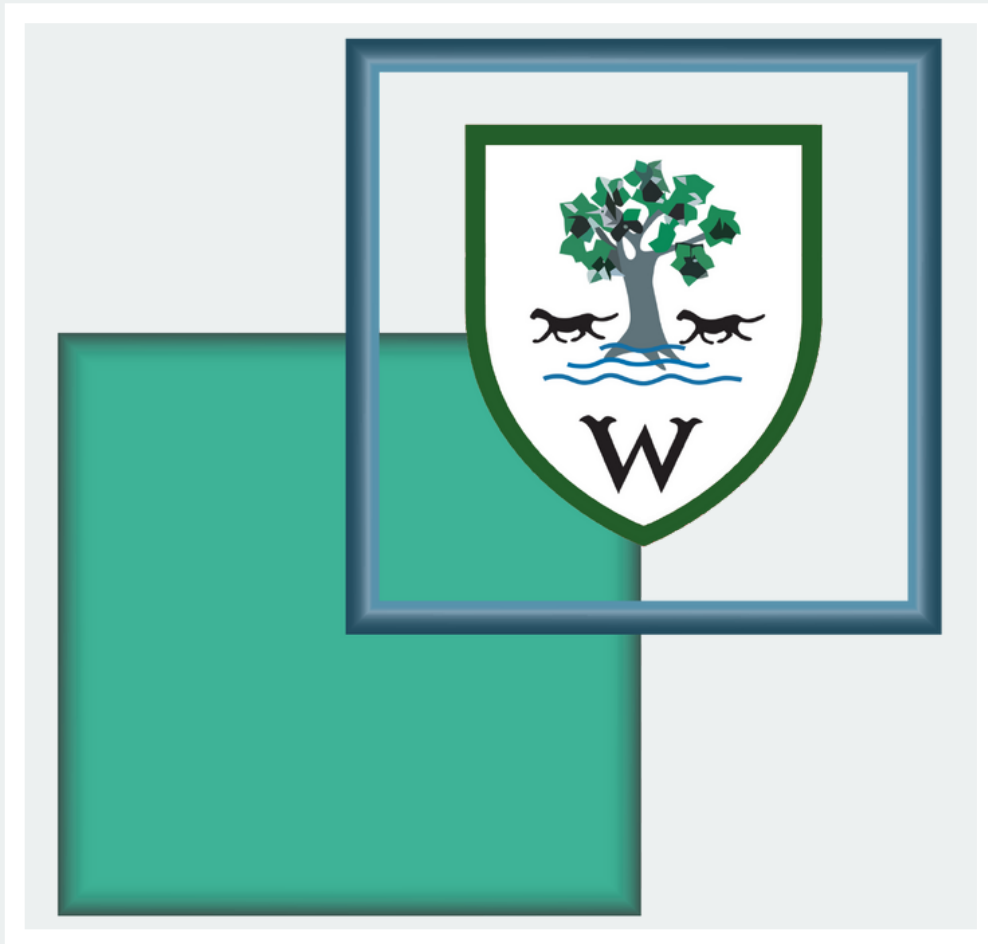




INITIAL  
TEACHER  
TRAINING

Shawhurst Lane,  
Wythall, B47 5JW  
[www.woodrushtc.co.uk](http://www.woodrushtc.co.uk)



# WOODRUSH TRAINING CONSORTIUM

DISCOVER *YOUR* POTENTIAL,  
BE *THEIR* INSPIRATION.

# Welcome



Samantha Bullivant  
Director

*Woodrush Training Consortium* is an excellent place to start your teaching career. We aim to develop outstanding practitioners who are creative, highly effective and exceed the professional standards. Educational theory, innovative research and outstanding pedagogy are the foundations of our highly successful training programme.

Early career teachers regard highly the support that they receive from Woodrush. This was recognised by Ofsted in 2018 who said that early career teachers *'feel fully supported as they develop their skills in teaching and managing pupils' behaviour*.

They value the quality of the training and the way in which leaders encourage them to be reflective practitioners. Through this support, newly qualified teachers are able to speak with passion and knowledge about a range of educational topics. All newly qualified teachers spoken to said that they are 'proud to work at the school'.

Woodrush High School, the lead school in our training consortium, is an 11-18 school on the border of Birmingham and Worcestershire. We place an emphasis on ensuring all of our students achieve the qualifications, and equally important the life skills, to be successful in the world we live in. We have hardworking and well qualified staff who are dedicated to delivering an ever-changing curriculum in a vibrant and exciting way. The curriculum we offer is broad, balanced and inspires students to learn. Staff at Woodrush work as a close and effective team, sharing good practice and providing support for each other. High quality coaching and mentoring is a strength across our school and consortium.

