WEST LONDON TEACHER TRAINING ALLIANCE
2022-23 Cohort

in partnership with

UCL Institute of Education

COURSE CODE
F067

UNSALARIED SOCIAL SCIENCE PGCE(M)+QTS

Provider 2BV
West London Teacher Training Alliance (Secondary)

This programme is available at

- Gumley House School, TW7
- Sacred Heart High School, W6
- William Morris Sixth Form, W6

APPLICATION LINK
Instructions on how to apply, with a link to the application form are included in Section 9. It is important that you read this short document thoroughly before you apply.

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1 About this course

1.1 Qualification

This Social Science course **F067** leads to PGCE (M) QTS. Click here for further clarity on the significance of different teacher training qualifications.

1.2 Special Features

This course is run by the West London Teacher Training Alliance (WLTTA) in partnership with (and accredited by) UCL (Institute of Education). We make prompt shortlisting decisions and will liaise with you quickly if we need additional information.

WLTTA enables you to choose your host school. Later, if there is a teaching vacancy and they want to retain you, you can be employed for the following year **without the post being advertised.** By becoming a WLTTA trainee, all our other schools could employ you this way and we operate a pool.

Our aim is to produce exceptional teachers who could remain in alliance schools to continue their careers, taking advantage of further professional development, including the accredited Early Career induction programme.

1.3 The Training

You would enrol at the university and would attend the same university sessions with those who had applied through the university; have full access to university facilities and mentors; and the university still awards your PGCE. WLTTA selects a second contrasting school for your 'away' placement.



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As a guide: typical timetable

The Social Science PGCE prepares students to teach the social sciences across the 14–19 age range in a flexible and exciting way.

Tutors are committed to promoting interactive teaching and learning in their sessions; a collaborative ethos is encouraged so that PGCE students share materials, resources and ideas. The programme specialises in sociology and psychology teaching, with some opportunities to teach in other related curriculum subjects.

Our underlying aim is to develop students as reflective and highly skilled teachers. We promote themes of social justice and anti-racism in the curriculum and look at ways that the social sciences can advocate for a more equal and just society. As a 14-19 programme, there is an explicit focus on teaching examination classes in an interactive way.

At school, through an initial programme of observations, you will become familiar with the workings of the school and department (pupil groups, pastoral systems, staffing, curriculum, resources, facilities, methods of teaching, lesson planning, and assessment).

You will be treated like a member of teaching staff and with your school mentors, you will feel supported as you become ready to teach. Our mentors are excellent experienced teachers who undertake rigorous training to develop their mentoring skills.

Throughout your time in both schools, your university tutor will visit you on a regular basis and liaise with your school mentor regarding your training and development. Your university tutor will carry out your final assessment in school against the national Teachers' Standards.

2 How school placements work

2.1 Choosing your school

With WLTTA, you select the main host school at application. We then later arrange your second placement at another contrasting WLTTA school to provide greater depth to your training experience.

If you want to see when you would be at the university; when at your main host school; and when the contrasting school, see our typical timetable linked above.

The schools seeking trainees on this particular course are listed below.

- Gumley House School, TW7
- Sacred Heart High School, W6
- William Morris Sixth Form, W6

The characters and location of our schools are varied. To help you decide, please refer to our overall WLTTA Secondary School Summary Descriptions and our Map of WLTTA Schools

You can always contact us to ask how many applications (if any) are being considered by different schools at the point that you are about to apply.

2.2 Our Detailed Website and Live Presentation and Q&A

We recommend that you visit our website (www.wltta.org.uk) to properly see all our vacancies, for example we also have a separate Psychology teacher-training course. You can download the course information document for any of our courses; and see a video about us, with previous trainees being interviewed.

If you want to, you can also sign up there to join our fortnightly 'live' Zoom presentation about getting into teaching and it includes an opportunity for Q&A. The presentation explains all about the different routes into teaching and their separate benefits; how the money works; tips about using the 'Find Postgraduate Teacher Training' portal; applications; offers; etc. No pressure, you don't have to attend this at all. It's just there for anyone who is trying to understand it all better. We get excellent feedback on this year after year.

3 Entry requirements

3.1 Academic Requirements

You will need a minimum of a lower second-class UK Bachelor's honours degree (or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard) with at least 50% Sociology or Psychology content.

You also preferably need an A-Level in main teaching subject, plus an additional social science or humanities subject.

You also need a GCSE, or comparable qualification, at grade C/5 in both English Language and Mathematics.

Where appropriate, please read our important guidance on Overseas Qualifications and if necessary about GCSE Equivalency tests.

We would normally only accept a candidate with one of the two required GCSEs outstanding (not both).

3.2 Personal Qualities

We seek trainees with a passion to engage and inspire students to a love of learning, who are:

- committed to championing their students;
- open to learning about children's physical/social/emotional/cognitive needs and how these can affect behaviour;
- in good health with the ability to cope with stress. Teaching is incredibly rewarding, but it also requires an element of resilience!
- professional and committed to equal opportunities;
- able to communicate well in written/spoken English, with at least basic computer skills and commitment to developing these.

