



WEST LONDON TEACHING SCHOOL ALLIANCE
SCHOOL DIRECT TEACHER TRAINING 2020-21

in partnership with



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

UCAS
COURSE
CODE
2XW7

SALARIED PHYSICS QTS

UCAS Provider 2BV

West London Teaching School Alliance (Secondary)

This programme is available at

- ◆ Fulham Cross Academy, SW6
- ◆ West London Free School, W6



APPLY ONLINE THROUGH www.ucas.com

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1 About this Course

1.1 Qualification Outcome

This course **2XW7** leads to QTS. Further clarity on the significance of different teacher training qualifications can be found [here](#).

1.2 Special Features

This course is run by the West London Teaching School Alliance (WLTSA) as Provider in partnership with (and accredited by) St Mary's University, Twickenham.

WLTSA enables you to choose your host school at application. Later, if there is a teaching vacancy in your host school and they want to retain you, you can be employed fairly seamlessly for the following year **without the post being advertised**. By becoming a WLTSA trainee, all our other secondary schools could also employ you this way and we operate a pool.

Our aim is to produce exceptional teachers who can then remain in alliance schools, continuing to further their career with the benefit of our on-going CPD.

1.3 The Training

Most schools need you to be able to teach at least one of the three sciences to A-Level, and to be willing and able to teach all three Sciences at Key Stage 3 and ideally to GCSE. We can help you learn to do so.

Your training will be predominantly based in your host (employing) school other than

- approx. 10 days at the university across the year; and
- your second placement for approx. 6 weeks at another WLTSA school.

You will register with the university and meet with your University Tutor who will begin to work with you on a needs analysis for a Training Plan (TP) in term one. This will be reworked in term two and three between you, your school mentor and university tutor.



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At school, through an initial programme of observations, you will become familiar with the workings of the school and department (pupil groups, pastoral systems, staffing, curriculum, resources, facilities, methods of teaching, lesson planning, and assessment).

You will be treated like a member of the teaching staff and with your school mentors, you will feel supported as you become ready to teach. Our mentors are excellent experienced teachers who undertake rigorous training to develop their mentoring skills.

Throughout your time in both schools, your university tutor visits you to monitor your progress and discuss your development with you and your school mentors. You will maintain close links with your host school throughout the programme.

You will have the opportunity to teach across KS3/KS4 and to support KS5.

KS3 topics include elements and chemical reactions, cell biology, nutrition and digestion, atoms, energy and forces.

2 Interviews

2.1 Two-Stage Interview

If shortlisted for interview, you would attend a two-stage interview process.

First, a full day university interview including some time for the university registry team to verify various identification documents and qualification certificates. In addition to their panel interview, you may be required to undertake group tasks with other candidates and some subject knowledge testing.

The school interview will take place at your chosen host school usually in the morning, approx. 4 days later.

You will be asked to bring to both interviews, originals of your relevant qualification certificates (most importantly the degree and maths and English GCSE's or equivalent).

If you are still taking your degree or equivalency tests, that's fine but if you don't have access to original certificates of exams already taken (for your degree and maths and English GCSEs in particular) this is something that you should start to resolve now. If you don't have them in time for the interview, please be assured that we could still make an offer to you but it would be subject to later verification of original certificates and sometimes certified copies can take a couple of months to arrive.

See also the link in Section 6 below, regarding overseas qualifications.

2.2 Interview Dates

We try to ensure that you have at least a week's notice of interviews. Dates already set for the first stage university interviews can be found [here](#).

3 How School Placements Work

3.1 Selecting a School

With WLTSa you select **the main host school**. We then later arrange your second placement at another contrasting WLTSa school to provide greater depth to your training experience.

The characters and location of our schools are varied. When deciding on your preferred host school, we need you to consider where you might eventually like to work and how accessible it is to where you live.

The schools seeking trainees on this particular course are listed below.

- Fulham Cross Academy, SW6
- West London Free School,

You can read descriptions of both of these schools in our overall [WLTSa Secondary School Summary Descriptions](#). Our [Map of WLTSa Schools](#) may also be helpful.

Please be aware that we have other [WLTSa secondary courses](#) at other schools including a separate unsalaried Physics course 2XW6 and another unsalaried Physics course BN9I to be run in a special needs school. Both of the unsalaried courses come with access to an extremely high bursary making them broadly on a par financially, with this salaried course. You can make three choices overall when you apply.

3.2 The technical bit!

You don't have to restrict yourself to one school within a course, but each school would count as one application and you get three choices overall in Round 1. Please also be aware that we have so many partner schools that we have been forced to split artificially on UCAS into three provider names. See [How to apply & how to choose more than one school on a course](#).

3.3 Be strategic when you apply

You can always ring us up to ask how many applications (if any) are being considered by different schools at the point that you are about to apply. We also keep our website up to date so that you can see which schools have already shortlisted and are interviewing.

We commonly interview individually whenever a good application is received.

4 Salary

4.1 Two-Stage Interview

The successful candidate in any maintained school will be paid a salary by the employing host school in line with the 'Non-Qualified Teacher Pay Range 2020-21', normally at the Point 1 level. This government pay range is expected to be published in Sept. 2020.

As a guide, Point 1 on the Unqualified Teacher Pay Range this academic year (**2019-20**) is:

- £22,237 (for a school in Inner London)
- £21,004 (for a school in outer London)

One exception to this is Free Schools who set their own trainee salary levels, usually at a similar level.

