

SCHOOL DIRECT – A GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS for 2021-22

Why Train with Shepway Teaching School Alliance?

We look for candidates with the following strengths:

- *a passion for learning and an interest in/knowledge of education*
- *excellent communication skills (both written and verbal)*
- *the ability to stay calm and deal with stressful situations*
- *a drive to succeed and resilience in the face of difficulty*
- *the ability to be an equal part of a team*
- *experience of managing teams and other adults*
- *a sense of humour and the charisma to inspire and motivate our pupils*
- *reflective practitioners who respond positively to feedback*
- *interests outside of education*
- *competence and confidence in the use of technology*

Above all, we are interested in those potential trainees who are motivated by a desire to see children thrive in their education and a commitment to see things through.

We offer a one-year, full-time, teacher training programme - a distinctive and practical school-centred pathway into the profession of teaching. We may also be introducing a part-

time route for School Direct Primary, which should be approved by the end of November 2020.

You will work alongside experienced teachers, who will act as mentors. You will have the opportunity to work in two good and outstanding schools in the Shepway district or sometimes further afield where this matches your needs as a trainee.

Our course is co-delivered with and validated by Canterbury Christ Church University. The University delivers the PGCE elements of the programme to those who would like to acquire masters level experience in addition to the award of Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). Ofsted judges CCCU's provision for Initial Teacher Training as 'Good'.

We offer our trainees support in gaining employment in a Shepway TSA school, with the advantage that experience of working in successful local schools inevitably brings to a potential employee.

If you are subsequently employed within the Shepway Teaching School Alliance, you will have access to a wide range of professional development opportunities, including a bespoke programme for NQTs, and many other opportunities to develop your practice. We have a thriving community of practitioners within our alliance schools.

The School Direct Programme

Successful applicants for the 2021-22 School Direct Programme will work in two schools - a base school and a second school, which will provide a contrasting setting and for primary trainees, experience in an adjacent key stage.

Trainees will follow a school-based programme that will enable you to work alongside outstanding practitioners developing the rigour, professional knowledge, understanding and skills necessary to become inspirational, creative and purposeful teachers.

Outstanding teachers will deliver high quality training from Shepway Teaching School Alliance together with specialists from Canterbury Christ Church University.

As a trainee, you will have full access to Canterbury Christ Church University and all its facilities.

It is a requirement of all QTS courses that trainees get at least 60 days (or equivalent) training through the year, comprising at least 15 days of taught sessions at the University and ongoing professional development activities provided by the school.

Development in school will be supported by a mentor who will help you in your progress towards meeting the standards for QTS.

Professional Studies sessions aim to inform you about aspects of professional practice which are central to your work, whatever your subject or phase, including how do we learn, how do we include all children, how is teaching a professional activity, how can education be organised and how can learning be assessed.

In addition to the professional studies content, all trainees will undertake various Curriculum Studies modules. These involve work in studying key concepts that underpin the various curricula and syllabi for your subject or phase. The sessions allow discussion of

different pedagogies and allow reflection on differing school approaches to develop your appreciation of what works and how.

You may enrol in a PGCE programme, but we equally welcome those who wish to pursue the QTS-only route. Please note that all our courses are listed as QTS + PGCE.

Trainees will be welcomed as full members of the staff team and encouraged to immerse themselves in all aspects of school life including professional development days, monitoring and evaluation activity, extra-curricular activities and community events.

Qualifying as a teacher - assessment

Throughout the course your mentor and tutors will grade you at key points to help you understand how well you are meeting the standards for QTS. At the end of the course you will have a final assessment. This will take the form of a review meeting to formally assess whether you have met the standards for QTS.

You will have assessed experience in teaching at least four different year groups in your placement schools, which will maximise your opportunities to gain evidence for successful job applications.

We also consider that training to teach requires a high level of subject knowledge. On our programmes this is acquired both through central training and the opportunities and support you will receive in school. Both secondary and primary trainees will audit their subject knowledge and the development of this key resource is planned throughout the year, with their mentor.

In addition to the above assessment process for the recommendation for QTS, students who have opted for the School Direct PGCE Pathway will be required to submit three 4,000-word assignments, spread across the year, which will be assessed at Masters Level.

Entry Requirements

General Requirements

We are looking for candidates who ideally have a 2:2 or better degree.

Where the degree result is to be awarded in the year of application, we will require a predicted degree classification as part of an academic reference provided on the application. Candidates with a lower result than a 2:2 should contact us directly to establish whether they meet our criteria, before applying,

Passes, or equivalent, at GCE O-Level, CSE grade 1, GCSE Grade C/4+ (or above) in English language, mathematics (and science, for primary trainees). Applicants who do not have the required GCSEs can still be offered a place, but this will be conditional on securing the required qualification or successfully passing an equivalency test.

