

# Would you like to train to teach?



The John Taylor SCITT



John Taylor

**Teaching School Hub**

North Warwickshire Nuneaton & Bedworth Cannock Tamworth Lichfield East Staffordshire

2022/23  
PRIMARY & SECONDARY  
INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING  
**PROSPECTUS**





“Am I tired? Yes. Am I nervous? A little.

Am I enjoying it? Absolutely!”

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# Welcome.

The **John Taylor SCITT** has been a provider of Initial Teacher Education since 2014. Based in the charming Staffordshire village of Barton under Needwood, the SCITT is based in a bespoke Training Centre on the site of John Taylor High School, an outstanding school which enjoys a high reputation locally and nationally as a school with an enviable academic record based on inspirational teaching and exceptional pastoral care.

As a SCITT we pride ourselves on the fact that as a relatively small provider we know all our trainees really well and can offer highly personalised support which enables our trainees to secure excellent outcomes.

John Taylor High School is an established Teaching School Hub and recently designated Research School. It is the lead school of an alliance of schools throughout the East and West Midlands who work collaboratively, are passionate about Teaching and Learning and share a common aim which is to improve the educational opportunities and life chances for young people in our local area.

As a Teaching School Hub we aspire, through our Initial Teacher Education programme, to train and recruit the very best teachers to our local area and regard our ITE Programmes as stage one of our teacher recruitment process. For those trainees

who secure employment locally or nationally, we offer access to a programme of tailored professional development for those in their first two years as a qualified teacher. Our Programmes build seamlessly on our ITE programmes.

Talent management and ECT succession planning are high on our agenda and our CPD and training opportunities reflect this, with opportunities for aspirant middle leaders and senior leaders to engage in tailored programmes to support career progression.

As the SCITT has become established, our reputation in the local area has grown and we are proud that this year we will be the accrediting provider not only for our own local schools, but also for the De Ferrers Trust, and William Shrewsbury Primary School.

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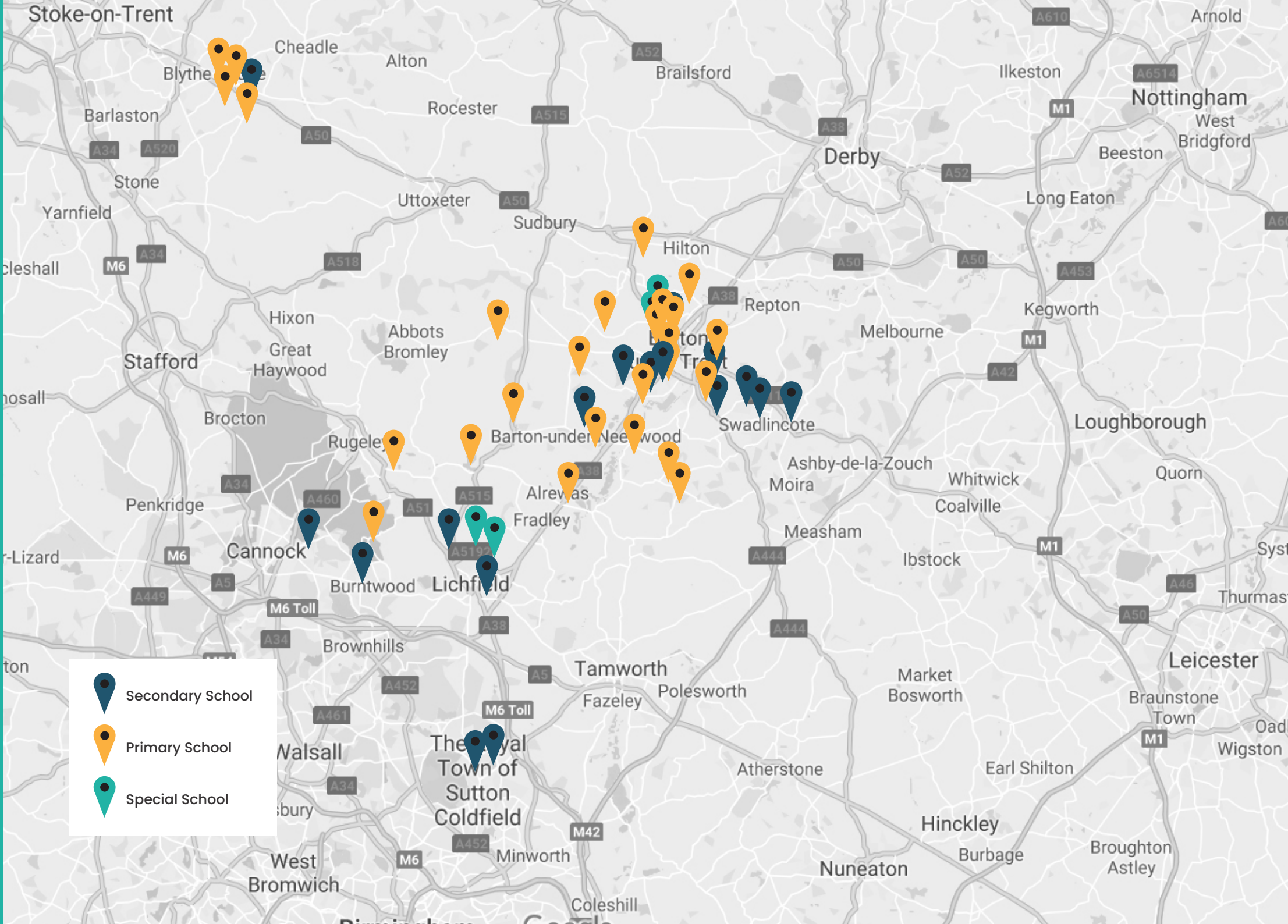


