

Career change? Consider

It might be a competitive profession but there's still room in the

education

classroom for top teachers

Registered teacher programme could be answer to your prayers

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TEACHING is an increasingly popular choice of career for people of all backgrounds and circumstances.

The UK Graduate Careers Survey found that teaching was the first choice of career for graduates, ahead of work in the media and banking, according to the TDA (Training and Development Agency for Schools).

Further research from the TDA, the government body responsible for recruiting people to teacher training courses, reveals that teaching is also the most popular choice for those anticipating a career change later in life.

DIVERSE

Record numbers continue to enter the profession, coming from increasingly diverse backgrounds.

More than 41,000 people began initial teacher training last year, with one in 10 trainee teachers now from an ethnic minority background.

However, increasing the proportion of minority ethnic trainee teachers remains a priority for the TDA, which is keen that the diversity of the profession reflects that of the pupil population.

There are many reasons why Britons from minority ethnic backgrounds should consider teaching, argues the TDA.

It is now a career that pays well, with newly qualified teachers start-

“Record numbers continue to enter the profession”



ing on a salary of at least £19,000, or £23,000 in inner London. Additional incentives are paid to teachers who are considered excellent and to those who take on management or other responsibilities. Pay can rise to more than £90,000 for head teachers, depending on the size of school.

And the progression to headship can be swift. Good teachers enjoy

excellent career prospects, with head teachers in their 30s not uncommon.

But teaching is about more than pay and promotions. It is a creative and challenging career in which no two lessons – let alone days – are the same. It offers the rare opportunity to pass on your knowledge and enthusiasm. Above all teaching is enjoyable.

Psychologists were recently sent into classrooms in a variety of schools around the country and found that teachers break into a smile on average 10 times every half-hour and laugh out loud four times during the same period.

It is also a well-supported job. Thorough training ensures teachers are fully prepared before they enter the classroom with newly-qualified teachers benefiting from mentors. Classroom assistants are widespread and all teachers have half a day out of the classroom for planning, preparation and assessment to reduce their workload.

Subject associations and fellow teachers ensure that there is a substantial network to which people can turn for support and advice.

Teachers shape the next generation and schools therefore need to be able to draw upon as broad a range

of talent and experience as possible.

They make a genuine difference to the lives of children and, as a result, to the wider community.

Teachers from minority ethnic backgrounds are also playing a significant part in subjects where there are recruitment challenges, accounting for 13 per cent of trainee modern language teachers, 14 per cent of trainee science teachers and 20 per cent of maths trainees.

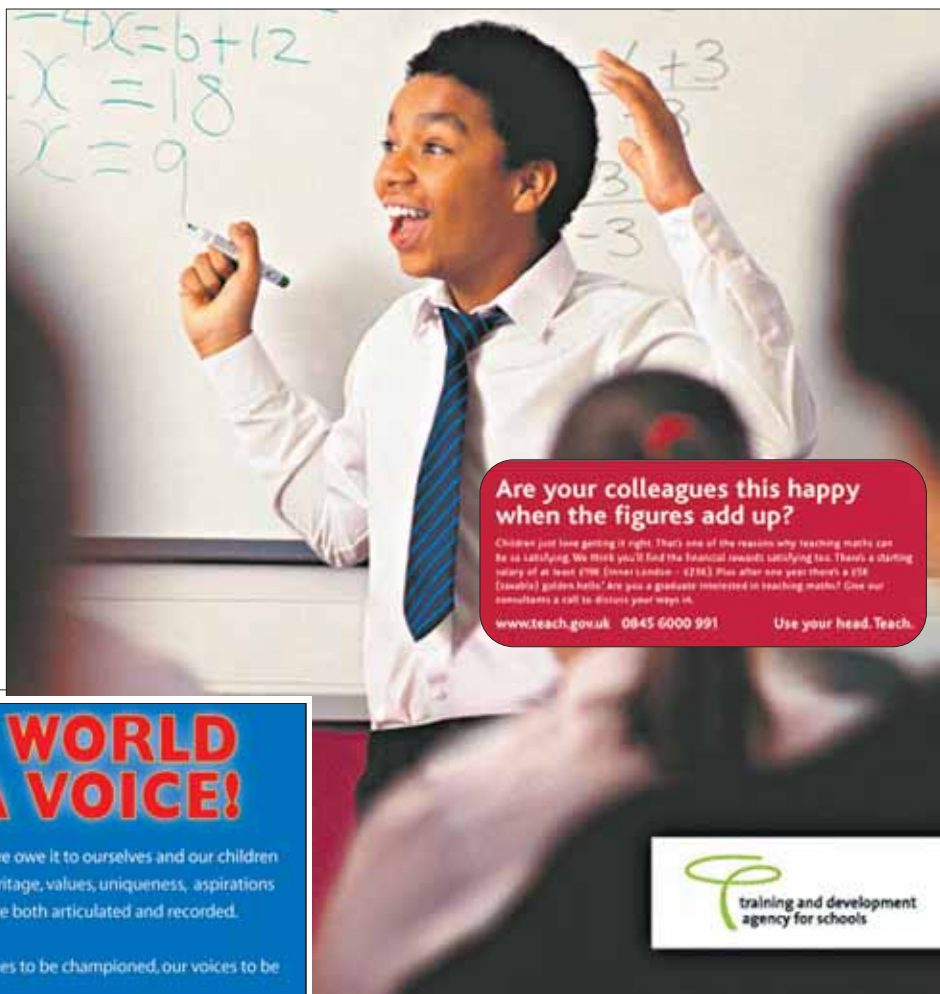
BACKGROUND

There are several different ways to train to teach, suiting a broad range of backgrounds and circumstances. You can train at a university or college, in a school, or on the job – a popular choice for people who are looking to change career.

