



Teacher Training  
in the Heart of England

# School Direct

In Warwickshire & Worcestershire



Working in partnership with  
 **University  
of Worcester**  
Institute of Education



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*"I am extremely lucky to have a team who really cares for me. The programme is tailored to our needs which means that I have been able to combine the high demands of the course, with family life."*

Alexandra S - MFL trainee



# Hello!

So, you want to train to be a teacher? Where better to train than in variety of 'outstanding' and 'good' schools across South Warwickshire and Worcestershire?

There is no escaping that your training will bring challenges as well as successes. We believe that to be a highly effective teacher you need to receive the right tools, support and motivation right from the start. We focus on 'real life teaching', putting theory into practice. Moreover, we ensure that our programme revolves around sustainability - ensuring your well-being and workload is managed not just in training, but for years to come.

**Our aim is simple. We want to nurture acorns into oaks, and as a trainee, your needs are at the heart of our training programme.**

Train with us and you can expect nurture, support, mentoring, respect and above all the highest levels of experience from educators who are passionate about their profession.





# Our Offer

## Why choose us?

Shires Teaching Alliance is a partnership of a diverse set of schools across South Warwickshire and Worcestershire, and the University of Worcester, that offers the opportunity to train to teach through a one year post graduate programme in a culture of excellence with collaboration at it's heart.

We aim to ensure that you are challenged to be the best teacher you can be. We offer enrichment opportunities across our alliance schools from leadership pathways to half-day experiences in subjects outside of your specialism. This programme and people who you will encounter, will guide you through your first steps into the rest of your teaching career.

The Shires Alliance comprises multiple schools and academies who have the experience, capacity and record of success to deliver outstanding teacher training to the next generation of teachers. Our alliance is unique, giving you the opportunities to experience a wealth of outstanding practices in different settings and with a diverse set of learners.



### Entry requirements...

Not only will you need tenacity, passion for growing the minds of young learners and a love for your subject, but you will also need:

- GCSE C Maths & English
- Degree in or related to, your chosen teaching subject

### Subjects we offer...

- Art & Design
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computing
- English
- Geography
- History
- Maths
- Modern Languages
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Religious Education

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*"My subject mentor has been invaluable and always approachable, offering advice throughout the programme."*

Jenny W - History trainee

## The School Direct Programme

We provide a ‘real school experience’. Our programme is unique - offering bespoke sessions to support every stage of your career and most importantly, ensuring that you become an effective practitioner to make your career choice sustainable. Above all else, we have a strong sense of community; using our expertise across the alliance to develop our pupils and staff to be the most successful they can be. Our motivated pupils flourish within this climate and you will too!

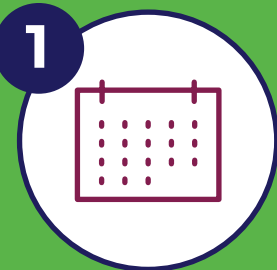
### You will experience:

- Comprehensive induction
- Personalised school mentoring
- University tutor support
- Taught days at the University with subject specialist Tutors

- Two written assignments
- Oral presentation of a small research project
- Weekly observations when in school with comprehensive feedback to move your teaching forward
- Full immersion in the daily life of a school and all the existing challenges that it brings
- Exploration of wider issues of education and society that will enhance your prospects as a future leader in the profession
- A choice of additional specialisms to enhance your expertise and career prospects
- Unparalleled personal and academic support throughout the programme that continues beyond your study and into the early stages of your career
- Gain 60 Masters credits



## How to apply...



Attend one of our events



Prepare your personal statement



Arrange references



Apply online



Prepare for interview



Interview day



Accept your place





## Questions?

### What if my qualifications were gained outside of the UK?

University Worcester will support and advise you on your academic criteria.

### What about Skills Tests?

The University will audit your literacy & numeracy when you attend interview. Skills tests are no longer required.

### What happens once I accept a place on the programme?

Attend induction and start the programme!

### When will I start?

University induction is in July and the programme commences early September.

### Can I choose my placement schools?

We will ensure we take into account your location and the environment best suited to your profile.

### Will I be guaranteed a job at the end of the programme?

We will make sure you are given every opportunity to gain your first teaching appointment, preferably within our community of schools.



*"Training with Shires has allowed me to reach a teaching potential that I could not possibly reach within any other teaching environment."*

Ollie H, History trainee



## Beyond Teacher Training

Gaining your QTS with Shires Alliance isn't just about getting you through the programme and waving goodbye. We want to watch you grow and develop into the strongest and best teacher you can be. Train with us and get access to:

- Employment opportunities available to you across the alliance, before you have qualified.
- Career development opportunities, from NQT development, support in your early teaching years, middle leadership programmes to senior leadership preparation and beyond.

- A vast range of roles across the partner schools: college leader, head of house, second in department, progress leader, head of faculty, head of year, lead teacher, lead practitioner, head of subject, curriculum leader, assistant head, vice principal, deputy head, head teacher, the list is endless!
- A community of schools who want to retain your teaching talent amongst them, creating more opportunities for secondment, transfer, deployments and role change.
- Pupils who will remember you and on whom you can make an impact, not only within the classroom, but for life.



*"The whole team has been incredibly supportive, providing me with the best experience possible."*

Angela H, Maths trainee



## Schools in the Shires Teaching Alliance:



Alcester Academy



Alcester Grammar



Henley in Arden



King Edward VI



Shipston High



Studley High



Stratford Girls' Grammar



Stratford upon Avon



*"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap,  
but by the seeds you plant."*

Robert Louis Stevenson



## Get in touch



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