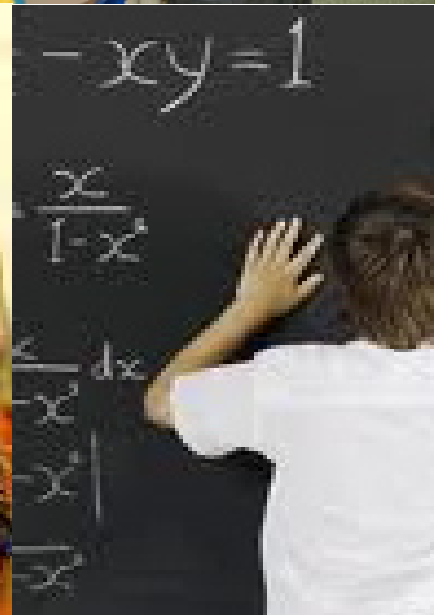
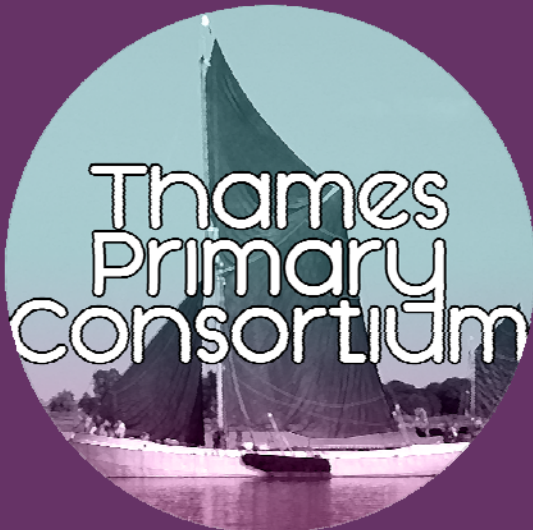




Thames Primary SCITT

School-Centred Initial Teacher Training

“Growing Outstanding Teachers”



Introduction

“The outstanding attainment of trainees is evidence of the effectiveness of provision.” – Ofsted 2011

The training programme (validated by the Canterbury Christ Church University) is delivered by highly experienced lecturers and teachers. With hubs throughout Essex the course is based in schools and in the Consortium's own purpose built classrooms. The Consortium provides a comprehensive and thorough approach to teacher training. Trainees are supported throughout the year by a variety of mentors including a personal tutor and spend time in a range of placements that provide experiences of different school settings. Additionally, trainees are given the opportunity to observe high-quality teaching in all subject areas. The Consortium provides a training that responds promptly to an ever-changing curriculum and equips trainees to work with immediate professional competency on graduation. Working in partnership with teaching school alliances our training centres are currently in Wickford and Southend.

At the end of the course trainees will receive either a postgraduate or a professional graduate certificate in education (PGCE) with qualified teacher status (QTS). After 5 years 99% of our graduates are still teaching.

The Course

The schools in the Consortium have a keen long-term interest in the quality of the training of newly qualified teachers. The course has been devised to reflect the needs of schools for excellent teachers with high levels of practical teaching skills and it is common for many trainees to take up posts in Consortium schools.

Much of the training takes place in the schools, and trainees develop their growing skills and understandings working alongside skilled and experienced teachers.

It is a special feature of the course that when the main home classroom placement is planned, there are strenuous efforts made to ensure that trainees are placed with a primary school teacher whose own practice is excellent and who is keen to share ideas and skills with the trainee.

Course content and structure

Trainees spend 60% of the year in schools and are fully involved in the life of the school as a member of the teaching team. The remainder of the time is spent in lectures and workshops taught by expert practitioners

“The attainment of trainees is outstanding...trainees are well prepared to teach” - Ofsted

There are three teaching practices:

- TP1 (Term 1) – introduces the trainees to classroom practice including experience in EYFS.
- TP2 (Term 2) – lasts approximately 6 weeks and takes place in a different Consortium school, and in the opposite key stage to that selected by the trainee for their specialism.
- TP3 (Term 3) – returning to their home school where the practice lasts approximately 8 weeks.

Those training for an SEND specialism will spend either term two or three in a special school.



The teaching practices

- Trainees are placed in a home school for the first term and spend several days a week working alongside an experienced Class Mentor;
- One long teaching practice towards the end of the course, which usually takes place in the trainee's home classroom;
- The other major practice takes place in a different Consortium school, and in the opposite key stage to that selected by the trainee for their specialism;
- Several short practices running through the year to introduce the trainees to working in more specialist areas such as special educational need, bi-lingual pupils, working with a creative curriculum and with reception children in the Foundation Stage.
- All trainees will be given additional specialist tuition in Maths, English, EYFS, ICT, SEND, Science, MFL or Drama to prepare them to become subject leaders.

