



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

*in partnership with*



Institute of Education

UCAS  
COURSE  
CODE  
**36CJ**

# UNSALARIED PSYCHOLOGY PGCE(M)+QTS

**UCAS Provider 2BV**

West London Teaching School Alliance (Secondary)

*This programme is available at*

- ◆ Sacred Heart High School, W6
- ◆ St Richard Reynolds Catholic College, TW1
- ◆ West London Free school, W6

**Get Started  
Today!**

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# 1 About this Course

## 1.1 Qualification Outcome

This course **36CJ** leads to PGCE (M) 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) in partnership with (and accredited by) UCL (institute of Education). We make prompt shortlisting decisions and will liaise with you quickly if we need additional information.

WLTSA enables you to choose your host school at application. Later, if there is a teaching vacancy 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

You would enrol at the university and would attend all the [same university sessions](#) with those who had applied through the university and with other school partnerships; have full access to university facilities and mentors; and the university still awards your PGCE. WLTSA selects a second contrasting school for your 'away' placement.



*UCL Institute of Education*

This programme prepares students to teach psychology in a flexible and exciting way.

UCL draws on current research to inform a student's psychology and social science teaching, encouraging them to engage with recent debates, literature and policy in the field. Our underlying aim is to develop students as reflective and highly skilled teachers.

The programme is delivered via keynote lectures, subject lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials and directed study days at the university, together with time in school.

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 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 will visit you on a regular basis and liaise with your school mentor regarding your training and development. Your university tutor will carry out your final assessment in school against the national Teachers' Standards.

## 2 Interviews

We consider each application as it comes in, individually and we try to ensure that you have at least a week's notice of the interviews.

### 2.1 Covid Changes

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The interview process for this course may change as the year progresses depending on the Covid situation.

Prior to Covid, we had a two-stage process with one initial interview at your chosen host school, and then the successful candidate would be referred for a second interview at the university.

The school interview included an opportunity for you to join a class to either assist or to teach something for a short time. At the university you would take part in a combination of group and individual interviews with members of the programme team, and may also be asked to undertake written or presentation tasks, depending on your subject. You will have the opportunity to take a self-guided campus tour.

We have now moved to a new system where both these interviews are online.

### 2.2 Online Interviews

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If your application is deemed to be sufficiently good, the school will contact you with technical arrangements for the first stage online interview. If successful we will refer you on for the second stage online interview with the university. The university will contact you with technical arrangements for this.

We anticipate that the online system will persist certainly throughout the autumn term, and possibly for the remainder of the year.

## 3 How School Placements Work

### 3.1 Choosing your School

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

The schools offering a place on this Psychology course is

- Sacred Heart High School, W6
- St Richard Reynolds Catholic College, TW1
- West London Free school, W6

You can read a description of West London Free in our overall [WLTA Secondary School Summary Descriptions](#). Our [Map of WLTA Schools](#) may also be helpful.

Please be aware that we have other [WLTA secondary courses](#) at other schools. You can make three choices overall when you apply.

### 3.2 The technical bit!

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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](#).

If you apply to more than one of our schools, it's helpful if you email us confidentially to confirm which is your first choice so that we can try to ensure a sensible order for the interviews.

### 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 Fees

The tuition fee for this course is £9,250 payable to UCL.

## 5 Financial Support

The DfE does not offer bursaries for Psychology.

### 5.1 Student Loans for Fees and for Maintenance

You may be eligible for a [loan while you study](#) - you'll have to apply for that [undergraduate student finance](#). You can take out a student loan even if you already have an undergraduate loan. Loans for tuition fees are not means tested (whereas loans for maintenance are means tested) but you should confirm this using the link.

### 5.2 Other Finance Support

While not provided directly by WLTA, please be aware that as a full time student you would be eligible for cheaper travel in London using a student oyster card and in many boroughs you can get a reduction on your council tax payments.

### 5.3 Overseas Students

Find out about financial support if you're from [outside the UK](#).

## 6 Course Requirements

### 6.1 Qualifications Needed

- A UK Bachelor's degree at 2.2 or above (or equivalent) with at least 50% Psychology content.  
*The equivalence of all overseas degrees is verified by UCL according to their requirements for international qualifications. This is in addition to any assessments by NARIC.*
- Preferably Psychology A-Level at grade C, plus an additional social science or humanities subject.
- At least GCSE Grade C (or 5) in English Language and Mathematics (or equivalent qualifications).

Where appropriate, please read our important guidance on [Overseas Qualifications](#) and if necessary also about [GCSE Equivalency tests](#)

Offers are conditional on satisfactory outcome of a Disclosure & Barring Service check and an occupational health check both administered through the university after an offer is accepted. The total cost of these checks is approx. £157.

WLTA complies with all UCL's Psychology requirements.

## 6.2 Personal Qualities

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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

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A realistic understanding of the role of a teacher and some current issues facing the profession is also important. We recognise that it may not be possible to spend a couple of days observing relevant lessons in a state secondary school but this observation is not a ‘requirement’ and we recognise that it is unlikely to be possible for anyone while schools are maintaining discrete separation of their pupils in relation to Covid. [Top tips for getting some observational experience.](#)

# 7 About the West London Teaching School Alliance

## 7.1 Who are we?

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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

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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 but we have also recorded our [‘WLTA Get into Teaching presentation’](#) (with slides) to explain the different qualifications; different routes into teaching; finance; and how it all works!

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

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 WLTSa](#)

### **7.3 The Accrediting Body**

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Our university partner for this programme is UCL Institute of Education (IOE), a global leader in teacher education. Their programmes are recognised by Ofsted as 'outstanding' in every criterion across Primary and Secondary education.

Its central location in historic Bloomsbury means that you will be studying in the heart of London. The London Underground station at Russell Square is minutes from the main building and King's Cross, St Pancras and Euston stations are also close by.

You can view UCL's online teacher training prospectus is here:-

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/teacher-training-programmes>

### **7.4 Training with a disability**

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WLTSa 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:

School Direct students can access the services provided by UCL's Student Support and Wellbeing team. See the following web page for full details:-

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/students/student-support-and-wellbeing>

## **8 Contact Details**

### **8.1 Website**

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[www.wltsa.org.uk](http://www.wltsa.org.uk)

### **8.2 Teaching School Office**

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

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

[adijkhuis@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk](mailto:adijkhuis@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk) / [pcurrey@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk](mailto:pcurrey@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk)

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