Woodrush works with over twenty five schools both primary and secondary in and across the Midlands. In order to provide you with a variety of experience you will be placed at two schools within the consortium. These will be chosen based on your location. We offer bespoke school experience if you would like to visit any of our schools.

As always, through our work, our core aim is to improve the education of our students and those in the local area. We are looking for trainee teachers who will unlock the potential of our students. We understand choosing a place to train is such an important decision but we hope this prospectus and our team will help you make your final decision. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to get in contact.

# Meet the team

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Sam is the Director for Woodrush TC; she oversees all primary and secondary School Direct places across the consortium, ensuring that student teachers are well-placed throughout their training year. Sam designs and delivers school based training for our School Direct trainees and visits them on placement to observe and give feedback. Sam is also the senior mentor for all PGCE students on university led routes and organises and delivers their whole school issues training. She has built strong relationships with 3 local universities; Birmingham, Warwick and Worcester to ensure we cover a wide geography.



Sam Bullivant  
Director



Kerry Scotney  
Professional Mentor

Kerry is the ITT Professional Mentor who looks after all trainees and mentors based at Woodrush High School; organising weekly training, completing observations, quality assuring and providing support for everyone involved. Kerry has been a subject mentor for many years across all 3 universities, Birmingham, Worcester and Warwick and has vast amounts of experience as a coach and mentor. She is extremely passionate about teacher training and ensuring the quality of mentoring provided is of the highest standard. Kerry really enjoys seeing trainee teachers grow and develop into their role of confident and competent practitioners.

Abi is an initial contact for Woodrush TC and focuses on the promotion and marketing of CPD opportunities within the consortium, teacher training recruitment and assistance within all key communications with the training consortium. You will regularly see Abi at teacher recruitment fairs and Woodrush TC events. Abi provides pastoral support to trainees, a friendly face to talk to and provide support throughout trainees training year.



Abi Zaman  
Marketing & Comms  
Manager



Wendy Magne  
Administrator

Wendy is an initial contact for Woodrush TC and supports with administration and recruitment for the training consortium. Wendy is a friendly face to all our ITTs, delegates and visitors.

# What is Woodrush Training Consortium?



Woodrush Training Consortium has been training teachers since September 2014 with a wealth of experience in supporting teachers in their early career. Woodrush TC work with Primary and Secondary partner schools to provide high quality training, as part of the governments plan to give schools a central role in raising standards with a self-improving school led system.

To deliver our teacher training we currently work in partnership with 3 different universities: Birmingham, Warwick and Worcester. We also work with over 25 partner schools across Birmingham, Worcester, Solihull and Dudley to offer a wide range of different options and pathways to suit trainee's needs.

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## Why train with us?

You have probably been overwhelmed with choices that are offered for training to teach. It is a very important decision to make and you want to get it right. At Woodrush TC our numbers of School Direct trainees have grown year on year but we still pride ourselves on providing a personalised service. We are very proud of our training figures.

### Feed back from our previous cohorts:

- 100% of trainees finished as at least good, with 70% being outstanding.
- Satisfaction rates from evaluations for the training sessions were at 96%.
- 100% of trainees said they would recommend us to friends or family.

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## School Experience

School experience is beneficial if you're interested in becoming a teacher. Before you apply for your training you may want to gain school experience in the classroom to strengthen your application and prepare you for interviews. School experience can be set up at Woodrush High School or a school within the consortium. We encourage applicants to come in and get complementary school experience to meet the teachers they will be working alongside but also to meet our current trainees to hear what it is like to train.



# To train to teach

you need to have a degree in the area you wish to specialise in. 50% or more of your degree needs to be relevant to the subject you want to teach. There are currently two main routes into teaching. University led and school led, known as School Direct.

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## What is School Based Training?

School based training is usually a School Direct Placement accredited by a University.

- Most courses lead to a PGCE and QTS.
  - You will apply through the DFE apply service to the School Provider.
  - The Lead School and consortium schools will lead some of the professional Studies/Whole School Issues Programme.
- 

## The benefit of School Direct Training:

- You will know, prior to starting your course, the school or group of schools you will be based in for your training.
- You will be invited into the school prior to the start to meet colleagues, other trainees and attend an induction.
- You will be working with the same mentor and senior mentor for most of your training, giving you continuity.
- You will be given the opportunity to share areas of your teaching and learning practice with other trainees in your school and consortium.
- You will know the area you will be in for second placement near the start of your course.
- You will have opportunities to get immersed in the whole school.