Proof of qualifications

All accepted candidates will be required to provide proof of their educational qualifications in the form of certificates. We require all applicants to provide proof of their degree level qualifications at interview as this helps to avoid any problems with in meeting this formal entry requirement. Transcripts are not accepted.

Candidates who do not have their certificates should contact itt@shepwayts.co.uk should any advice on next steps be required.

Safe recruitment

All trainees who are accept an offer on our programmes will be required to undergo a new Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service. It is not our policy to accept existing certificates. We operate a safe recruitment policy, which requires candidates to complete confidential disclosure (seen by the Head of the Teaching School), where there may be issues which would affect any subsequent DBS Check.

Satisfactory health may also be confirmed through a questionnaire prior to the commencement of training.

Please note that for salaried trainees these checks are the responsibility of the school that employs the trainee.

Subject Knowledge – secondary applicants

In addition to the general requirements, applicants for secondary subjects must be able to demonstrate sufficient subject knowledge to ensure that are ready to teach their specialist subjects(s).

We strongly prefer applicants to have an ordinary degree which is at least 50% matched to the specialism. Where this is not the case, we will look closely with any applicant's experience, interest in their chosen subject and what steps can be taken to ensure that they can be suitable to train to teach at the beginning of September 2020.

Subject Knowledge Enhancement – Secondary applicants

Those who are successful at interview, even with a 50% subject match may be asked to complete a subject knowledge enhancement programme, prior to the commencement of their training. There are several providers we use, with courses ranging in length from 8 to 26 weeks. Shorter courses prepare the candidate for single subjects to GCSE. Longer courses may include the post-16 curriculum or a wider mix around the specialism.

Successful completion of a Subject Knowledge Enhancement Programme (SKE) may be a condition attached to your offer of a training or salaried place.

*In prior years, all SKE programmes were fully funded by the DfE and attracted a bursary to support their completion. **We will not have confirmation from the DfE of arrangements for SKE programmes until the end of the 2020 calendar year.***

Any queries relating to subject knowledge should be addressed to itt@shepwayts.co.uk.

School Experience – all applicants

It is a distinct advantage for applicants to have experience of British mainstream schools.

This could be as a volunteer or in paid work. Such experience enables you to talk about teaching and learning and to understand the context in which our schools are working.

Knowledge of the curriculum, the challenges a school may face in raising standards and the ability to talk about what makes for great teaching are particularly important.

Teaching is an immensely rewarding and demanding profession. An awareness of current issues and an understanding of the pressures of the job will strengthen any application.

If you do not have relevant experience and are interested in our programmes, we can help in arranging access to our schools. Contact itt@shepwayts.co.uk for help.

How we select our trainees

We expect to get the very best from our applicants, and to find the people most suited to our school contexts.

An offer of a place on our programme is only made to those who we can see as potential employees on completion of the training and the award of QTS.

Trainees are selected for interview through the quality of their application form. We place great value on the personal statement and the supporting information. This is your opportunity to show us why you are interested in teaching, how you have developed this interest and why we should choose you to contribute to the quality of education in our schools.

Each candidate shortlisted for interview will be notified directly through UCAS and by email from our team. We also make contact with all candidates on receipt of the initial application. If candidates are notified that they have been successful in securing an interview, they may wish to visit the lead school prior to the interview.

Interviews will be held in one of the partnership primary schools, or in the case of secondary (salaried and unsalaried) applicants, in the school to which you have applied for a training place.

Secondary applicants will be required to complete a Subject Knowledge Audit, which asks you to rate your familiarity with the curriculum for your specialist subject – this forms the basis for a discussion at interview, usually with the teacher responsible for that subject.

Candidates should be able to discuss their recent relevant educational experience, which should be based on their work with children or young people.

Candidates will be expected to demonstrate relevant skills through a brief teaching activity.

You will also be asked to give a short, prepared presentation and complete short mathematics and literacy tasks.

School Direct – Vacancies for 2021-22

Shepway Teaching School has a variety of primary and secondary placements in schools across the district for training through school direct in partnership with Canterbury Christ Church University.

To search for our courses, visit <https://www.gov.uk/find-postgraduate-teacher-training-courses>. Search for Shepway Teaching School Alliance (1NG) and a link will appear to a list of our programmes.

To apply, please go to the UCAS website: www.ucas.com Enter “Shepway Teaching Schools” (1NG) in the search for provider. Codes for individual courses are given below.