**NATHAN MORLAND**  
DIRECTOR OF  
TEACHING SCHOOL HUB



**GILL MARTIN**  
DIRECTOR OF  
SCITT







# Our Partners.

We work in close partnership with 16 secondary schools, 46 primary schools and 4 special schools. Our schools can offer diverse experiences for trainees within both rural and urban settings.

## Primary Schools (x46):

All Saints CofE Alrewas  
Shobnall Primary School  
Needwood CofE Primary School  
All Saints CofE Primary, Rangemore  
The Small Schools MAT (x4)  
The Central Cooperative Learning Trust (x6)  
Redbrook Hayes Community Primary School  
Walton on Trent Primary and Nursery  
Thomas Russell Infants' School  
Yoxall, St Peter's Primary  
The Mosley Academy  
Rosliston CofE Primary School  
Coton in the Elms Primary School  
Rykneld Primary School  
Winshill Village and Primary School  
Gentleshaw Primary School  
Eton Park Junior School  
Horninglow Primary School  
Lansdowne: A de Ferrers Trust Academy  
Richard Wakefield CofE Primary School  
Forsbrook CofE Primary School  
Springcroft Primary School  
St Peter's CofE Primary School, Caverswall  
Fulford Primary School  
Fierte Academy Trust (x8)

### Partner Lead Schools:

The William Shrewsbury Primary Partnership (x6)

## Secondary Schools (x16):

John Taylor High School  
John Taylor Free School  
Kingsmead School  
Paulet High School  
Plantsbrook School  
King Edward VI School, Lichfield  
Chase Terrace Academy  
Abbot Beyne School  
Paget High School  
The Friary School  
The Pingle Academy  
Granville Academy  
Blythe Bridge High School  
Fairfax Academy  
The William Allitt School

### Partner Lead Schools:

The de Ferrers Academy

## Special Schools (x4):

The Saxon Hill Academy  
Fountains High School  
Fountains Primary School  
Queenscroft High School



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# Our Model.

All our programmes are school led and all our partner schools are fully involved in both the design and the delivery of our programmes. Our vision as a SCITT is to support all schools and trusts in our alliance to attract and recruit high quality teachers and in the 5 years that we have been operating as a SCITT we are very proud of the fact that many of our trainees do secure employment in our partner schools. Recruitment and retention is at the heart of what we do.

## How does school direct differ from a core PGCE programme at university?

- The lead school selects and recruits their own trainees
- The lead school, in partnership with the SCITT, develops the content and focus of the training programme depending on local need.
- School based practitioners share the responsibility for delivering the professional studies programme.
- Trainees are in school early in the autumn term.
- Trainees know from the outset the group of schools from which their placements will be selected.
- Trainees have a home school that looks after them from day one. They start and finish the year in this school.

\*Our core SCITT programmes follow the School Direct model.

## School Direct (tuition fee) places.

These places are open to all graduates and funded by tuition fees paid by the trainee. Trainees may be eligible for a training bursary or scholarship.



# Places on offer for 2022/23.

	<b>JT SCITT</b>	<b>JTHS</b>	<b>THE DE FERRERS TRUST CODES AND VACANCIES</b>	<b>THE WILLIAM SHREWSBURY PRIMARY PARTNERSHIP</b>
	(Core SCITT)	(Lead School)	(Lead School)	(Lead School)
COURSE	CODE	CODE	CODE	CODE
Art & Design	L119	26Y6	3C5C	
Biology	J102	2324		
Chemistry	R919	2326		
Design & Technology	G948	22RS	3C5D	
English	36F7	2SBF		
Geography	T159	232J		
History	36FB	232N		
Mathematics	E744	2VHV		
Modern Languages	R432	38JG		
Physical Education	36FD	232Y	3C5F	
Physics	U594	232Z		
Primary	3CX7			367M

\* Our Provider Led pathway is identical to our School Direct route. Where vacancies remain applicants are encouraged to apply for the School Direct option.

