

School Direct Initial Teacher Education

Want to teach in the Ellesmere Port area? Stand out and think differently about teaching!

The Port Alliance is a unique and diverse group of schools working together, teaching ages 3 – 18. We can offer challenge and opportunity to those wanting to teach in the primary/secondary sectors. We are currently training our first cohort of Associate Teachers and you can apply from **November 1st 2013 for a training place beginning September 2014**

In partnership with the University of Chester, we have a wealth of initial teacher training experience and offer a bespoke training opportunity which will inspire you to become an outstanding teacher. Our community of schools offers supportive teacher training in a wide range of settings, providing an unrivalled and fully rounded experience of teaching.

School Direct is the new and preferred route into the teaching profession for graduates looking to train as teachers. It means working alongside experienced teachers and spending a greater proportion of time in the classroom and school environment. You will gain a full PGCE at the end of your training and will be ready to take up your first teaching post. The Port Alliance will offer you a post within our alliance of schools if a suitable job is available and if you have successfully completed your training and show outstanding potential.

To be eligible to apply, you must have a good first degree in a relevant subject. For Primary training, you must have gained, or be estimated to gain a first class or 2.1 degree. You will also have to pass national skills tests in Mathematics and Literacy before you can take up your place.

The fee paying route is open to all graduates and funded by tuition fees paid by the candidates. Bursaries are offered in subjects where need is greatest. The salaried route is open to graduates with three or more years' career experience. Candidates would be employed as an unqualified teacher with a salary subsidised by the National College of Teaching & Learning.

Funding for postgraduate teacher training

Funding for postgraduate teacher training is available for eligible graduates on [postgraduate routes](#) including the non-salaried School Direct programme.

Eligibility

Your tuition fees and any other bursary or financial support depend on your status as a home, European Union (EU) or overseas student. Find out [more information about EU or overseas status](#). All bursaries are subject to conditions and you are not guaranteed funding, but you may be eligible for financial support.

Tuition fee loan

If you are on a postgraduate ITT course which is not salaried, you will have to pay tuition fees. Tuition fees vary depending on the course and the higher education institution (HEI) or SCITT provider. You should contact the HEI or SCITT provider of the course or programme you are interested in directly for details of the fees charged.

Home and EU students may be eligible for a tuition fee loan to cover the cost of tuition fees charged. This is available through [Student Finance England](#)

You can calculate an estimate of your loan repayments on the [GOV.UK website](#)

Training Bursaries

Bursaries are available for trainees on eligible postgraduate courses in England who are not employed as unqualified teachers on the School Direct salaried route. Bursary amounts will vary depending on teacher training subject and degree class or highest relevant academic qualification.

Teaching is a prime career choice for high-quality graduates, and we are looking for excellent graduates wanting to train to teach secondary subjects. To encourage the best people to enter the profession, larger financial incentives are offered to trainees with 2:1 and first class degrees.

The bursary scheme recognises exceptional achievement outside of degree results and allows flexibility in some cases. In exceptional circumstances trainees may receive a higher bursary than their degree class would otherwise allow. This allows the scheme to take account of, for example, trainees with a 2:2 and a PhD or proven exceptional subject knowledge gained from another career. More information is available in the bursary document about the consideration of exceptional achievements, which will be available to download from this page soon.

The table below summarises the standard financial incentives available in 2014/15:

Financial incentives for those who train in 2014/15

Training bursary 2014/15 ¹	ITT subject/phase					
	Physics, maths	Computing	Chemistry	Languages	Other priority secondary ⁴ and primary	Primary maths specialists ⁵
Scholarship ²	£25,000	£25,000	£25,000	-	-	-
Trainee with first	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£9,000	£11,000
2:1	£20,000	£20,000	£15,000	£15,000	£4,000	£11,000
2:2	£15,000	£15,000	£12,000	£12,000	£0	£6,000

Other³	£9,000	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
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¹ School Direct trainees whose training is based in a school where more than 35% of pupils are eligible for free school meals will receive a 25% increase on the above bursaries/scholarships.

² Trainee teachers in maths, physics, chemistry and computing with a 2:1 or first are able to apply for scholarships with the relevant subject association group. Applicants for the scholarships will be subject to a competitive process. Trainees who hold the scholarship will not also be eligible for the standard Department for Education (DfE) bursary. Trainees who are not awarded a scholarship will continue to be eligible for the standard bursaries in 2014/15.

³ Trainee teachers in maths and physics with a **relevant degree** and at least a B at A level in maths or physics (or equivalent) will be eligible for a bursary of £9,000. Trainees will not be entitled to this bursary if they are also entitled to a higher bursary based on degree class.

⁴ Other priority secondary subjects are English, history, biology, geography, music, and design and technology.

⁵ Available to trainees with a B or better at maths A level on primary maths specialist courses only. Those who do not have a B or higher at maths A level, or those who train on general primary courses, will receive the normal primary bursary for their degree class.

