

Training to Teach

Our interactive guide to primary and secondary teacher training across the North East of England



Growing together



Prince Bishops
Teaching School Alliance

Welcome

On behalf of everyone associated with Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance (PBTSA) we're delighted to welcome you to our school direct Initial Teacher Training programme.

Over the past few years, the importance of school centered teacher training has grown massively. Today, it is one of the most common ways graduates train to become a teacher.

Teaching is one of the most rewarding careers available. It is challenging, but the sheer joy of helping young people grow and develop their skills means it's a career like no other.

We know the world is changing; new subjects, new expectations, new ways of working all mean we need teachers who relish the opportunity to be innovative. That's why teaching is looking for well-qualified, talented, individuals. Whether you're a recent graduate or someone changing careers if you think teaching, primary or secondary, could be for you then we'd love to hear from you.

"A senior classroom teacher can earn over £50K."

So why would you choose to train with us at PBTSA? We offer a unique package. Our school direct Initial Teacher Training (ITT) programme is a mix of classroom, theory and joint working. Both primary and secondary trainees learn their trade in a school - there's no better place to train. Surrounded by experienced teachers you'll quickly get into the groove of being a classroom teacher. You'll have your own mentor who will support you as you begin to grow your confidence.

We provide you with support so you progress smoothly. Here at PBTSA we are very proud of our partnership approach to training new teachers. Our network of primary and secondary schools working together offers world-class teacher training. Because you need to see a range of schools you'll train in at least two of our partner schools. For primary trainees, at least one of your placements will give you access to the Early Years Foundation Stage. We also offer specially tailored training days which ensure our trainees develop their skills quickly.

The fees for our school direct programme are £9,000. There are a range of subject specific **bursaries and funding**, including our unique bursary top up and SKE in partnership with the **Hild and Bede Trust for R.E** trainees.

At the end of your time with us not only will you have gained your Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) along with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) but you'll have developed a great network of colleagues who are ready to support you on the next phase of your exciting career.

We look forward to welcoming you to one of our programmes shortly.



Paula Thompson
Principal
Benedict Bisco Church of England Academy



Alan Hardie
Principal
Whitburn Church of England Academy

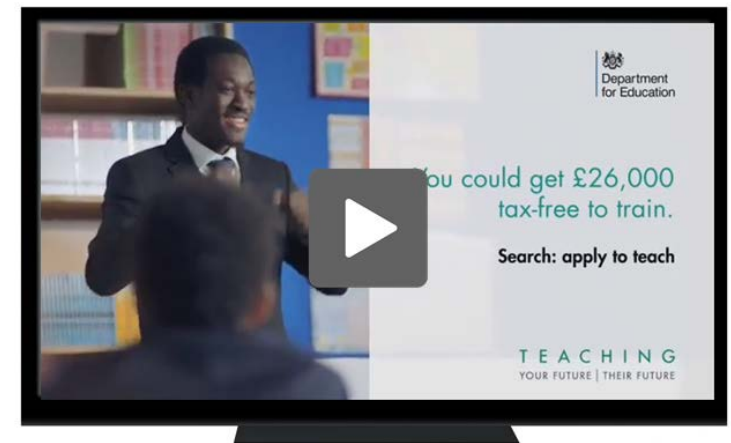
PGCE - Level 7 Qualification

The PGCE element of the course is delivered in association with The University of Sunderland. You will have a personal tutor and will be fully supported during your academic study. The University of Sunderland 'World Leading' research in Education, according to the Latest Framework (REF). Blend theoretical knowledge with action research through two assignments that complements the classroom practice element of the course.



Level 7 qualification
60 Masters credits (credits are portable)

Press play to learn more about teacher training.



Where are our school direct training schools?

PBTSA is part of a unique partnership of primary and secondary schools working with young people from 3-19 years. You will train in at least two schools offer over the year so you can experience the variety of a different environment.

