schools covering ages 11-19.
- Our trainees learn on the job, over 30 weeks per year of in school experience.
- Partnered with Durham SCITT, an OFSTED Outstanding ITT provider.
- Trainees attend at least two schools, this variety is an important part of their development.
- If you have the **minimum requirements** you can apply via **UCAS**.

Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance,  
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