# Subjects we offer starting 2023

Subject	Warwick	Worcester
Art & Design	✓	✓
Biology	✓	✓
Business Studies		✓
Chemistry	✓	✓
Computing	✓	✓
D & T Food		✓
Drama	✓	
English	✓	✓
Geography	✓	✓
History	✓	✓
Mathematics	✓	✓
MFL French, German, Mandarin, Spanish	✓	✓
Music	✓	
Physical Education	✓	✓
Physics	✓	✓
Psychology		✓
Religious Education	✓	✓

# Partner Schools

## University Partners

The University of Birmingham

The University of Warwick

The University of Worcester

## Primary Partners

Beaconside Primary School

Coppice Primary School

Fairfield First School

Holywell Primary School

Hollywood Primary School

Lickey Hills Primary School

Meadow Green Primary School

Meadows First School

St Andrews CE First School

Tidbury Green Primary School

## Secondary Partners

Ark St Albans Academy

Birchensale Middle School

Christopher Whitehead Language College

Crestwood School & Sixth Form

Ellowes Hall Sports College

Hanley Castle High School

Kinver High School

Leasowes High School

Moseley School

Nunnery Wood High School

Pedmore High School

Trinity High School

Q3 Academy Great Barr

Q3 Academy Langley

Queen Mary's Grammar School

Wombourne High School

Woodrush High School



# Entry Requirements



## 01

Grade C/4 in GCSE examinations in **English and Mathematics**, and all that intend to train to teach Primary additionally have achieved a grade C/4 in the GCSE examination **Science**.

All entrants hold a **degree** of a United Kingdom higher education institution or equivalent qualification. For primary, the University of Birmingham ideally seek 2.1 and above but a good amount of experience can support a 2.2.

## 02



## Selection Process

Once you have submitted an application, the lead school and university will decide whether to call you for interview. As Woodrush work with 3 university's the interview stage varies for each institution.



**UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM**

Selection process with Lead School

Formal Interview

Task to include Storytelling session



**WARWICK**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Selection process with Lead School

Formal Interview

Data Task and Mini Lesson Task



**University  
of Worcester**

Selection process with both the Lead School & University.

Formal Interview with school and university.

Written task and presentation



## Subject Knowledge Enhancement

If you want to teach a subject but do not quite have the experience or qualifications, do not be put off. You may still be able to train to teach these subjects (and be eligible for the bursaries they attract) by building up or refreshing your existing knowledge with a subject knowledge enhancement (SKE) programme. All the Universities we work with have links to SKE providers.



# Application Support

If you would like further support with your application, and the process of the interview stage then please do contact Woodrush TC. Our administration team will be on hand to offer guidance on the steps of submitting your application and the interview process.





# Primary School Direct Overview

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PGCE Primary in partnership with the University of Birmingham

*This programme is designed and delivered jointly by Woodrush Training Consortium and the University of Birmingham. You will typically undertake 50% of your training days on the UoB Edgbaston campus and 50% of your training days in your placement school.*

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All applicants to the Postgraduate Diploma in Primary Education must hold a degree from a UK Higher Education Institution. Normally, this should be a 2:2 or above (and this will be a condition of any offer where the degree is not already awarded). You must have a GCSE in Mathematics and English (Grade 4 or above\*), or an equivalent qualification which must be attained prior to making an application. GCSE Science (Grade 4) must also be attained as a condition of entry, where this has not already been obtained. We consider only pending Science GCSE. Candidates must have Maths and English GCSE when they apply. If you are offering a qualification other than a GCSE please check with us before making an application.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

Woodrush TC plays a key role in recruiting trainees and organising their school placements within the partnership. School Direct students join their schools at the start of the autumn term, for an extended period of induction.

You will have two placements throughout the course, spending more time at your lead school. In a typical week you will spend 4 days in school and 1 day receiving school-based training from experts based in our primary partner schools. Every trainee will have a dedicated and committed school-based mentor who is not only a skilled practitioner but will meet with you weekly to check progress and help you set targets. You will also have a lead mentor who will be a familiar face from interview to the day you pass your training year!

## ASSESSMENT

There are written aspects of the programme with assignments and school-based tasks and the programme is taught and assessed at Masters level.

