



WEST LONDON TEACHER TRAINING ALLIANCE
2023-24 Cohort

in partnership with



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

**COURSE
CODE
2XW7**

SALARIED PHYSICS QTS

Provider 2BV

West London Teacher Training Alliance (Secondary)

This programme is available at

◆ West London Free School, 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.

Contents

	Page
1 About this course	2
1.1 Qualification	2
1.2 Special Features	2
1.3 The Training	2
2 How school placements work	3
2.1 Choosing your school	3
2.2 Our Detailed Website and Live Presentation and Q&A	3
3 Entry requirements	3
3.1 Academic Requirements	3
3.2 Personal Qualities	4
3.3 Other requirements	4
4 Salary	4
5 About the training provider	5
5.1 The West London Teacher Training Alliance (WLTTA)	5
5.2 Our approach to trainee recruitment	5
5.3 The Accrediting Body	5
6 Interviews	5
6.1 School Interview	5
6.2 Internal Referrals	5
7 Training with a disability	6
8 Contact details	6
9 How to apply	6

1 About this course

1.1 Qualification

This salaried Physics course **2XW7** leads to 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 St Mary's University, Twickenham. 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

Most schools need you to be able to teach at least one of the three sciences to A-Level, and to be willing and able to teach all three Sciences at Key Stage 3 and ideally to GCSE. We can help you learn to do so.

Your training will be predominantly based in your host school other than

- approx. 10 days at the university across the year; and
- your second placement for approx. 6 weeks at another WLTTA school.

You will register with the university and meet with your University Tutor who will begin to work with you on a needs analysis for a Training Plan (TP) in term one. This will be reworked in term two and three between you, your school mentor and university tutor.



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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 the 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 visits you to monitor your progress and discuss your development with you and your school mentors. You will maintain close links with your host school throughout the programme.

You will have the opportunity to teach across KS3/KS4 and to support KS5.

At KS3, you will cover the key areas of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics (such as cell biology, atoms, elements and chemical reactions, energy and forces).

2 How school placements work

2.1 Choosing your school

With WLTTA, you select **the main host school** at application and normally there are several to choose from but we are only running this particular course from

- West London Free School, W6.

We then later arrange your second placement (normally in the spring term) at another contrasting WLTTA school to provide greater depth to your training experience.

You can read a description of West London Free School and our other secondary schools in our [overall WLTTA Secondary School Summary Descriptions](#) . Please also refer to 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.wlta.org.uk) to properly see all our vacancies - for example, we have two additional Physics teacher-training courses (both unsalaried with bursary) one at a variety of mainstream schools; the other at a SEN school. 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 scientific honours degree (2.2 or above) in Physics or a closely related subject.

We may consider alternatively well-qualified mature candidates or those whose studies indicate some breadth of scientific knowledge as a basis for further study both before and during the course.

We normally also expect two Sciences at A-Level standard (or the equivalent). This can really help because at KS3, schools teach general science before children then specialise for GCSEs and A-Levels in KS4 and KS5.

You will also need GCSE Grade C/4 in English Language and Mathematics GCSE, or the equivalent.

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

We require energetic and committed applicants with excellent subject knowledge and ideally previous experience that might enable a faster progression into teaching than on an unsalaried course.

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: [WLT TA School Experience tab](#).

Offers are conditional on satisfactory outcome of a DBS check (approx. £60) and an occupational health check (approx. £20) both administered through the host school after an offer is accepted.

4 Salary

The successful candidate in any maintained school will be paid a salary by the employing host school in line with the 'Non-Qualified Teacher Pay Range 2022-23', normally at the Point 1 level. Free Schools can set their own trainee salary levels, but usually follow the pay range.

This government pay range for 2023-24 is expected to be published in Sept. 2023. As a guide, Point 1 on the Unqualified Teacher Pay Range for 2021-22 was:

- £23,099 (for a school in Inner London)

The tuition fee for this course will be covered by WLT TA.

Trainees on salaried programmes are not eligible for bursaries or student loans.

Please note that we are unable to sponsor anyone who would otherwise not have the right to take up employment in this country.

5 About the training provider

5.1 The West London Teacher Training Alliance (WLTTA)

The West London Teacher Training Alliance is a large group of 60 schools: nurseries, primaries, special needs, secondaries, sixth forms; faith and non-faith, maintained schools, independent schools and free schools.

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 with four universities.

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 (do please look www.wlta.org.uk) and the WLTTA office is staffed full time with experts to talk to on the phone.

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

St Mary's University, Twickenham accredits this WLTTA course. With just under 4,000 students training to teach on primary and secondary, they are now London's second largest teacher training course provider and in 2019 the St Mary's Institute of Education was once again rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted.

Course tutors at St Mary's are all skilful teachers themselves, with many years of experience in schools and higher education. Schools in the Alliance have excellent relationships with the university.

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 School Interview

Shortlisted candidates will attend a school interview.

You will be asked to email WLTTA with scans of your relevant certificates/transcripts if available. We can still make an offer subject to later verification of qualifications.

6.2 Internal Referrals

If you do not get an offer after the school interview but have demonstrated potential, we may suggest that you choose another school (perhaps from one of our unsalaried Physics courses that attracts a large bursary) and we would recommend your shortlisting. You would not need to make a fresh application.

We hope to fit good candidates with schools that they are happy with and where they can secure an offer.

There remains an advantage initially in applying to the course at more than one school, because such applications would be considered in parallel rather than sequentially. If you have a clear first choice, email us and we can try to ensure a sensible order for the interviews.

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 this course. St Mary's University offer advice and support to their students who have requirements as a result of a disability, specific learning difficulty (e.g. dyslexia), medical condition or temporary disability, such as injury. St Mary's Dyslexia and Disability Co-ordinator (DDC) works closely with the other members of the Student Services team, supporting students in their time at university assisting them to be proactive in their studies as an independent learner. <http://www.smuc.ac.uk/student-support/dyslexia-and-disability/>

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** (Pippa Currey x290)

Email: adikhuis@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk

Our website: <https://www.wlta.org.uk/>

9 How to apply

All applications for teacher training courses are made through the DfE portal: [Apply for teacher training](#).

The following link provides an overview of the application system which you might find helpful. Most of our other courses are available at more than one school, it also shows candidates how to choose more than one school on a course if they wanted to. This element won't be relevant for you because this particular course is only available at one of our schools.

[How to apply and how to choose more than one school on the same course](#)