The course lasts for one year and trainees can expect to spend about 125 days working and studying in school. Most of the remainder consists of taught sessions provided at The Consortium training rooms.

What kind of things will trainees learn about?

There is a clear training curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science and Information and Communications Technology, as required by The DfE. A range of teaching skills, knowledge and understanding that all trainees must develop, if they are to gain Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) are laid down. The course is carefully designed to ensure that trainees have every opportunity to attain these standards and therefore to qualify as a teacher. Trainees will also work in other areas, in addition to the government requirements to develop good understandings of:

- The ways in which children learn;
- How children's widely differing experiences contribute to their learning;
- How to motivate and safeguard children and how to manage their behaviour in the most effective way;
- How to assess the effectiveness of teaching and learning, so that good future progress can be assured;
- The other things that schools have to provide for their children, such as personal and social education, health education, extra curricular activities and provision for special educational needs.



Structure of the Course

Our teachers will be able to meet all of the standards for the award of Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). We also plan for our trainees to fully meet the TDA's requirements.



The Taught Sessions

"There is outstanding teaching at centre-based training and excellent support in school-based training." – Ofsted 2011

The taught session days are spread across the year as shown in the course structure diagram. The subjects covered include; Mathematics, English, Science, ICT, Professional Studies and related areas, Foundation Subjects, Voice Studies.

Distinctive Features of the course

- A large proportion of time spent in schools;
- Rigorous admission and interview procedures ensure that all trainees are highly successful;
- Rigorous formative trainee assessment during the progress towards QTS status;
- High quality mentoring and pastoral support are provided in all areas of training;
- High levels of course integration between centrally taught and school-based elements of the course;
- All trainees are given the opportunity to complete a Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) module;
- Well-established and high quality relationships between heads and staff of all the Consortium schools;
- All member schools have had successful Ofsted inspections;
- Trainees offered experience in a range of social and economic settings;
- Centrally taught element of the course delivered by experienced lecturers with recent and relevant experience in the classroom;
- All our trainees are recruited into teaching posts at the end of their training

How Successful is the course?

- Since finishing the course only 2 of our teachers have left the profession to pursue another career in the past six years;
- Five years after qualifying we still have extremely high retention rates (99%) compared to other teacher training courses and universities nationally;
- A large number of our trainees are offered jobs in Consortium schools or in other schools in Essex.
- Our trainees compete effectively in interview situations;
- Our Ofsted inspections were uniformly successful with all inspected areas being graded as 'of consistently good quality with no significant weaknesses' and many as 'outstanding';

Leaders in the field

We have been judged by external organisations including; The Training Agency, DfE and Ofsted as leading the field in many areas of teacher training. Our voice-training course is internationally recognized and we excel in the delivery of training in phonics, SEND and behaviour management.

We are rated in the newly qualified teachers survey as being in the top 5 providers in the UK for our overall training.

Qualifications

The course has been approved by the TDA, and trainees who complete the course successfully are awarded Qualified Teacher Status. This, by itself, allows entry to teaching and to appropriate professional rates of pay and status. The QTS qualification offered by the course is geared to teaching throughout the primary age range (5-11), although trainees will choose to put a major emphasis on working at EYFS (3-5), Key Stage 1 (5-7), or at Key Stage 2 (7-11). Agreement has been reached with the University of Bedfordshire that it will provide successful trainees with its Professional Graduate Certificate of Education (Primary) to recognise work that goes beyond the basic QTS level and includes clear elements of reflection and advanced analysis.

How to apply & entry requirements

Who should apply?

If you are:

- Keen to become a good primary school teacher;
- Creative and imaginative;
- Prepared to work hard to develop your skills and your understanding of the way in which children learn and like working collaboratively.

Then we would like to hear from you.

Qualifications

Candidates should have a recognized honours degree from a university in Great Britain or overseas, or a qualification recognized as equivalent to a degree at a minimum of a 2.2.

You must have a GCSE at level C (or equivalent) in Mathematics and English. Trainees born on or after 1st September 1979 must have a similar GCSE in a science subject. You need to be able to communicate clearly in written and spoken English.