Primary Schools

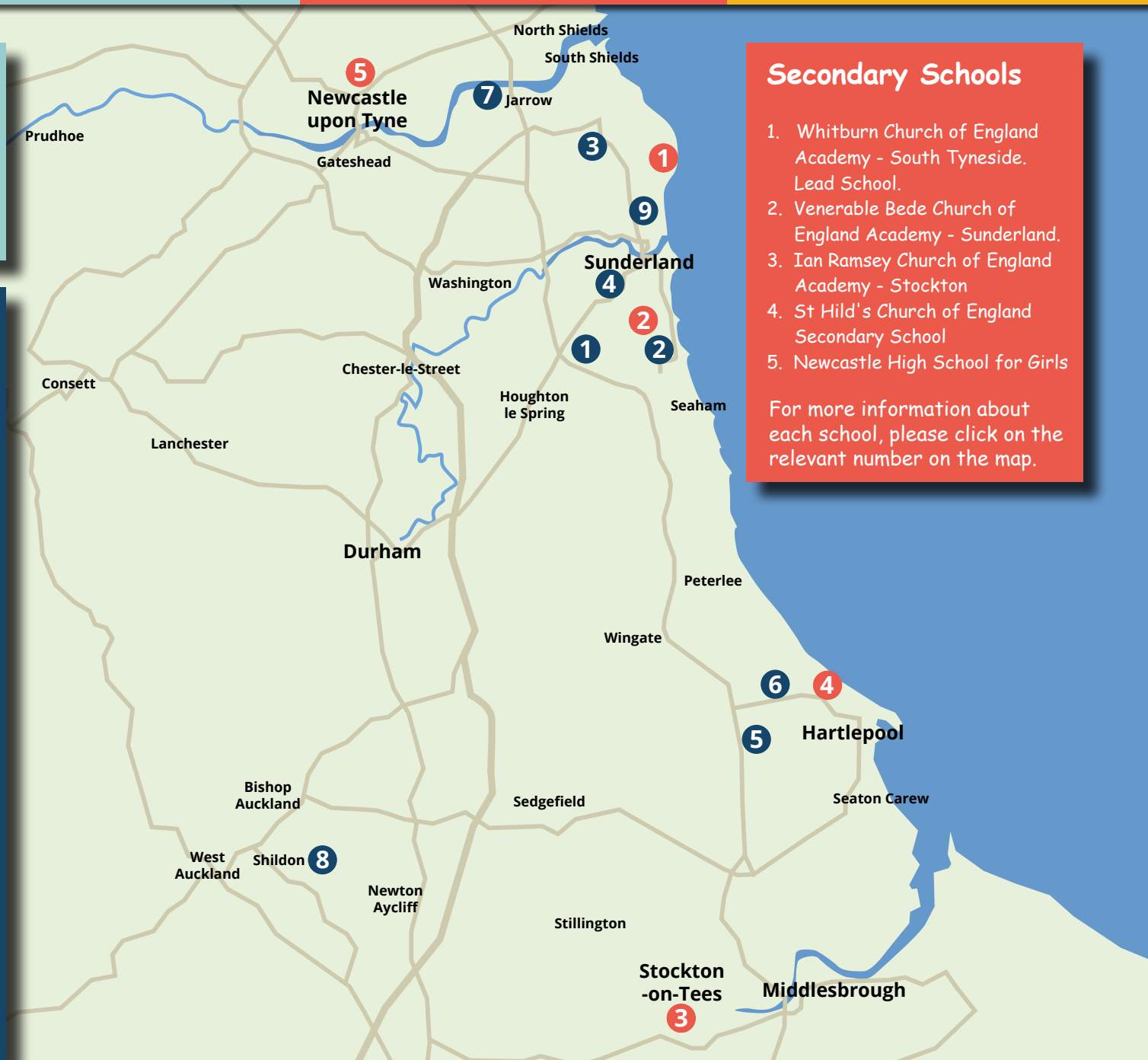
1. Benedict Biscop Church of England Academy - Sunderland. Lead School.
2. St Paul's Church of England Primary School- Sunderland
3. Cleadon Church of England Academy - South Tyneside
4. Richard Avenue Primary School - Sunderland
5. St Peter's Elwick Church of England Primary School - Hartlepool
6. Hart Primary School - Hartlepool
7. St Oswald's Church of England Primary School - South Tyneside
8. St John's Church of England Aided Primary School - Durham
9. Fulwell Infant School Academy - Sunderland

For more information about each school, please click on the relevant number on the map.

Secondary Schools

1. Whitburn Church of England Academy - South Tyneside. Lead School.
2. Venerable Bede Church of England Academy - Sunderland.
3. Ian Ramsey Church of England Academy - Stockton
4. St Hild's Church of England Secondary School
5. Newcastle High School for Girls

For more information about each school, please click on the relevant number on the map.



Primary Training - Do I meet the criteria?



To be a successful primary trainee teacher you will need a variety of skills both formal and informal. Here you will find details on the formal criteria you must meet to be eligible for our primary teacher training programme. Followed by any additional information required for the selection process.