Primary School Direct (training)

We have 20 vacancies for Primary trainees. Applications are made via UCAS to Shepway Teaching School Alliance. (UCAS Code: 23NL)

Secondary Phase

We have vacancies for training places across a range of secondary subjects across our partner schools.

You must enter a location or campus code for each school you apply to through UCAS.

These are:

F – Folkestone School for Girls

H – Harvey Grammar School

M – Marsh Academy

N – Norton Knatchbull

Secondary – School Direct (Salaried)

We are currently not recruiting School Direct Salaried trainees for 2021-22. This may be revisited at the request of a partner school.

Secondary – School Direct Training

<p>Art & Design</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 2ZN9</i></p> <p><i>Folkestone School for Girls</i></p> <p><i>Harvey Grammar School</i></p> <p><i>Marsh Academy</i></p>	<p>Geography</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 2F8P</i></p> <p><i>Marsh Academy</i></p>	<p>Music</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 2BDG</i></p> <p><i>Harvey Grammar School</i></p> <p><i>Marsh Academy</i></p>
<p>Biology</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 2MX5</i></p> <p><i>Folkestone School for Girls</i></p> <p><i>Harvey Grammar School</i></p> <p><i>Marsh Academy</i></p>	<p>History</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 23WV</i></p> <p><i>Marsh Academy</i></p>	<p>Physical Education</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 23WX</i></p> <p><i>Harvey Grammar School</i></p> <p><i>Marsh Academy</i></p> <p><i>Please note we also offer PE + EBacc through the same course code</i></p>
<p>Chemistry</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 23X6</i></p> <p><i>Folkestone School for Girls</i></p> <p><i>Harvey Grammar School</i></p> <p><i>Marsh Academy</i></p> <p><i>Norton Knatchbull School</i></p>	<p>Mathematics</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 23WN</i></p> <p><i>Folkestone School for Girls</i></p> <p><i>Harvey Grammar School</i></p> <p><i>Marsh Academy</i></p>	<p>Physics</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 23X5</i></p> <p><i>Folkestone School for Girls</i></p> <p><i>Harvey Grammar School</i></p> <p><i>Marsh Academy</i></p> <p><i>Norton Knatchbull</i></p>
<p>Computing</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 2F8Q</i></p> <p><i>Folkestone School for Girls</i></p> <p><i>Marsh Academy</i></p> <p><i>Norton Knatchbull</i></p>	<p>Modern Foreign Languages</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 2ZNF (Spanish)</i></p> <p><i>Folkestone School for Girls</i></p> <p><i>Harvey Grammar School</i></p> <p><i>Norton Knatchbull School</i></p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 2ZNC (French)</i></p>	<p>Religious Education</p> <p><i>UCAS Code: 2F8T</i></p> <p><i>Folkestone School for Girls</i></p> <p><i>The Marsh Academy</i></p>

	<i>Folkestone School for Girls</i> <i>Harvey Grammar School</i> <i>Marsh Academy</i> <i>Norton Knatchbull School</i>	
English <i>UCAS Code: 23WP</i> <i>Folkestone School for Girls</i> <i>Harvey Grammar School</i> <i>Marsh Academy</i> <i>Norton Knatchbull</i>		

If you have an interest in a subject which is not listed, feel free to contact

itt@shepways.co.uk to request an informal discussion about options.

CONTACT US

Shepway Teaching School Alliance works with schools across Shepway and neighbouring areas (www.shepwayts.co.uk).

The lead school is Sandgate Primary School, Coolinge Lane, Folkestone, CT20 3QU (www.sandgateprimaryschool.co.uk).

All applicant queries relating to School Direct should be initially directed to Matt Dickenson at office@shepwayts.co.uk.

Shepway Teaching Schools – Secondary Partners

Potential applicants for training in secondary schools may wish to make contact with the school, prior to submitting an application. The Lead Mentor at the school should be the initial point of contact:

Folkestone School for Girls <i>Matthew Bates</i> <i>Coolinge Lane, Folkestone CT20 3RB</i> <i>01303 251125</i> teachertraining@folkestonegirls.kent.sch.uk	Harvey Grammar School <i>James Walton</i> <i>Cheriton Road, Folkestone CT19 5JY</i> <i>01303 252131</i> jwalton@harveygs.kent.sch.uk
The Marsh Academy <i>Mark Fisher</i>	Norton Knatchbull School <i>Phil Gallantree</i>

Station Road, New Romney TN28 8BB

01797 364593

mfisher@marshacademy.org.uk

Hythe Road, Ashford TN24 0QJ

01233 620045

pgallantree@nks.kent.sch.uk