The tuition fee for this course will be covered by WLTSa.

Trainees on salaried programmes are not eligible for bursaries or student loans.

Please note that we are unable to sponsor anyone who would otherwise not have the right to take up employment in this country.

4.2 Interview Dates

We try to ensure that you have at least a week's notice of interviews. Dates already set for the first stage university interviews can be found [here](#).

5 Financial Support

WLTSa pays the tuition fees on this programme and so you have no fees to pay. DfE bursaries and loans are not available to those on salaried programmes.

6 Course Requirements

6.1 Qualifications Needed

- A scientific honours degree (at least 2.2) ideally in Physics and two sciences at A-Level.
- Two Sciences at A-Level standard.

We may consider alternatively well-qualified mature candidates or those whose studies indicate breadth of scientific knowledge but early application is recommended because we may require you to attend a Physics Subject Knowledge Course before the teacher training begins.

- Five GCSEs at least at Grade C (or grade 4 for GCSEs sat in 2017 onwards) or the equivalent) including English Language and Mathematics.

Where appropriate, please read our important guidance [Overseas Qualifications & GCSE Equivalency Tests](#).

We require energetic and committed applicants with excellent subject knowledge in Science and ideally previous experience that might enable a faster progression into teaching than on an unsalaried course.

By the end of the course you will need to be able to demonstrate proficiency in functional (everyday) English and numeracy. In some interviews you may therefore be tested to assess your current level.

6.2 Personal Qualities

We want you to have passion and enthusiasm. We need trainees who can engage and inspire students to a love of learning, who are:

- committed to championing their students;
- open to learn about children's physical/social/emotional/cognitive needs and how these can affect behaviour;
- in good health with the ability to cope with stress. Teaching is incredibly rewarding, but it also requires an element of resilience!
- professional and committed to equal opportunities;
- able to communicate well in written/spoken English, with at least basic computer skills and commitment to developing these.
- have a sense of humour and an ability to laugh at yourself.

6.3 Other requirements

We will look for a level of maturity (irrespective of age) to operate as a responsible salaried member of staff.

A realistic understanding of the role of a teacher and some current issues facing the profession is also important. It can help to spend a couple of days observing relevant lessons in a state secondary school to strengthen your application but this observation is not a strict requirement in itself. [Top tips for getting some observational experience](#).

Offers are conditional on satisfactory outcome of DBS and occupational health checks both administered through the school after an offer is accepted.

7 About the West London Teaching School Alliance

7.1 Who are we?

We are a large alliance of 60 schools: nurseries, primaries, special needs, secondaries, sixth forms; faith and non-faith, maintained schools, independent schools and free schools. We have formal partnership arrangements with three universities.

Most of our schools are in Hammersmith & Fulham and Kensington & Chelsea, but we also have schools in Westminster, Richmond, Twickenham, Ealing, Isleworth, Hounslow, Hillingdon and Southwark.

The central Teaching School Office for WLTA is based at Sacred Heart High School, in Hammersmith.

7.2 Our approach to trainee recruitment

We pride ourselves in the support that we provide potential applicants and in the speed of our shortlisting. We have a detailed website which is a good place to start. We also hold two weekly [information sessions](#) to explain the qualifications; routes into teaching; finance; and how to secure a place!

‘That’s the first time that I have ever properly understood it all. Brilliant!’ Applicant 2018.

The Teaching School Office is staffed full time with experts to talk to on the phone.

You choose the schools when you apply. If you perform well but fail to get a place at your preferred school, we continue to work with you, recommending you to other WLTA schools of your choice rather than rejecting you.

We place significant emphasis on getting a good fit between trainee and school because we are all keenly focussed on recruitment for qualified teachers in our alliance schools the following year.

[Further opportunities to develop your career with WLTA](#)

7.3 The Accrediting Body

This WLTA course is accredited by St Mary’s University, Twickenham. In 2000, St Mary’s celebrated 150 years in Education.

With just under 4,000 students training to teach on primary and secondary, they are now London’s second largest teacher training course provider and in 2019 the St Mary’s Institute of Education was once again rated Ofsted ‘Outstanding’.

Course tutors at St Mary’s are all skilful teachers themselves, with many years of experience in schools and higher education. Schools in the Alliance have excellent relationships with the university.

7.4 Training with a disability

WLTA and all our partner universities are committed to supporting students with disabilities. Please contact us as early as possible in your application process so that your needs are met and support can be arranged.

You can also find support and information from the university accrediting the programme that you hope to apply for:

St Mary’s University: St Mary’s offer advice and support to their students who have requirements as a result of a disability, specific learning difficulty (e.g. dyslexia), medical condition or temporary disability, such as injury. St Mary’s Dyslexia and Disability Co-ordinator (DDC) works closely with the other members of the Student Services team, supporting students in their time at university assisting them to be proactive in their studies as an independent learner. <http://www.smuc.ac.uk/student-support/dyslexia-and-disability/>

8 Contact Details

8.1 Website

www.wlta.org.uk

8.2 Teaching School Office

The Teaching School Office team administers all WLTA teacher training recruitment.

Please email us with queries and when you do, please include your phone number.

adijkhuis@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk / pcurrey@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk

You can also call us on **0208 748 7600** (Alex Dijkhuis x290 & Pippa Currey x466)