It helps to have a sense of humour/an ability to laugh at yourself!

3.3 Other requirements

A realistic understanding of the role of a teacher and an awareness of some current issues facing the profession is also important. We have some advice relating to school experience on our website: WLTTA School Experience tab

Offers are conditional on satisfactory outcome of a Disclosure & Barring Service Enhanced Check and an occupational health check both administered through the university after an offer is accepted. The total cost of these checks is approx. £160.

4 Fees & financial support

4.1 Fees

The tuition fee for this course is £9,250 payable to St Mary's University, Twickenham.

4.2 DfE Bursaries and Student Loans

The DfE does not normally offer bursaries for Social Science. The subjects attracting bursaries and their levels for 2022 are expected to be published in **early Oct 2021** on the DfE's 'Get into Teaching' website tab: Funding Your Training.

You may however be eligible for a student loan while you study. You can take out a student loan even if you already have an undergraduate loan. Loans for tuition fees are not means tested (whereas loans for maintenance are means tested) but you should confirm all this using the funding link above.

4.3 Other financial support

While not provided directly by WLTTA, please be aware that as a full time student you would be eligible for cheaper travel in London using a student oyster card and in many boroughs, you can get a reduction on your council tax payments.

5 About the training provider

5.1 The West London Teacher Training Alliance (WLTTA)

The West London Teacher Training Alliance represents a large group of 60+ schools (nurseries, primaries, special needs, secondaries, sixth forms; faith and non-faith, maintained schools, independent schools and free schools) – who are all seeking to mentor and build a relationship with a trainee who aspires to work in their school.

Most of our schools are in Hammersmith & Fulham and Kensington & Chelsea, but we also have schools in Westminster, Richmond, Twickenham, Ealing, Hounslow, Hillingdon and Brent. The WLTTA office is based at Sacred Heart High School, in Hammersmith.

We have formal partnership arrangements for teacher-training with four universities:

- St Mary's University, Twickenham
- University of Roehampton
- University College London (UCL)
- London Metropolitan University

5.2 Our approach to trainee recruitment

We pride ourselves in the support that we provide potential applicants and in the speed of our shortlisting. We have a detailed website (https://www.wltta.org.uk/) and the WLTTA office is staffed full time with teacher-training recruitment experts to talk to on the phone.

With us, you choose the schools when you apply. If you perform well at interview but fail to get a place at your preferred school, we operate an internal referral system rather than rejecting you (see the interview section below).

We place significant emphasis on getting a good fit between trainee and school because we are all keenly focussed on recruitment for qualified teachers in our alliance schools the following year.

5.3 The Accrediting Body

Our university partner for this programme is UCL Institute of Education (IOE), a global leader in teacher education. Their programmes are recognised by Ofsted as 'outstanding' in every criterion across Primary and Secondary education.

Its central location in historic Bloomsbury means that you will be studying in the heart of London. The London Underground station at Russell Square is minutes from the main building and King's Cross, St Pancras and Euston stations are also close by.

You can view UCL's online teacher training prospectus here:
https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/teacher-training-programmes

6 Interviews

Our schools seek trainees that aspire to work for them. We enable you to select your preferred host school(s) at application and later through a referral process. We provide information about the schools to help you choose.

6.1 Stage 1: School interview

Once shortlisted, we would invite you to an interview with your chosen school. In addition to the panel interview, you may be asked to prepare something to teach in the classroom for a short time. You may also be asked to complete a short literacy/numeracy test.

Internal Referrals

If you are not selected as a preferred candidate by the school, but have demonstrated potential, you can then choose another school of ours and we would recommend you for shortlisting. We hope to fit good candidates with schools that they are happy with and where they can secure an offer.

There remains an advantage however in initially applying for a place at more than one of our schools, because such applications would be considered in parallel rather than sequentially.

6.2 Stage 2: University Interview

If you are identified as the preferred candidate from the school interview, we then arrange for you to be invited to the Stage 2university interview. If you pass this, we will be able to make you an offer.

7 Training with a disability

WLTTA and all our partner universities are committed to supporting students with disabilities. Please contact us as early as possible in your application process so that your needs are met and support can be arranged.

You can also find support and information from the university accrediting the programme that you hope to apply for: School Direct students can access the services provided by UCL's Student Support and Wellbeing team. See the following web page for full details:-

https://www.ucl.ac.uk/students/student-support-and-wellbeing

8 Contact details

The WLTTA office team administers all WLTTA teacher training recruitment and training. If you need further help, you can find all our contact details here with information about our availability during school holidays: One-to-one advice for candidates

Office phone: **0208 748 7600** (Alex Dijkhuis x290 or Pippa Currey x466)

Email: adijkhuis@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk

Our website: https://www.wltta.org.uk/

9 How to apply

The way to apply for postgraduate teacher training in England has changed. You can now use **Apply for teacher training**, a new GOV.UK service. The process should be intuitive but we have made a guide to the information you will need and how it works: How application system works.