# Primary programme.

Our Primary SCITT programme offers an exciting opportunity for trainees to be immersed in the primary education system and to learn from exceptional mentors and class teachers across the John Taylor Teaching School Hub.

Our offer includes 40 primary schools within the local area, each with a unique set of skills and expertise which we combine to give our trainees a wealth of experiences and perspectives throughout the training year.

Trainees have a Home School where they begin and end their training year. They will also benefit from a contrasting shorter placement in a different school, in a different key stage. All trainees also undertake a 4-day experience in a specialist school for pupils with additional needs.

Our course stands out from others in the way it inextricably links the practical and the theoretical. Trainees are supported to develop the fundamental theory of effective classroom practices, and then immediately given the opportunity to try it out for themselves. We find that this really brings the theory to life and helps our trainees to forge a deep understanding of the practices which make them exceptional teachers.

Trainees work closely in school with highly trained mentors, all of whom are committed to ensuring the very best experience and outcomes for their trainees. As a relatively small provider we are able to offer individual attention, support and collaborative opportunities throughout the training year alongside high quality placement schools, mentors and tutors.

## Professional Studies Programme

One day a week will be designated as a face to face training day, where trainees come together either in the Training Centre of the John Taylor Teaching School Hub or in a local primary school.

The training is delivered by outstanding current practitioners from across the partnership and comprises of a series of pedagogy modules as well as subject knowledge seminars and subject specific taster days. Training sessions develop the fundamental skills of exceptional teaching through research, debate and practice. Trainees will receive practical input on how to teach all of the subjects within the primary curriculum.







## Masters Level Study

Some of the training days will be led by the University of Derby, who accredit the academic side of our programme.

We consider it crucial that trainees' practical teaching is underpinned and informed by theoretical knowledge. During the course of the programme, all trainees complete 3 Level 7 Masters modules, each worth 20 Masters credits.

Upon completion of the course, trainees will be awarded QTS +PGCE and 60 Masters Level credits.



## Louise Houlders Primary Programme Leader

Louise has worked with the Primary SCITT since 2018 and has been the Programme Leader since 2020. Louise is passionately committed to training the next generation of Primary teachers; she plans to equip trainees with the teaching skills to empower children as lifelong learners, and the resilience to excel in such a rewarding profession.

“During the final few weeks of training, even though our teaching load increased, these were the weeks that I felt we were teaching at our best – I really felt like a ‘proper’ teacher!”

# Secondary programme.

Following a period of induction, the majority of your time during the secondary teacher training programme will be spent in the classroom developing your subject knowledge and effective classroom pedagogy. Through a structured programme of observation, joint planning and joint delivery of a lesson you will gradually build up to whole class teaching. You will work alongside outstanding practitioners and will be supported by a Subject Mentor, a Professional Mentor and a SCITT Tutor.

After Christmas you will undertake a shorter second placement in another school. This is an opportunity to learn within a different school context and through exposure to a new range of teaching and learning strategies develop your practice further.

We think that it is important also that you develop a broad understanding of education in different contexts extending beyond your subject and so before you return to your home school to complete your training year, we offer enhanced placement opportunities in a provider of education for those with additional needs.

You will also have the opportunity to spend three days in one of our alliance primary schools so that you have an understanding of the educational journey of a child.

## Professional Studies Programme

Our Professional Studies Programme takes place in the Training Centre at John Taylor High School. It is designed to equip trainees with an understanding of how students learn and the barriers to learning that some students face on a daily basis. They will develop an understanding of a range of special educational needs in the classroom and how teachers can best meet those needs.

Trainees are formally assessed throughout the course through a range of approaches and are supported with applying for jobs and preparing for interviews.

The programme is delivered by outstanding current practitioners from across our partnership. Themes explored in Professional Studies will be further developed within the context of your Subject Development Programme.





## Subject Knowledge Development

Themes from the Professional Studies Programme will subsequently be explored from the perspective of the different subjects. Trainees will work in small subject groups with a Subject Pedagogy Tutor developing their Subject Knowledge for Teaching.

## Masters Level Study

On completion of our SCITT programme trainees will be awarded QTS and be accredited with a PGCE with 60 Masters Level Credits. The credits are fully portable and can be built on in subsequent years should trainees wish to study for and achieve a full Masters level qualification.

