

LIGHTWOODS TEACHING SCHOOL ALLIANCE

FAQ for Schools Direct

There are 12 primary and 9 secondary PGCE places. Trainees will be allocated a school within the Lightwoods Teaching School Alliance. For secondary schools there are the following, one Computer Science, one English, one Geography, one History, three Mathematics, one Physical Education and one Physics.

What is the course?

A PGCE course which focuses on teaching skills and subject knowledge working with Newman University College, there will be up to 31 weeks spent in two schools. The second placement will be 4 to 6 weeks. There is also the opportunity to complete 2 masters elements worth a total of 60 credits (180 is needed for the full masters).

How long does it take?

The PGCE will start in September and be completed at the end of July

How much does it cost?

The exact figure is being finalised however, it is envisaged to cost around £8700

Is there any funding available?

There is more information on the Teaching Agency website

<http://www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching/funding/postgraduate-funding>

In summary the financial incentives for those who train in 2014/15 Training bursary 2014/15 ¹	ITT subject/phase					
	Physics, maths	Computing	Chemistry	Languages	Other priority secondary ⁴ and primary	Primary maths specialists ⁵
Scholarship²	£25,000	£25,000	£25,000	-	-	-
Trainee with first	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£9,000	£11,000
2:1	£20,000	£20,000	£15,000	£15,000	£4,000	£11,000
2:2	£15,000	£15,000	£12,000	£12,000	£0	£6,000
Other³	£9,000	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0

¹ School Direct trainees whose training is based in a school where more than 35% of pupils are eligible for free school meals will receive a 25% increase on the above bursaries/scholarships.² Trainee teachers in maths, physics, chemistry and computing with a 2:1 or first are able to apply for scholarships with the relevant subject association group. Applicants for the scholarships will be subject to a competitive process. Trainees who hold the scholarship will not also be eligible for the standard Department for Education (DfE) bursary. Trainees who are not awarded a scholarship will continue to be eligible for the standard bursaries in 2014/15.³ Trainee teachers in maths and physics with a relevant degree* and at least a B at A level in maths or physics (or equivalent) will be eligible for a bursary of £9,000. Trainees will not be entitled to this bursary if they are also entitled to a higher bursary based on degree class.⁴ Other priority secondary subjects are English, history, biology, geography, music, and design and technology.⁵ Available to trainees with a B or better at maths A level on primary maths specialist courses only. Those who do not have a B or higher at maths A level, or those who train on general primary courses, will receive the normal primary bursary for their degree class.

What qualifications do I need?

A UK bachelor's degree or equivalent qualification, a standard equivalent to a grade C in English and Maths GCSE and for primary you will additionally need a standard equivalent to a C GCSE Science. Please see <http://www.ucas.com/how-it-all-works/teacher-training/entry-requirements>

Where can I find out more information

There is more information on the Teaching Agency website

<http://www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching/teacher-training-options/school-based-training/school-direct.aspx>

In addition you can email specific questions to

sarah.verrecchia@lightwoods.sandwell.sch.uk

How do I apply?

All applications need to be made through UCAS

<http://www.ucas.com/how-it-all-works/teacher-training>

There is a detailed video which explains the process for applying through the UCAS Teacher Training scheme.

<http://www.ucas.tv/gttr/video/fmvNH>

When is the deadline for applying and when will the interviews be held?

Applications will be dealt with in two batches. The first batch opening date is 21st November 2013 and will close on 12th December, interviews will be held week beginning 13th January and candidates will be informed by the 5th February, you will have 10 working days to accept the offer. The second batch opening date is 6th January 2014 and will close on 31st January; interviews will be held week beginning 10th February and candidates will be informed by 28th February, you will have 10 working days to accept the offer. **Please note it is strongly recommended that you apply by the first batch closing date.**

Do I need to have passed the Literacy and Numeracy tests before interview?

No but you need evidence that you have booked the tests, if you have not passed them then as part of the application you will have to pass our own Literacy and Numeracy tests.

How much experience do I need in schools?

It is expected that some time will have been spent in a school, those with more experience will be in a stronger position.

Where will the interviews be held?

They will be conducted in schools; there will be an activity with the students and formal interviews.

Who will conduct the interviews?

There will be a person from the school in which you wish to complete your main placement and at least one person from the Lightwoods Teaching School Alliance.