

Concorde Partnership PGCE School Direct training to teach

2TZ4 Primary 2016-17

Training Provider Information

About the Partnership

The Concorde Partnership is based on 5 local institutions with a common vision and approach.

The Olympus Academy Trust has 2 good secondary schools, Abbeywood Community School and Bradley Stoke Community School. Abbeywood and Bradley Stoke Community Schools are in brand new buildings with purpose-built facilities. Bradley Stoke Community School has a primary phase which opened in September 2015.

The Trust also works in partnership with The Academy of Trinity Primary School and Dundry C of E Primary School.

<http://www.academyoftrinity.com>

<http://www.bradleystokecs.org.uk/primary-phase>

<http://www.charboroughroadschool.co.uk>

<http://www.meadowbrookprimary.co.uk>

<http://www.dundry.com>

The other members of the Partnership are:

South Gloucestershire and Stroud College has hubs in Filton and Stroud and is principally a provider of Post 16 education but is also responsible for a brand new UTC (University Technology College specialist 14-19 provider) which is about to be built in Berkeley, north of Bristol, and which will require specialist Computing and ICT teachers when it opens. It was recently judged to be good with outstanding aspects.

The newest member of the Concorde Partnership is Bristol Technology and Engineering Academy which is also a UTC and opened in 2013. It provides an engineering-based curriculum for 14-19 year olds who join from schools across the West of England. It is in new, purpose-built specialist facilities adjacent to Abbeywood Community School and South Gloucestershire and Stroud College's Stoke Gifford campus. It was judged to be providing a good education at its first inspection recently.

The member institutions of the Concorde Partnership are all within 3 miles of one another and are fully committed to working in partnership together. Students have the opportunity to study in other centres from age 14 and in some cases courses are shared between institutions with teaching taking place in 2 centres. This requires planning and collaboration. Trainees will get access to this level of partnership working and the diversity of learning that it can provide.

www.abbeywoodschool.com

www.bradleystokecs.org.uk

www.sgscol.ac.uk

www.bteacademy.co.uk

www.patchwaycc.com

Accommodation

We are unable to provide accommodation

Child Care Facilities

We are unable to provide child care facilities but may be able to signpost towards local provision.

Disability Access

We are able to provide full access and support for disabilities - please ask for further information.

Public Transport

There are good public transport links around our centres and they are close together. Further information can be provided on request.

Special Features

There will be an opportunity to spend time in a secondary school which also works in the Concorde Partnership (Abbeywood Community School, Bradley Stoke Community School (secondary phase), Patchway Community College and Bristol Technology and Engineering Academy (UTC)) and some trainees may also visit other institutions, such as special schools or colleges of further education.

Student Facilities

We are very close to the University of the West of England and within easy reach of Bristol city centre. Trainees will have access to study facilities at the university.

Study Facilities

There will be space for trainees to study within a school setting but all trainees will also have access to the library at the university which is close at hand. Much of the training time will be spent in the specialist Science areas in the schools.

Where to Find Us

We are very close to the University of the West of England and all our centres are within 3 miles of one another. Maps and directions are available on each centre's website.

Why train with us?

We are able to provide a unique learning experience, which will provide diverse opportunities through school-based training, whilst also offering links to the expertise of the University of the West of England for aspects of the core teacher training programme. There will be opportunities to learn with other trainees via the Cabot Learning Federation, which is a large provider of School Direct training for other subjects in the local area. You will be part of a cohort of up to 70 PGCE students training for Primary Teaching and, at Secondary, in Product Design/Design Technology, Mathematics, English, Computer Science, Chemistry and Physics.

The Concorde Partnership is geographically the closest group of providers of secondary education to the University of the West of England. This enables trainees to benefit from the learning facilities at the university, whilst having ease of access to the teaching facilities in the schools and college. Within the Concorde Partnership there is diversity in the providers and the settings they offer. The tutors for the Primary PGCE programme will be based in the primary schools where they teach for most of the week. As such, they are expert practitioners who will support trainees in becoming members of the teaching teams in at least two of the primary schools during the year. Many of the teaching staff have been mentors for PGCE students over the years and are confident and skilled in school-based aspects of the training programme. The lead tutor has a great deal of experience leading Primary PGCE, Schools Direct and GTP programmes.