The PGCE offers 60 credits at masters level and if you so wish you can return to the University of Birmingham once you have qualified and undertake a 2 year part time course which leads to the award of MA Teaching Studies.

# Woodrush/UoB Primary Calendar

## Year 2022 - 2023

Week beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 Sept	SBT	SBT	SBT-WR	SBT	SBT
12 Sept	University	University	University	University	University
19 Sept	School	School	School	School	SBT
26 Sept	School	School	School	School	SBT
3 Oct	School	School	School	School	SBT
10 Oct	School	School	School	School	SBT
17 Oct	University	University	University	University	University
24 Oct			Half Term		
31 Oct	School	School	School	School	SBT
7 Nov	School	School	School	School	SBT
14 Nov	School	School	School	School	SBT
21 Nov	School	School	School	School	SBT
28 Nov	University	University	University	University	University
5 Dec	School	School	School	School	SBT
12 Dec	SBT	School	School	School	School
19 Dec			Christmas		
26 Dec			Holiday		
2 Jan		University	University	SBT	SBT
9 Jan	School	School	School	School	SBT
16 Jan	School	School	School	School	SBT
23 Jan	School	School	School	School	SBT
30 Jan	School	School	School	School	SBT
6 Feb	School	School	School	School	SBT
13 Feb	School	School	School	University	University
20 Feb			Half Term		
27 Feb	School	School	School	School	SBT
6 March	School	School	School	School	SBT
13 March	School	School	School	School	SBT
20 March	School	School	School	School	SBT
27 March	University	School	School	School	SBT
3 April			Easter		
10 April			Holiday		
17 April	University	University	School	School	SBT
24 April	School	School	School	School	SBT
1 May	Bank Holiday	School	School	School	SBT
8 May	School	School	School	School	SBT
15 May	School	School	School	School	SBT
22 May	School	School	School	School	SBT
29 May			Half Term		
5 June	School	School	School	School	SBT
12 June	School	School	School	School	SBT-Cel
19 June	School	School	University	University	University
26 July	Extended SP3				
10 July	Extended SP3				
17 July	Extended SP3				

PGCE Secondary in partnership with the University of Warwick

*This programme is designed and delivered jointly by Woodrush Training Consortium and the University of Warwick. You will develop a secure subject knowledge base, and the ability to plan and teach so that all pupils learn and make good progress. You will also learn how to assess and evaluate learning and develop your teaching to ensure progress for all pupils.*

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All applicants to the Postgraduate Diploma in Secondary Education must hold a degree from a UK Higher Education Institution. Normally, this should be a 2:2 or above (and this will be a condition of any offer where the degree is not already awarded). You must have a GCSE in Mathematics and English (Grade 4 or above\*), or an equivalent qualification which must be attained **prior** to making an application. If you are offering a qualification other than a GCSE please check with us **before** making an application.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

As this is a school-led programme, the majority of training takes place in schools. There are three extended placements teaching in at least two different schools and two key stages. There are also many opportunities to gain additional experience in partner schools and settings. In a typical week you will spend 4 days in school and 1 day receiving training from either the University or in school on a consortium day.

## ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed at Masters level and all assignments are submitted in electronic form. Your tutors will give you formal feedback identifying the strengths of the academic piece, and offer any advice for future work. The current assessment methods consist of the following:

### Subject Studies (Master's level)

A series of assessments focusing on both educational theory and issues in your specialist subject (1 x 3000-word essay, 1 x Academic Poster.)

### Professional Enquiry (Master's level)

A reflective case study on an area of educational practice in your placement school(s) supported by a literature review (1 x 1000 word formative essay and 1 x 4000 word essay.)

### Professional Practice (Honour's level)

Meeting the Teachers' Standards at a Good or Outstanding level (Regular observations by mentors and Teaching Fellows; Tutorials; Professional Digital Portfolio, Viva Voce.)