Firstly, however, you will generally need to have a UK undergraduate degree or a recognised equivalent, which should relate to the subject you want to teach.

If you're looking to become a primary school teacher, that means the core subjects of the national curriculum.

The registered teacher programme (see right) offers a way for non-graduates with some experience of higher education to train to teach.



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ENTRY OPTIONS

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION (PGCE)

The Postgraduate Certificate of Education (PGCE) is usually a one-year course taken at university or college. It can also be taken as two-year part-time course and in some cases via flexible distance learning. PGCEs can also be studied in a school through a school-centred initial teacher training course (see below).

SCHOOL-CENTRED INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING (SCITT)

This post-graduate programme is designed and delivered by groups of neighbouring schools and colleges. Taught by experienced, practising teachers, SCITT courses allow graduates to complete almost all of their training in a school environment.

GRADUATE TEACHER PROGRAMME (GTP)

The Graduate Teacher Programme (GTP) is a good choice for mature people who want to change to a teaching career but need to continue earning while they train. It is a programme of on-the-job training, allowing graduates to qualify as a teacher while they work.

Once on the programme your training will be tailored to your own individual need, leading to qualified teacher status. Training takes from three months to one school year, depending on your previous experience and can be completed in any English or Welsh maintained school, as long as they are prepared to employ you as an unqualified teacher for the programme's duration.

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University of BRISTOL
UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL
 Graduate School of Education
Do you want to be a teacher?

The University of Bristol offers a one-year Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) course for secondary teaching in close partnership with local schools. The one year course which commences in September is full-time.

Applications

Applications are welcome from all graduates with a wide range of skills and experience to inspire their pupils and particularly from those groups which are currently under represented in the teaching profession. We would especially welcome applications from men and from members of ethnic minority groups. We positively encourage applications from mature entrants changing careers.

Job Prospects

Each year the vast majority of Bristol students are successful in obtaining a first teaching appointment of their choice.

Secondary Course

The course is for students intending to train in: Art & Design, English, Citizenship, Geography, History, Mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages, Music, Religious Education, Science.

Overseas Links

Selected students also have the opportunity to work in the Gambia, Hungary and other European countries.

For further details contact: Carole Baker, Admissions Secretary
 University of Bristol, Graduate School of Education,
 35 Berkeley Square, Bristol BS8 1JA
Tel: 0117 928 7002
 email: carole.baker@bristol.ac.uk
 www.http://www.bris.ac.uk/depts/education/pgce.htm



University of Brighton

Siobhan Duvigneau

Currently on a one-year Secondary PGCE Information Technology Course.



"After graduating with a degree in communication studies I worked in IT, but I quickly realised I wanted to interact with people not just with computers.

I have a strong belief that education opens doors and I would love to see more black people in the teaching profession. Not just to act as role models to black youngsters who need to see that black people can achieve, but also to help break down some of the stereotypes that other pupils have.

I applied to Brighton because I knew it had a really good reputation and I knew that it would help boost the start of my career. You have to expect to work really hard but I expected that and I love challenges. Everything you do in the university is relevant to the practical experience on placements. In my placement school I am working with a really supportive team of teachers. It is really rewarding to help children develop but it's not just the children who are learning – I am learning so much at the same time as teaching them.

The resources are fantastic at Brighton and my tutor is amazing. I can't sing her praises highly enough. Brighton has far exceeded my expectations and I can honestly say that this is the best learning experience I have ever had."

Jamal Babur

1st year of the Undergraduate Key Stage 2/3 Course

Currently living on campus in halls.

"On starting the course I was apprehensive about moving away from home, making new friends and if I had found the right course."

A few months into his course Jamal is enjoying his time at Brighton and all apprehension about his future seems in the distant past. Meeting other students on his course and within halls has helped him to relax and settle into university life.

"This will improve my career prospects and gives me an edge at interviews. The course allows me to see a complete mixture of what is taught in schools. It gives me a variety of experiences and the chance to experiment teaching to different age ranges."



University of Brighton

School of Education

We are looking for motivated individuals who are ready for the challenges and rewards of teaching. Whatever your age or background you'll feel at home in our friendly faculty. We welcome applications from all sections of the community and would particularly like to encourage those from groups that are currently under-represented in the profession.

We offer high standards of teaching and research with a strong vocational and professional focus. Working closely with over 600 partnership schools ensures that our courses give you the best start to a successful career.

As one of the largest providers in the country we offer a diverse range of courses, including:

- PGCE primary – one-year, full-time or up to three years flexible study
- PGCE secondary in 12 subject specific routes – part-time or full-time study
- PGCE secondary subject conversion for DT, IT, maths and science
- PGCE post compulsory which enables participants to teach in the further education sector - part-time or full-time study
- Graduate teacher programme which enables students to train whilst working full-time in a school
- Undergraduate programmes: two, three and four year BA (Hons) with QTS courses for students who wish to combine studying for an Honours degree with training to teach in either Primary or Secondary level, or in both age phases through an exciting range of KS2/3 courses.

You'll develop the confidence and skills to become an inspirational teacher through your practical placements and the support and motivation of our experienced tutors.



Please contact us by phone or email:

T: 01273 643911 (for Secondary courses) or 01273 643912 (for Primary and KS2/3 courses)

E: deped@brighton.ac.uk

www.brighton.ac.uk/education