The programme will offer exposure to a number of different primary school settings, with placements in two of them, in addition to training time at UWE and with the cohort of trainees at the Cabot Learning Federation.

Entry Requirements

Applicants normally have a good honours degree (normally 2:1 minimum). If you intend to train for upper primary then you will specialise in a National Curriculum subject in which you have at least an A level qualification.

All applicants should also have GCSE grade C or above in mathematics, science and English language.

You should be able to demonstrate recent experience of observing or supporting teaching in your subject area. This must be conducted in a primary school (minimum of 10 working days or two weeks equivalent within the last three years).

Please note that this course starts in late August with an induction week. We are unable to agree any requests for holiday due to the number of days required to complete the course.

You can apply through [UCAS Teacher Training](#) now to start in 2016. There are a limited number of places for the programme, so you should apply as early as possible to give yourself the best chance of obtaining a place. We will close the course once we have filled all available places. Please read through the [UCAS Teacher Training](#) pages carefully for guidance on how to apply. If you have any specific questions these should be directed to Jenny Sutton Kirby (jenny.suttonkirby@bradleystokecs.org.uk).

Additional Requirements

Applicants must pass an initial selection process and short-listed candidates will be invited for interview. All offers will be subject to satisfactory health checks.

Disclosure of Criminal Background

Applicants who are offered a place must undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and will be required to complete a Disclosure Application Form. All information will be treated in confidence and only taken into account when absolutely necessary.

If you would like information regarding issues that could disqualify you from teaching training, please contact us on +44 (0)1454 868872 or contact Jenny Sutton Kirby on jenny.suttonkirby@bradleystokecs.org.uk.

Department for Education Professional Skills Tests

All trainee teachers are required to pass skills tests in numeracy and literacy before they can be recommended for the award of qualified teacher status (QTS) and before starting their course. We recommend that you complete the skills tests in Numeracy and Literacy as soon as possible after you have submitted an application for an Initial Teacher Education programme. If practical, you should take these tests before any interview that you may be invited for, but if this is not possible, you should take them as soon as possible thereafter. If you have not passed the tests at the interview stage, any offer will be conditional until you have passed both tests. You will need to pass both tests by 30th June. Information about the tests can be found at [The Department for Education](#).

Standards and Requirements

Following the review of Standards and Requirements for Initial Teacher Training (ITT) by the Secretary of State in 2012 (revised in June 2013), our full-time courses have been designed to be compliant with the [latest standards and requirements](#).

Deferrals

The Department of Education is not able to approve deferrals under any circumstances. Applicants unable to start their programme during the year of application will be required to withdraw and re-apply the following year.

For Further Information

Telephone: +44 (0)1454 868872 E-mail: If you have any specific questions these should be directed to Jenny Sutton Kirby (jenny.suttonkirby@bradleystokecs.org.uk)

What We Are Looking For

We are looking for creative and dynamic individuals who can motivate and inspire young people. We are looking for ambitious trainee teachers who are passionate and enthusiastic about wanting to become teachers and have a desire to work with young people of all abilities in the primary age range. Resilience and determination, self-awareness and willingness to learn through success and mistakes are essential personal attributes for a career in teaching.

In your application you should demonstrate that you have had meaningful experience of working with young people of primary age. For example, you may have been involved with some work with young people in previous jobs or on a voluntary basis. You may have direct experience in schools through visits which you have organised or through some other scheme. We will also expect you to be able to write in your application about what interests you in teaching, what you think you have to offer and what you think you have to learn.

We will expect you to show a commitment to primary teaching and demonstrate an enthusiasm and desire to be around young people. Your first degree can be in any relevant subject - for more details of this you should contact us if you are unsure of the suitability of the degree subject you have studied. We will expect you to have some basic ICT skills to build on but will not necessarily expect these to be directly linked to how ICT is used in teaching that will be part of your work on the programme.

