



**WEST LONDON TEACHER TRAINING ALLIANCE**  
2022-23 COHORT

*in partnership with*



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

**COURSE  
CODE  
37F9**

# UNSALARIED PRIMARY PGCE(M)+QTS

**WITH ADDITIONAL SCHOOL BURSARY**

## **Provider 1EL**

West London Teacher Training Alliance (Primary)

*This programme is available at*

- ◆ Bousfield Primary School, SW5
- ◆ St Charles Catholic Primary School, W10
- ◆ St James' Catholic Primary School, TW2
- ◆ St Mary's Catholic Primary School, W4
- ◆ St Mary's Catholic Primary School, W10
- ◆ Wendell Park Primary School, W12

## **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 Outcome

This course **37F9** 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 St Mary's University, Twickenham.

**Some WLTTA primary courses (including this one) come with our unique school bursaries, see more in section 4.**

We make prompt shortlisting decisions and 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

Through us, you would enrol at the university and would attend all 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 contrasting school for your 'away' placement, which occurs before your (longer) time at your chosen host school.



*St Mary's University Twickenham*

As a guide: [typical timetable](#)

The university programme covers teaching; assessing; classroom management; child protection; maths, English, science, music, history, drama, geography, art, design and technology, PE, MFL and Masters.

Through an initial programme of observations, you will become familiar with the organisation and working of the school (pupil groups and pastoral systems, staffing, curriculum, resources, facilities, approaches to learning and teaching, lesson planning and assessment).

You will be treated like a member of staff. With your school mentors, you will feel supported as you progress and become ready to teach. Our mentors are excellent teachers and undertake rigorous training to develop their mentoring skills. Your time in school provides you with the opportunity to develop your teaching expertise and relationships with children in a familiar environment.

You will have the opportunity to teach a range of year groups (aged 5-11) covering Maths, English, Science as well as other subjects and themed projects. You will have experience of the National Curriculum and teacher assessment.

Your university tutor will visit you at both schools to discuss your development with you and your mentors. You will maintain close links with your host school throughout the course.

## 2 How school placements work

### 2.1 Choosing your School

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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.

- Bousfield Primary School, SW5
- St Charles Catholic Primary School, W10
- St James' Catholic Primary School, TW2
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School, W4
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School, W10
- Wendell Park Primary School, W12

The characters and location of our schools are varied. To help you decide, please refer to our overall [WLTSA Primary School Summary Descriptions](#) and our [Map of WLTTA Schools](#).

You can contact us to ask how many applications (if any) are being considered by different schools when you are applying.

### 2.2 Our Detailed Website and Live Online Presentation and Q&A

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We recommend that you visit our website [www.wlta.org.uk](http://www.wlta.org.uk) to properly see all our vacancies. We have many other primary teacher training courses at other schools including a few salaried places. You can download the course documents and see a video about us, with previous trainees being interviewed.

You can also sign up there to join our fortnightly 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 is 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

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You will need

- a UK undergraduate honours degree (or equivalent) at 2:2 or above.
- GCSE Grade C (or grade 4 for GCSEs sat in 2017 onwards) or the equivalent in English Language, Mathematics and a science.

For both the degree and GCSEs, where appropriate, see our important guidance on [Overseas Qualifications](#) and if necessary, also about [GCSE Equivalency tests](#).

### 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; and with

It helps to have a sense of humour and 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: [WLT TA School Experience tab](#)

If you wish to train at one of our faith schools, you do not need to be of the same faith but you would need to be supportive/respectful of the values of their faith.

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

## 4 Fees & unique financial support

### 4.1 Fees

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

### 4.2 School Bursaries

All trainees on this course will receive a bursary from the school despite bursaries not being available from DfE.

Full details of this unique additional funding can be seen in the tab on the Primary Courses page on our website: [WLT TA Primary School Bursaries](#).

### 4.3 Student Loans

You may also 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 DfE's 'Get into Teaching' website tab: [Funding Your Training](#).

#### 4.4 Other Financial Support

Please also 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 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 (do please look) 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 Stage 1: University Interview

Once shortlisted, we arrange for you to be invited to an online university interview. You will be asked to upload ID documents and relevant certificates if available. We can still make an offer subject to later verification of qualifications.

The university may ask you to prepare a very brief presentation on a particular topic.

### 6.2 Stage 2: School Interview

The school interview follows 3-4 days later and could lead to an offer.

### 6.3 Internal Referrals

If you do not get an offer from Stage 2 but have demonstrated potential, you can then choose another school and we would recommend your shortlisting. The university interview would not be repeated.

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

There remains an advantage to apply 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 x466 or Alex Dijkhuis x290)

Email: [pcurrey@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk](mailto:pcurrey@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk)

Our website: <https://www.wlitta.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.](#)