PRIMARY

Formal qualifications:

- GCSE grade C, or above, in English Language
- GCSE grade C, or above, in Mathematics
- GCSE grade C, or above, in Science
- Two A Levels at grade C or above
- A 'good' degree - 2:2 or above

Please note, consideration is given to those who have relevant experience. Before you start any training with us you will be required to pass your **Professional Skills Tests**. These tests help ensure, regardless of specialism, tomorrow's teachers have the core literacy and numeracy skills required. The tests are free and there is more information on passing the tests available online. Two references will also be required with all applications.

Skills & Qualities:

You will be required to submit a written personal statement which explains why you would like to be a teacher and what you would bring to the profession. In the statement you can share your skills, qualities and experience. PBTSA are happy to offer help and support with writing personal statements. Please **contact us** if you would like to access this service.



LEAD PRIMARY TUTOR

Rachael Hunt
Benedict Biscop Church of
England Academy,
Prince Bishops Teaching
School Alliance

Why did you choose to become a mentor with Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?

I love sharing my experiences of teaching and classroom practice with our trainees, in order to support and coach them through the first steps of their teaching journey. The best part of my role is seeing our trainees fly; it is amazing to see how our trainees progress in one short year, from nervously stepping into the classroom to delivering amazing lessons.

What is your advice to anyone who is considering training to teach?

You really do get out what you are willing to put in. Be prepared to work hard and the end result will be worth it. You will have ups and downs but becoming a qualified teacher is so rewarding. Teaching truly is the best career in the world. Be organised, friendly, resilient and prepared to laugh at yourself. Try to learn to self-reflect from the outset. You should be able to identify the successes you have had, as well as what you could develop in your practice.

What is the most important part of your role as a mentor?

I am so proud of how supportive our course is. It makes us stand out above the rest. Myself, our schools and their school-based mentors are all committed to our trainees and on the journey with them. We live each day of their training year with them. We are truly like a big family!

Primary case studies

Here are some testimonials from our previous students who are now in employment...



CASE STUDY

Bethany
School Direct - Primary

What inspired you to become a teacher?

Being a teacher is something that I have aspired to since I began school as a child myself. I loved watching the many different roles taken on by my own teachers. One teacher in particular made me realise how rewarding the job could be as my confidence and enjoyment of school grew when I was in their class. This is something I hope to give to my own class.

Why Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?

PBTSA offered me an excellent training scheme in comparison to other schemes I looked at. It allowed me to train to teach in the classroom as well as having access to theory and professional studies. It promised to give me the opportunity to work in very different school settings throughout the year which as a result, increased my experience as no two schools are the same! The course also offered a range of CPD days which were relevant to the profession and have increased my professional knowledge and understanding.

What would you say to anyone thinking of becoming a teacher?

I would say that this profession is one of the most rewarding there is! It is not for the faint hearted. You need to be passionate about teaching in order to be successful because it isn't simply a job that you can clock in and out of. But if you have that passion then it is beyond worth it!



CASE STUDY

Kate
School Direct - Primary

What inspired you to become a teacher?

Working with children had always been a passion of mine and as I progressed through secondary school and further education, I knew that teaching was a career I wanted to pursue. After university, I worked for a couple of years as a teaching assistant, in various settings, which only helped secure my ambition to become a teacher.

Why Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?

I attended a Train to Teach event hoping to gain information about teacher training and the different routes available. PBTSA caught my eye immediately and after speaking to the team about the great opportunities they provide, and the close-knit team approach they have, I went home and completed my application to start that September.

What would you say to anyone thinking of becoming a teacher?

It is the most rewarding and exciting career anyone can have. Five minutes in a classroom can make you forget about the outside world, you become fully engaged and absorbed in delivering lessons to eager learners. Classrooms are fun, dynamic, and full of laughter - every day is different! With the support of PBTSA and your placement schools, you quickly learn how to manage and plan your time effectively.



CASE STUDY

James
School Direct - Primary

What inspired you to become a teacher?

Both of my parents are teachers and I grew up hearing their stories about how much they enjoyed the job. It was following my degree that I first considered teacher. I took up a football coaching position abroad and worked with children on a daily basis. It was really rewarding to watch children grow in confidence. Working within the marketing industry wasn't giving me the job satisfaction I craved. Finally, at the age of 32, I bit the bullet and retrained as a teacher!

Why Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?

I did the research into the various routes into teaching. I attended an open evening with Durham SCITT and was impressed that they offered the school direct route. I was looking for a hands on experience where I felt that I could become immersed in school life from the outset.

What would you say to anyone thinking of becoming a teacher?

Spend some time volunteering in a school. Be prepared for a lot of hard work, but if you put the work in, the rewards are vast. Seeing children respond well to your teaching makes the planning and resourcing of lesson worthwhile.

