

HANDBOOK FOR EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS

Bristol Guide
2023-2024





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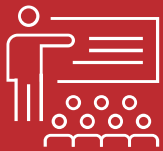


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INTRODUCTION

The Bristol Guide is written for all professionals working with children and young people in schools and other settings in England. It provides guidance about the law and general advice related to their professional responsibilities, duties, and rights. It also provides a comprehensive overview of the English education system.

Trainee Teachers, Early Career Teachers (ECTs), and Experienced Teachers

The Bristol Guide is an essential resource for trainee teachers working towards the standards for qualified teacher status (QTS). It also supports ECTs and more experienced teachers, all of whom are required to 'have an understanding of, and always act within, the statutory frameworks which set out their professional duties and responsibilities' [Teachers' Standards, 2012].

Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTAs) and Teaching Assistants (TAs)

HLTAs and TAs working towards HLTA status will find the Bristol Guide invaluable in developing knowledge of how 'statutory and non-statutory frameworks for the school curriculum relate to the age and ability ranges of the learners they support' [HLTA Professional Standards, 2012, Standard 13]. The Bristol Guide will also enable them to fulfil the requirements of Standard 16, to 'know how other frameworks, that support the development and wellbeing of children and young people impact upon their practice'.

We endeavour to ensure that the Bristol Guide provides up-to-date information throughout. All information presented in this publication was correct at the time of writing.

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For further information about the Bristol Guide and ordering copies see:
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1. INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING AND INDUCTION

1.1 Routes into teaching

1.2 The Core Content Framework

1.3 Statutory induction for Early Career Teachers (ECTs) in England

1.4 The Early Career Framework

1.5 ECT induction: roles and responsibilities

1.1 Routes into teaching

To teach in a maintained state school in England, it is necessary to have a degree and to gain qualified teacher status (QTS) by following a programme of initial teacher training (ITT). Academies, free schools, and independent schools can employ teachers without QTS; however, having QTS is generally preferable and will improve a teacher's career prospects. Applicants to ITT must have achieved minimum requirements (at least a grade 4 GCSE) in English and maths. The most common ITT routes to QTS are outlined below.

Undergraduate routes

Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Science (BSc) with QTS, Bachelor of Education (BEd)

BA and BSc with QTS routes allow students to specialise in a certain subject (maths, physics, computing, or languages) while gaining an honours degree and QTS. Bachelor of Education (BEd) is an honours degree course in education. BEd degrees are available for both primary and secondary teaching but are a particularly popular choice for those interested in teaching primary school pupils.

Postgraduate routes

Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)

PGCE courses last for one year full-time or up to two years part-time. They focus mainly on teaching skills, so applicants are expected to have a good understanding of their chosen subject (normally degree level) before they start training. PGCE courses are available at universities and colleges throughout the UK. It may also be possible to study for a PGCE via flexible distance learning or through

a School-Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT), or a School Direct (SD) training programme. PGCE courses typically contain up to 60 credits towards a Master's degree. The Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (ProfGCE) is similar to the PGCE in that it leads to QTS. It does not, however, contain credits at Master's level.

School-Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT)

SCITT programmes are taught by neighbouring groups of schools and colleges. All SCITT courses lead to the award of QTS, and many also award a PGCE validated by a higher education institution. SCITT courses cover primary and secondary years and the whole range of secondary subjects.

School Direct (SD)

School Direct is available in primary and secondary schools in England and programmes generally last for one year. Successful completion of a School Direct course will lead to the award of QTS, and some School Direct programmes may also include the award of a PGCE. The SD Training Programme (salaried) is an employment-based route which is available to high-quality graduates with at least three years' work experience. These students are employed by the school as an unqualified teacher.

Teach First

Teach First is an educational charity with a vision that no child's educational success should be limited by their socio-economic background. It offers a two-year Leadership Development Programme leading to QTS and the award of a Post Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) which is worth 120 Master's credits. The course begins with an intensive six weeks of training, and trainees then spend two years in a school