Candidates will be expected to demonstrate a strong commitment to Primary Education and to have spent time in a primary school to familiarise themselves with working with children and the demands of the primary classroom. A minimum of 1 week (preferably 2) is required.

Equal Opportunities

The Thames Primary Consortium is committed to equal opportunities and will not discriminate on the grounds of colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origins, sex or marital status or on the grounds of disability.

How to apply

Thames Primary Consortium prefers direct applications. You can download an application form from the website (www.thamesprimaryscitt.co.uk) or request the form from The Course Administrator.

If after reading this brochure you have further queries, please contact Karen Lawson, The Course Administrator on admin@thamesprimaryscitt.co.uk

PGCE course applications can also be made through the Graduate Teacher Training Registry:

GTTR

Rosehill

New Barn Lane

Cheltenham

Gloucestershire

GL52 3LZ

Tel: 01242 544788

www.gttr.ac.uk

Quoting: Institution Code T25

Course Code: General Primary X100

If you have any queries about this process, please contact the GTTR directly.

What happens then?

The GTTR will send us your forms and we will invite trainees to one of our schools for interview. During the visit you will:

- Have the chance to meet and talk to some of the children;
- Give a short talk about something that interests you to a small group of other candidates;
- Complete several brief activities;
- Have a short interview;

There will also be lots of opportunities during the day to ask questions and to demonstrate your aptitude to be a teacher.



Fees & charges

The Consortium fees will be £8,500 per annum.

Overseas / non-home students may be required to pay the full tuition fee of up to £10,000. If you are unsure of your status please visit www.ukcisa.org.uk for further advice and information.

Trainees are required to pay for their own CRB checks. Please visit <http://www.crb.homeoffice.gov.uk/> for details.



What our students have said about the training they received.

“Deciding to complete my teacher-training via this course, which is so well managed and organized, was the best decision I’ve ever made.”

“A hard but extremely rewarding year, after which I feel more than capable to begin my teaching career.”

Contact details

Karen Lawson (Recruitment Officer)

07811 106 290 / admin@thamesprimaryscitt.co.uk

The Thames Primary Consortium

Runwell Community Primary School,

Canewdon Gardens,

Runwell,

Wickford,

Essex SS11 7BJ

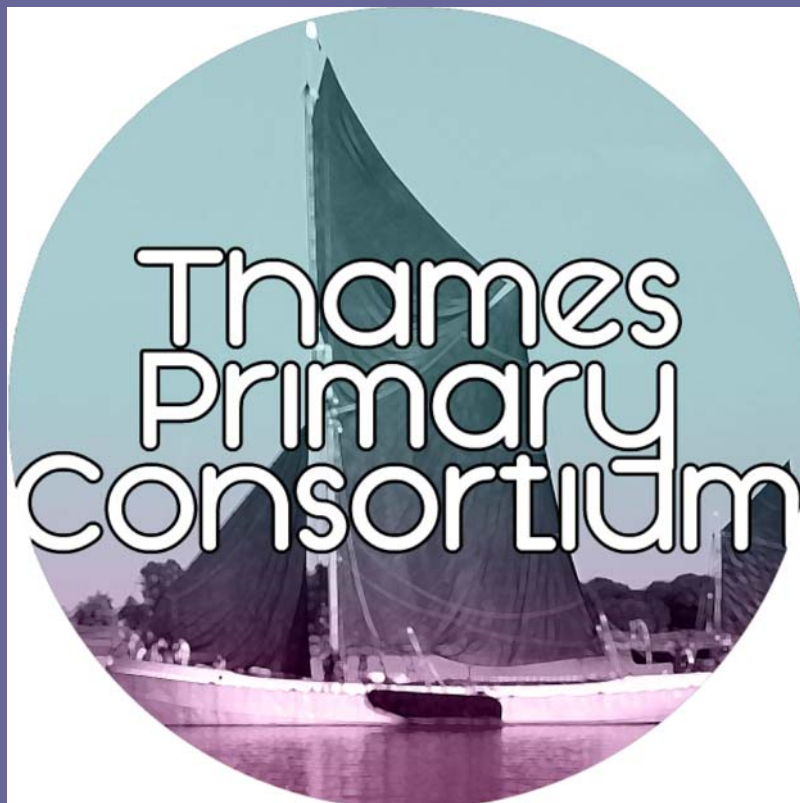
Other useful addresses

DfE www.education.gov.uk

GTTR www.gttr.ac.uk

University of www.beds.ac.uk

Bedfordshire



In partnership with



www.thamesprimaryscitt.co.uk