Secondary Training - Do I meet the criteria?

The requirements needed to become a Secondary teacher differ slightly from those for primary teachers, but to be successful you'll need a variety of skills, formal and informal. On this page you'll find details of the criteria you'll need to meet and, on the following page, hear from some teachers who have started their Secondary school careers.

SECONDARY

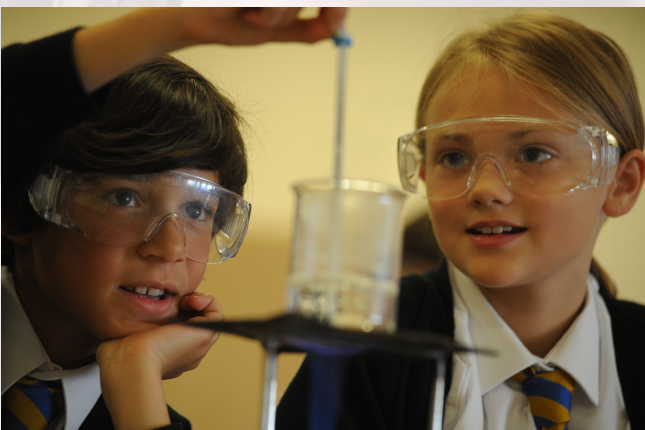
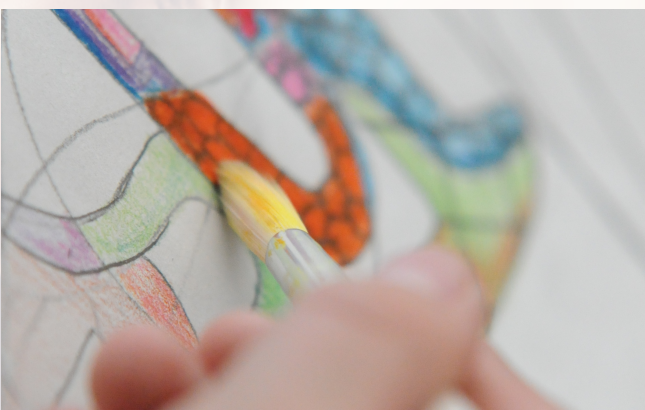
Formal qualifications:

- GCSE grade C, or above, in English Language
- GCSE grade C, or above, in Mathematics
- GCSE grade C, or above, in Science
- Two A Levels at grade C or above
- A 'good' degree - 2:2 or above

Skills & qualities:

- Organised
- Resilient
- Willing to reflect and learn
- Committed to improving the life chances for young people

References will be required in all cases, as will a well written personal statement which explains why you want to be a teacher and what you'd bring to the profession. Before you start any School Direct Training course with us you'll need to have passed your **Professional Skills Tests** and had some **experience of working in a classroom**. The Professional Skills Tests help ensure, regardless of the specialism, tomorrow's teachers have the core literacy and numeracy skills required. The tests are free and there is more information on passing the tests **available online**.



MENTOR

Caroline Campbell
Whitburn Church of
England Academy,
Prince Bishops Teaching
School Alliance

Why did you choose to become a mentor with Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?

I have enjoyed being a Geography mentor at my school, so was excited by the opportunity to be the Professional Tutor for our PBTSA ITTs. I have always been interested in how pupils learn and sharing new teaching and learning strategies with trainees. I absolutely love it when our trainees bring new ideas to the Academy and share them with each other and within their departments.

What is your advice to anyone who is considering training to teach?

Always take any advice given. It may become overwhelming, but remember that responding to your areas for development and targets to improve will have a massive impact on you becoming an outstanding practitioner. Your mentor and other teachers and staff in your school have a wealth of experience that it is important to make the most of the opportunity to learn from them. Develop the ability to self-reflect; you will be continually asked to reflect on your lessons in order to improve throughout your teaching career.

What is the most important part of your role as a mentor?

Children's education and well-being is central to the teaching vocation and being involved with the training of our next generation of teachers is the most important part of being a mentor to me. To help our ITTs to have the most positive impact on children is fundamental to our role as mentors.

Secondary case studies



CASE STUDY

Hannah
School Direct -
Secondary English

What inspired you to become a teacher?

A lot of my friends are teachers and seeing how much effort and dedication they had for their students really inspired me to get into teaching as it's the type of job where you know you're making a difference.

Why Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?

I chose to train with the PBTSA as they had a wide range of schools and specialist support on offer. Having a team of trainee teachers also helped as it meant that throughout the year I had colleagues around me going through the exact same things!