The University of Derby is the awarding body for the Masters component of the programme, but all teaching is delivered in the Training Centre at John Taylor High School. Trainees will have full access to The University of Derby resources.



## Mike Simmons Secondary Programme Leader

Appointed the position of Secondary Programme Leader in 2018 at the John Taylor SCITT, Mike now has the overall responsibility of those on our Secondary Programme across all the subjects we offer. Mike works tirelessly to ensure that trainees have an exceptional training experience and qualify fully prepared for the next steps of their teaching career.

“I found the programme was the best option for me as it gave me so much more experience actually standing in front of a class teaching than just going to university, so I felt completely prepared for teaching on my own.”

# Entry requirements.

Good Honours Degree (2:1 ideally, a 2:2 classification may be considered). For secondary programmes the degree should be related to the subject you wish to teach. Subject Knowledge Enhancement Programmes may be available in certain subjects. If your degree does not link to your chosen teaching subject you may be asked to complete one of these prior to the commencement of the programme.

You will be required to evidence attainment of a GCSE grade C/ 4 or above in English and Mathematics. A GCSE Grade C/4 in Science is also required for Primary applicants.

Some school experience is desirable.

We are looking to recruit talented, hardworking trainees who have the qualities and personal skills suited to a career in teaching.

Trainees will need to demonstrate:

- The ability to interact well with children
- A passion for teaching and their subject
- Excellent subject knowledge
- Excellent literacy and numeracy skills
- An ability to be reflective and evaluative
- Resilience and tenacity
- The ability to work well in a team
- Excellent organisation and time management
- A commitment to learning
- The ability to be innovative and creative







"I have never felt bored, never without support to fall back on, and I have never felt more at home than when I am in the classroom. I know training to teach was the best choice I could have made."

# Step by step application process.

## Step 1: Attend an Event (Optional)

Finding out about teacher training can be a confusing and daunting task as there are so many routes available. The first steps can be made a lot easier by attending information events. We hold information events throughout the year where you will find out about our programmes as well as having the opportunity to ask questions.

See Page 16 for the dates and times of our events as well as details on how to book a place.

## Step 2: Arrange Some School Experience (Optional)\*

Having some school experience will significantly enhance your application. Spending time in schools observing teachers will also help you to make an informed decision about teaching as a career and whether it really is for you. It can be a great opportunity to make a first impression and we have recruited several applicants as a result of positive feedback from school experience days.

You may have the opportunity to request school experience by attending an information event. The course leader and SCITT Coordinator will liaise with you and organise as appropriate, depending on current availability.

If you have very limited or no school experience, this would not prevent us from offering you an interview, but we may recommend that you undertake a period of school experience if we feel it will be beneficial to your preparation for the programme, or finding out if the route you are applying for is the right one for you.

## Step 3: Prepare a Personal Statement

A good statement should highlight your strengths and how you can bring these to teaching. Think about what distinct qualities you can bring to the table that will make you an amazing teacher. In your personal statement we want to see energy, enthusiasm and a real passion for teaching and your subject/phase. Outline your reasons for wanting to teach and the qualities you have which will make you a good teacher.

Where you have school experience or experience of working with young people in a different context include this in your statement and talk about what you have learned from the experience. If you are a career changer tell us about the transferable skills that you have.

## Step 4: Arrange Your References

In order to submit your application, you will need to have two references. It is vital that you choose individuals who know you well enough to highlight your potential as a teacher, you should make them aware that you cannot submit your application until the references have been written. If you have been in education in the last five years you should provide an academic reference (for example from a university tutor). Your second reference should be a professional reference, if you are in employment, this should be your current employer. All references should be sent from a professional email address. Additional references may be requested if this is not the case.

\*We realise that gaining school experience may be challenging this year in particular. School experience is not a mandatory requirement to apply for teacher training.

## Step 5: Apply via DfE Apply

When you are ready to apply, you will do this through the Department of Education's Apply service who are responsible for managing the application process for schools and providers. As well as providing an applications portal, the Department of Education has an additional portal entitled 'Find Teacher Training' in which you can source ITE providers in your area. When applying you will be asked to select three schools (We can be found by searching 'The John Taylor SCITT').

The DfE apply portal also includes a separate section to provide details of any school and work experience. You should provide your full work history. Remember, your personal statement is the core of the application, so it is important to take the time and effort to research and prepare.