# Woodrush/Warwick Secondary Calendar

## Year 2022 - 2023

VIC	wk	Monday	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Friday	
22-Aug-22	47						
29-Aug-22	48	Bank Holiday		Uni all subjects	Uni all subjects	Uni all subjects	
05-Sep-22	49	Placement	Placement	Alliance Day	ASync	Uni all subjects	
12-Sep-22	50	Uni all subjects	Placement	ASync	placement	Uni all subjects	
19-Sep-22	51	Placement	Placement	Placement	placement	Alliance day	
26-Sep-22	52	Subject	Placement	Placement	placement	Subject	
03-Oct-22	1	Subject	Placement	Placement	placement	Subject	
10-Oct-22	2	PrE	Placement	Placement	placement	PrE	
17-Oct-22	3	Subject	Placement	Placement	placement	Subject	
24-Oct-22	4	Reading Week					
31-Oct-22	5	PrE				PrE	
07-Nov-22	6	Subject				Subject	
14-Nov-22	7					Alliance Day	
21-Nov-22	8	Subject				Subject	
28-Nov-22	9	PrE				PrE	
05-Dec-22	10					RIA Conference	
12-Dec-22	11	Induction day for SPB any day this week				Tutorials	
19-Dec-22	12	All - Christmas Break					
26-Dec-22	13	All - Christmas Break					
02-Jan-23	14	SDirect SPB					
09-Jan-23	15	PrE				PrE	
16-Jan-23	16					Inclusion	
23-Jan-23	17	Subject				Subject	
30-Jan-23	18	PrE				PrE	
06-Feb-23	19	Subject				Subject	
13-Feb-23	20					Alliance Day	
20-Feb-23	21	Reading Week					
27-Feb-23	22	Subject				Subject	
06-Mar-23	23	PrE				PrE	
13-Mar-23	24	Subject				Subject	
20-Mar-23	25	PrE				PrE	
27-Mar-23	26	Uni				Uni	
03-Apr-23	27	Easter Holiday (All LAs start on Fri 3W3 and return on Mon 17/4)					
10-Apr-23	28	Easter Holiday					
17-Apr-23	29	Subject				Subject	
24-Apr-23	30	Ice Day (PrE Day - Int)					
01-May-23	31					Alliance day	
08-May-23	32	Subject				Subject	
15-May-23	33	Subject				Subject	
22-May-23	34	Uni				Uni	
29-May-23	35	Bank Holiday	Reading Week				
05-Jun-23	36	Viva	Vivas	Viva	Vivas	Viva	Vivas
12-Jun-23	37	Viva	Vivas	Viva	Vivas	Viva	Vivas
19-Jun-23	38	Viva	Vivas	Viva	Vivas	Viva	Vivas
26-Jun-23	39						Course Completion
03-Jul-23	40	Additional days in School as required.					
10-Jul-23	41						
17-Jul-23	42						
		SD Base School Placement				Uni Days - Monday Group	
		Core PP1 Placement				Uni Days - Friday Group	
		Core PP2/ SD Comp Placement				Special events - all in university	
		Alliance/Lore Days (3 are optional)				Support Sessions	

PGCE Secondary in partnership with the University of Worcester

*This programme is designed and delivered jointly by Woodrush Training Consortium and the University of Worcester. It gives you full immersion in the daily life of a school and all the existing rewards and challenges that it brings.*

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All applicants to the Postgraduate Diploma in Secondary Education must hold a degree from a UK Higher Education Institution. Normally, this should be a 2:2 or above (and this will be a condition of any offer where the degree is not already awarded). You must have a GCSE in Mathematics and English (Grade 4 or above\*), or an equivalent qualification which must be attained **prior** to making an application. If you are offering a qualification other than a GCSE please check with us **before** making an application.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

As this is a school-led programme, the majority of training takes place in schools. There are three extended placements teaching in at least two different schools and two key stages. There are also many opportunities to gain additional experience in partner schools and settings. The school professional studies programme runs in parallel to the university taught sessions in both subjects and exploring wider issues of education and society. In a typical week you will spend 4 days in school and 1 day receiving school-based training from experts based in our secondary partner schools.

## ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed on the basis of coursework including 2 written assignments, as well as on your teaching practice. To gain qualified teacher status (QTS) you must demonstrate that you can meet the Teachers' Standards. The standards set a clear baseline of expectations for the professional practice and conduct of teachers, from the point of qualification. Trainees are required to monitor and direct their own progress, with the support of mentors and tutors. The teaching experience assessment is based on a portfolio which allows you to monitor your own developing competence and from this reflection set targets to improve teaching and learning in your classroom.



