



WEST LONDON TEACHING SCHOOL ALLIANCE
SCHOOL DIRECT TEACHER TRAINING 2021-22

in partnership with



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

UCAS
COURSE
CODE
2Y38

UNSALARIED PHYSICAL EDUCATION PGCE(M)+QTS

UCAS Provider 2BV

West London Teaching School Alliance (Secondary)

This programme is available at

- ◆ Gumley House School, TW7 (female only)
- ◆ Sacred Heart High School, W6 (female only)

**Get Started
Today!**

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1 About this Course

1.1 Qualification Outcome

This course **2Y38** leads to PGCE (M) QTS. 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) St Mary's University, Twickenham. We make prompt shortlisting decisions and will liaise with you quickly if we need additional information.

WLTSA enables you to choose your host school. 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 attend all the same university sessions with those who had applied through the university; 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.



St Mary's University, Twickenham

As a guide: [Typical timetable](#)

Lectures would include teaching, assessing, classroom management and child protection. Subject seminars are led by your university tutor.

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 visits you to monitor your progress and discuss your development with you and your school mentors.

As a trainee PE teacher, you will have the opportunity to teach KS3 and KS4 PE. You will also have experience of teaching GCSE. There may be opportunities for you to support KS5 in either your host or second placement school.

You will also be an active part of the extracurricular PE provision such as sports clubs, training and fixtures. Examples of KS3 activities taught in the different schools vary but football, netball, basketball, dance, gymnastics, badminton, table tennis, fitness, and additional awards such as sports leadership may be covered in KS4. You will be expected to assess ability; evaluate and improve work across a range of activities as well as develop knowledge of health and fitness.

2 Interviews

2.1 Covid Changes

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 the university, and then an interview at your chosen host school a couple of days later. The school interview included an opportunity for you to join a class to either assist or to teach something for a short time.

We have now moved to a new system where there is one joint interview with the university and the school together, on skype. We anticipate that this new system will persist certainly throughout the autumn term, and possibly for the remainder of the year.

2.2 Joint Online Interview

Those shortlisted by WLTA will be emailed by the university to ask you to upload scans of various documents to their portal. This will include identification documents and relevant qualification certificates and transcripts if you already have them (see course requirements later below).

They may also ask you to complete a brief subject audit questionnaire. This will help us to establish the range of your subject knowledge and whether or not a free subject knowledge enhancement course may be needed as a condition, if an offer is made. This can all be discussed at interview.

If you are still taking your degree or GCSE 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, 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 can still make an offer to you but it would be subject to later verification of your qualification certificates and sometimes certified copies can take a couple of months to arrive.

We try to ensure that you have at least a week's notice of the interview.

3 How School Placements Work

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

3.1 Choosing your Host School

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.

- Gumley House School, TW7 – female trainee only
- Sacred Heart High School, W6 – female trainee only

You can read descriptions of each 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 PE salaried option (Course 3F7R). 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 see our useful guide on [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 contact us 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 St Mary's University, Twickenham.

5 Financial Support

The DfE does not offer bursaries for PE.

5.1 Student Loans for Fees and for Maintenance

You may however 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 WLTSA, 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

- Normally an upper second class (2:1) degree classification in a closely related degree subject.
- GCSE Grade C (or 4 for GCSEs sat in 2017 onwards) or the equivalent in English Language, Mathematics and Science.

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 (approx. £52) and an occupational health check (approx. £20) both administered through the university.

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

Confidence/competence across the range of invasion, net and wall, striking and fielding and target games; recent experience in dance/gymnastics; the ability to swim 25 metres unaided.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate at interview:

- problem solving, teamwork, communication skills
- a positive approach to inclusion

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?

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 but we have also

recorded our '[WLTSA 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 at interview but fail to get a place at your preferred school, we continue to work with you, recommending you to other WLTSA 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

This WLTSA 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

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 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.wltsa.org.uk

8.2 Teaching School Office

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.

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

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