## Step 6: The Interview

Once you have submitted your application, if you have met all of the entry requirements and have submitted a strong application, you will be invited to interview. Our preferred process is to interview you on site at John Taylor High School, however under current restrictions you may be interviewed remotely. There will be several parts to the interview, which are designed to assess:

- Literacy and numeracy skills
- Awareness of educational issues
- Awareness of the qualities required needed to be a good teacher
- Subject knowledge and awareness of what constitutes high quality teaching and learning in your subject or phase
- Interpersonal and communication skills
- Rationale for wanting to become teacher
- Suitability for the profession
- Resilience

Activities will include:

- A presentation
- A one to one interview
- A planned teaching activity
- All applicants with a grade C in Maths or English will be invited into the Training Centre at John Taylor High School for an assessment in a socially distanced environment.

You will be asked to bring your original GCSE (English, Maths and Science for Primary) and Degree certificates to the interview, together with identity documentation such as your Birth Certificate and Photo ID. It is vital that we view original certificates or Final Certifying Statements of Results. If you do not have these to hand, you should order them as soon as possible



# Information events.

We will be holding a series of in person and remote events, in which a senior leader within the SCITT will deliver a presentation to give you in-depth information about our programmes and ask any questions you may have regarding getting into teaching with us.

## **IN PERSON EVENTS**

Wednesday 10th November 2021  
18:30pm (Secondary)

Thursday 11th November 2021  
18:00pm (Primary)

Wednesday 9th February 2022  
18:30pm (Secondary)

Thursday 10th February 2022  
18:00pm (Primary)

Wednesday 27th April 2022  
17:00pm (Primary & Secondary)

Wednesday 8th June 2022  
18:30pm (Secondary)

Thursday 9th June 2022  
18:00pm (Primary)

## **REMOTE EVENTS**

Wednesday 13th October 2021 10:00am

Wednesday 8th December 2021 16:30pm

Wednesday 26th January 2022 19:30pm

Wednesday 16th March 2022 16:30pm

Wednesday 25th May 2022 10:00am

Wednesday 29th June 2022 17:00pm

## **COFFEE MORNING EVENTS**

Thursday 16th December 2021 10:00am

Thursday 7th April 2022 10:00am

Please visit [www.jths.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.jths.eventbrite.co.uk) for more information.



# School experience.

We can also help to gain you some primary school experience, please email [laxten@jths.co.uk](mailto:laxten@jths.co.uk) for further information.\*

\*We realise that gaining school experience may be challenging this year in particular. School experience is not a mandatory requirement to apply for teacher training.

For enquiries please contact Leah Axten at [laxten@jths.co.uk](mailto:laxten@jths.co.uk) or call 01283 247813.



# Frequently asked questions.

## What is a SCITT?

SCITT stands for School Centred Initial Teacher Training. In July 2014, John Taylor High School was accredited as a SCITT, which means that we are the accrediting provider for trainees and can award QTS (Qualified Teacher Status) to those who complete their programme with us.

## I am unsure whether my degree is appropriate for the subject I wish to teach.

As a rule, for secondary applicants, your degree should be made up of at least 50% of the subject knowledge you wish to teach. Each person will have different circumstances and A levels can be taken into account. You may be required to take a Subject Knowledge Enhancement course. If in doubt contact us at [l.axten@jths.co.uk](mailto:l.axten@jths.co.uk). For primary applicants a degree in any subject is acceptable.

## When will I find out which school I will be based in?

You will be advised of your home school at our induction event which will take place in June. Schools are allocated on a range of criteria and whilst we do take into account where people live we cannot guarantee specific requests for placements. All our schools are within half an hour's drive of John Taylor High School.

## Am I guaranteed a job at the end of the programme?

Whilst we cannot guarantee that trainees will secure employment within our alliance schools many of our trainees to date have. It is certainly our vision to "grow our own teachers" and recruit from our own pool of trainees but we cannot predict with any accuracy where the vacancies will arise.

## Will I be expected to teach a class from day 1?

School Direct gives you the opportunity to learn 'on the job' from the very beginning. You will benefit from working and learning every day in a school and getting an immediate insight into what teaching involves. But this doesn't mean you'll be teaching classes before you've had a chance to find your feet. You'll have an extended support network of experienced teachers and mentors on hand to help you throughout your course. The school you're with won't ask you to teach classes unsupported until they think you're ready.

## I have qualifications from overseas - how do I find out if they are equivalent to UK qualifications?

You can contact UK ENIC via their website [www.enic.org.uk](http://www.enic.org.uk). They will provide you with documentation to say that your qualifications are equivalent to ones in the UK. You need to do this in order to apply for teacher training.



"My subject leader has been phenomenal,  
truly inspiring and has had a huge impact  
on my journey as a teacher."



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