# Key Information

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- You will see an example of term dates. Holidays **must not** be taken in school time. Medical appointments, unless emergency, must be outside of school time. As a general rule you need to keep yourself available the last week of August 2023 till late July 2024.
- Please note that that schools can have different school holidays so avoid booking holiday until you know your placement school.
- There are no payments available for travel expenses to placements or University training sessions.
- You will need to complete a DBS check through the university and will need to pass a right to study check. The University will give you details on this. Your DBS must be shown to each school you are placed at on your first day.
- It is your responsibility to apply for funding/bursaries.
- We aim to inform you if you are successful after interview in gaining a place to teach within 5 school days. The formal offer on the DFE portal is normally within 10 school days.
- You may have conditions on your offer such as completing an equivalency test.
- If you receive a reject you can request feedback via telephone.
- If you receive an offer but decide to reject we will contact you for feedback to help with our tracking and to improve our interview experience for future candidates.





# Prospects

## Job opportunities in the consortium

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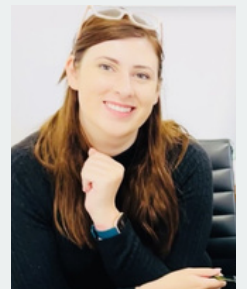
As there are over 25 schools in Woodrush Training Consortium your chances of employment either at your placement school or a school within the consortium increases. Many of our trainees gain employment within the consortium, with some gaining employment at their placement school. As part of your training you will have a whole day of focusing on applications and interviews. This involves sessions on what headteachers are looking for and also a mock interview with a member of the senior leadership team.

## Woodrush Alumni

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*"As a Woodrush Training Consortium Alumni, I'm glad I chose school direct as my pathway into teaching; it gave me an additional route of support through all my placements, alongside the university staff, and a wealth of additional expertise from specialists weekly, including mock interviews to prepare me for job hunting. I felt supported, week in and week out, that my practise was being encouraged and guided, and my well-being treated as a priority. Through my school direct route, I was able to build strong, positive, working relationships in my **placement schools**, with both students and staff. I had more time in school, to hone my lesson plans to students individual needs, which was also influenced by Woodrush's weekly professional skills sessions, and allowed me to show my abilities to my school as a potential employer.*

*Woodrush Training Consortium staff already had working relationships with the consortium partner schools which meant there was open communication about my abilities and progress, so when it was time to start looking for a job I had the knowledge and abilities which the consortium partner schools were looking for! Woodrush allowed me a more hands on approach to teacher training so I felt a lot more prepared for a full time teaching position and can now focus on improving my practise through my ECT years at my placement school. Every day's a school day, and I look forward to a never ending education, from my start as a Woodrush Training Consortium trainee".*



Miss Siviter  
Class of 2022

# Dispelling myths about school-led teacher training

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There are lots of misconceptions about school-led training that arise frequently. Below we answer some of the most common questions.

**Myth: I'll get thrown in the deep end, teaching classes by myself early on.**

Fact: You are part of a team from the start and receive intensive support from experienced teachers in the classroom. You will not be teaching classes unsupported until the school thinks you are ready, and opportunities will exist to build networks with fellow trainees.

**Myth: I'll only train in one school - I want something broader than this.**

Fact: To become a qualified teacher, you have to take training placements in two schools. Trainees will train in at least two schools, and will usually spend time in other schools too.

**Myth: There's no academic or theoretical training. I won't get a PGCE.**

Fact: You will spend plenty of time in academic training, comparable to the university led route. Our school led courses result in a Masters-level qualification such as a PGCE as well as qualified teacher status (QTS).

**Myth: Don't most people just go to university to do teacher training?**

Fact: School-led routes into teaching have been around for many years, and have very high rates of trainee satisfaction. Half of postgraduate teacher training places are school led.



# Trainee Evaluations

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*"This time last year I was so frustrated with where I was in my previous role and I feel like I've been given a new beginning - I have loved every single day of my job this year. Thank you so much!"*

*"I have had such a fantastic year and am so excited to be starting my new career. The training has been brilliant and so supportive. Thank you for making me a teacher."*

*"Thank you for all the support over the past year. Not sure if I would have been able to do it without you guys!"*

*"The staff are so supportive, I gained valuable feedback for all of my lessons and planning. The lead mentor provides encouraging specific targets".*

*"The training was so useful and very thorough, I felt confident discussing my concerns and felt like part of a team".*

*"I enjoyed networking on the training consortium days, everyone was very approachable. The training was very practical & easily applied".*

*"The lead mentor always sorts things out and delivers quality and invaluable training, she is passionate & enthusiastic about teaching".*

*"My mentor was flexible & supportive, I trained in a friendly and enjoyable atmosphere".*

*"It was easy to access anyone I needed. The training included experienced and informed guest speakers".*





# INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING

WITH  
WOODRUSH TC



@WoodrushTC

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