How effective has your route into teaching been?

The route I took into teaching has worked really well for me. Being able to get stuck into school life right away meant that I was made to feel like a member of staff from the very outset. I have had a great training year and it has left me feeling eager and prepared for my NQT year!

What would you say to anyone thinking of becoming a teacher?

It isn't an easy job to do but it's absolutely worth it!



CASE STUDY

Mark
School Direct -
Secondary Geography

What inspired you to become a teacher?

I've always been driven by my passion for Geography, and have been fortunate enough to become a scholar of the RGS and a member of the Geographical Association. As part of these roles, I had a number of opportunities to disseminate my own research and the subject to audiences of all ages and sizes in a number of countries. Of all these opportunities, I enjoyed working with children the most. The interactions and relationships that come with teaching children are very enjoyable.

Why Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?

I met PBTSA at a teaching event at my university and was impressed by their approachability and knowledge about the training programme. I later visited one of their teaching schools and was very impressed at how welcome I was made to feel and the professionalism of the training they provided. I felt that if I trained with PBTSA, I would be given the important support I would require. This has since proven to be true!

What would you say to anyone thinking of becoming a teacher?

It's an incredibly rewarding but surprisingly challenging experience. I was fortunate enough to have a lot of experience with my background but the training did present new and unique challenges. However, it's definitely the children that make the job and I would advise anybody considering teaching to visit a school or volunteer with school groups to gain some experience.



CASE STUDY

Yasmin
School Direct -
Secondary English

What inspired you to become a teacher?

When children talk about what they would like to be when they are older, I always focused on becoming a teacher and used to pretend my teddy bears were my pupils! Now, I love working with young people. Every day is different. I went into secondary teaching because I wanted to bring more than just my subject specialist knowledge to the job: I wanted to play a part in the next generation's development into well-rounded members of society.

Tell us about your route into teaching.

I completed a degree in English Literature and History before finishing a Masters in Modernist and Contemporary literature. I decided a SCITT course would be best for me as I wanted to spend as much time in school as possible.

Why Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance?

I chose PBTSA because of how organised and prepared my interview day was. I also accepted a PBTSA placement because I had heard how thorough the training would be and I was not disappointed!

What would you say to anyone thinking of becoming a teacher?

It has taken a lot of resilience and persistence to finish the course, but it has also been one of the most rewarding years of my life. If you are hard-working and have a passion to work with young people then you can't go wrong - apply!

How do I apply to PBTSA?

Once you're certain teaching is right for you the first step is to ensure you meet the **minimum criteria?**

You then need to ensure you understand the detail of the ITT programmes we offer. We run School Direct Training courses in the **north east**. All our courses run from September to July with fees of £9,000. There are a variety of **financial**

packages, from Student Finance, available to trainee teachers to cover the cost and fees of living expenses.

If you are satisfied you are in a position to proceed, you can apply via UCAS. Click on the relevant box below. Go to the "Search for a training provider" option and enter either primary code **1YQ** or secondary **23F**.

Click here to apply using primary training provider code 1YQ

The training codes for PBTSA primary are:

Benedict Biscop Academy	2GR8
St. Paul's Primary	2GR8
Cleadon Academy	2GR8
Richard Avenue Primary Sch	2GR8
St. Peter's Elwick Primary	2GR8
Hart Primary School	2GR8
St. Oswald's Primary School	2GR8
St. John's Primary School	2GR8
Eppleton Academy Primary Sch	2GR8
Fulwell Infant School Academy	2GR8

Click here to apply using secondary training provider code 23F

The training codes for PBTSA secondary are:

Art & Design	3D5F
Biology	2YM2
Business Studies	3D5H
Chemistry	2RTP
Computer Studies	3D5J
English	2HJ9
Geography	2JGM
History	2HJJ
Music	3D5K
MFL Spanish	32QN
MFL French	2JGQ
Mathematics	2JGP
Physical Education	3D5L
Physics	2JGN
Religious Education	2RTJ



Summary

- PBTSA offers both primary and secondary Initial Teacher Training.
- Course fees are £9,000 but there **bursaries and funding** available.
- We are part of a network of schools covering ages 3-19.
- Our trainees learn on the job, over 30 weeks per year of in school experience.
- Partnered with Durham SCITT, an OFSTED Outstanding ITT provider.
- Trainees attend at least two schools, this variety is an important part of their development.
- If you have the **minimum requirements** you can apply via **UCAS**.

Prince Bishops Teaching School Alliance,
Benedict Biscop Church of England Academy &
Whitburn Church of England Academy,
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