We expect applicants to come from a wide range of backgrounds and, therefore, with a wide range of skills. This is a strength of the programme as it allows us to use your differences so that you can learn from one another. Some trainee teachers will be coming straight from a first degree, some will be making a fairly early career change, some will be returning to study and work after spending time bringing up children and some will be changing career later in life. All are very welcome and we believe our School Direct Programme is enriched by this variety.

The Aims of the Programme

We will support you in becoming a confident, competent, creative and effective primary school teacher; you will develop your practical knowledge and theoretical understanding to successfully work with primary school children. We will enable you to continue your professional development in order that you can become an innovator, capable of active involvement in the future evolution of primary education.

How We Select Our Trainees

How to Apply

You can apply through UCAS Teacher Training now to start in 2016. There are a limited number of places for the programme, so you should apply as early as possible to give yourself the best chance of obtaining a place. We will close the course once we have filled all available places. Please read through the UCAS Teacher Training pages carefully for guidance on how to apply.

The Selection Process

Applicants must pass an initial selection process and short-listed candidates will be invited for interview, which may include some observed activities in the classroom. All offers will be subject to satisfactory health checks.

About this Training Programme

The Primary School Direct Postgraduate Certificate in Education is a one academic year (37-week) course that trains graduates to be primary school teachers. The programme has been designed to train teachers for the full primary age phase (4-11). You are assessed against the standards for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). Additionally you will be given the opportunity to engage in some observation in secondary settings if that interests you.

The course offers an exciting and developmental model of training to teach with an emphasis on developing your professional competence alongside ensuring a high level of knowledge, skills and understanding. This is also underpinned by a clear understanding of the philosophy of teaching across the primary age and ability range.

The course is just the beginning of what we hope will be a process of continual professional development throughout a challenging and rewarding career.

Structure: Content

The programme recognises that teaching children of early years and primary age is rewarding and challenging and aims to produce teachers who are creative, resourceful, reflective, and professional. Working alongside the UWE programme, you will develop the skills to succeed in contemporary classrooms demonstrating a capacity to be creative and innovative. You will be supported in acquiring the skills you need to teach reading, English and mathematics and the new primary curriculum, linking in educational theory and research with your practical experiences. The course is designed to produce primary teachers who are reflective practitioners and who are constantly learning, growing and questioning themselves.

You will spend the majority of your training based in two of our five contrasting schools. In school you will work alongside class teachers and teaching assistants starting with observation in classes and working towards shared planning for learning. You will have two placements during which you will take on more of the teaching for small groups and whole classes. Over time you will be encouraged to develop a specialism in order to support your employment and placement in schools.

You will be encouraged to work collaboratively and to share your knowledge, skills and understanding with other trainees through small group projects. There will be a range of assessments linked to the UWE programme.

Study Time: Personal Support

Although we have links with the university for the accreditation for the programme and there will be academic support linked to that, the great advantage of training with the Concorde Partnership is that it is bespoke and focused on individual trainees as we will have a small cohort who will have a personalised training experience.

Assessment

In order to pass the course, trainees are required to pass each unit. They are assessed on a number of written assignments and also on classroom practice against the standards specified by the Secretary of State for the award of Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).

Special Features: Placements

24 weeks are spent on placement: a total of eight weeks in one placement during the autumn term and 16 weeks in a second placement during the spring and summer.

As well as teaching, the programme includes contact time with tutors, directed study time and personal study time.

There will be an opportunity to spend time in a primary school and some trainees may also visit other institutions, such as special schools or colleges of further education.

Study facilities

There will be space for trainees to study within a school setting but all trainees will also have access to the library at the university which is close at hand. Much of the training time will be spent in the specialist Science areas in the schools.

Careers/Further Study

The Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) programmes now include 40 credits of assessment at Master's Level (Level M). If you opt not to attempt the requisite credit at Level M, a Professional Graduate Certificate in Education will be available as an alternative award.

For further information on your career in teaching, including salary scales and case studies of current trainee teachers, visit www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching.

Fees

The PGCE is financed as an undergraduate course with annual fees of £9,000

For funding options, please see [funding for PGCE students](#).