Please note that the TDA commissioned a grade comparison exercise, carried out by UK NARIC, of all international awards that are considered comparable to British Bachelor (honours) degree standard. Applicants with a degree from outside the UK should refer to the **equivalency table (PDF, 1MB)** to see if their degree is likely to attract a bursary, or should consult their chosen training provider.

Bursary payments are processed automatically for eligible candidates by their chosen teacher training provider. You will receive more information on the arrangements and how this is distributed prior to the start of your course.

For bursary awards up to £13,750:

- Trainees will receive the bursary in equal monthly instalments for the duration of their course.
- Trainees are advised to confirm the actual monthly amounts that will be paid with their ITT provider.

For bursary awards of £15,000 or over:

- Trainees will continue to receive equal monthly instalments for the duration of their course, but this will be enhanced by larger payments in February and July, or in the final month of the trainee's course.
- The trainee would need to be on the course at 1 January to receive the first enhanced payment in February, and would need to have completed the course to receive the second payment at the end of their programme.

The potential range of options now available to trainees for ITT makes it important that you are fully informed of the financial support you may be able to access to complete your training. When considering your training options, you may wish to ask your training provider about what bursaries, grants and support are available to you for the choice you are making. Information and advice can also be sought from the [Student Loans Company](#) or by contacting the Teaching Line on 0800 389 2500.

School Direct bursary top-up

School Direct trainees may be eligible for an additional payment worth 25 per cent of their standard bursary. To qualify for this payment, trainees will need to be based in a school where more than 35 per cent of pupils are eligible for free school meals.

The School Direct bursary top-up is only available in combination with a standard bursary, and will be paid on top of the standard bursary amount the trainee is eligible for. Schools are not required to offer free school meals to participate in School Direct.

Mathematics teacher training scholarships

The Institute of Mathematics and its Application (IMA), in collaboration with the London Mathematical Society (LMS), the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) and Mathematics in Education and Industry (MEI), has teacher training scholarships of £25,000 available to mathematics trainees starting their teacher training in the 2014/15 academic year. A 25 per cent premium will be paid to School Direct trainees whose training is based in a school where more than 35 per cent of pupils are eligible for free school meals.

The scholarship will be instead of the standard bursary, but trainees who are not awarded the scholarship will continue to be eligible for the standard bursaries.

To be a mathematics scholar you will need to have exceptional subject knowledge, enthusiasm for the study of mathematics, and outstanding potential to teach. Successful scholars will be offered additional support from the IMA, LMS, RSS and MEI to enable them to make a significant contribution to the development of mathematics teaching in the schools where they train and work. The package will include membership offers, access to teaching resources and academic journals, and early career support. [Visit the IMA website](#) for further information.

Physics teacher training scholarships

The Institute of Physics (IOP) has teacher training scholarships of £25,000 available to physics trainees starting their teacher training in the 2014/15 academic year. A 25 per cent premium will be paid to School Direct trainees whose training is based in a school where more than 35 per cent of pupils are eligible for free school meals.

The scholarship will be instead of the standard bursary, but trainees who are not awarded the scholarship will continue to be eligible for the standard bursaries.

To be an IOP Scholar you will need to have outstanding knowledge of school-level physics and the potential to become an inspirational physics teacher. Each scholarship also includes a package of benefits including IOP membership and early career mentoring. There are a

number of application rounds for the year. To apply and to view the full eligibility criteria, go to the [IOP website](#)

Chemistry teacher training scholarships

The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) has teacher training scholarships of £25,000 available to chemistry trainees starting their teacher training in the 2014/15 academic year. A 25 per cent premium will be paid to School Direct trainees whose training is based in a school where more than 35 per cent of pupils are eligible for free school meals.

The scholarship will be instead of the standard bursary, but trainees who are not awarded the scholarship will continue to be eligible for the standard bursaries.

The RSC is looking for individuals who are passionate about chemistry, have the potential to be an exceptional chemistry teacher and can therefore inspire the next generation of chemists. In addition to the funding, RSC Scholars will have access to a wide variety of RSC support including membership and networking opportunities. [Visit the RSC website](#) to view the full eligibility criteria and to apply.

Computing teacher training scholarships

BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, has teacher training scholarships of £25,000 available to computing trainees starting their teacher training in the 2014/15 academic year. A 25 per cent premium will be paid to School Direct trainees whose training is based in a school where more than 35 per cent of pupils are eligible for free school meals.

The scholarship will be instead of the standard bursary, but trainees who are not awarded the scholarship will continue to be eligible for the standard bursaries.

BCS is looking for outstanding individuals who are passionate about computing and have the potential to become inspirational teachers. Applicants should have a thorough knowledge of school level computing. Scholars will have access to BCS membership and early career mentoring opportunities with schools, universities and major employers. [Visit the BCS website](#) to view the full eligibility criteria and to apply.

Student loan for maintenance

Home students in England may also be eligible for a student maintenance loan to help towards accommodation and other living costs. This is available through Student Finance England. More information on the student loan for maintenance can be found on the [GOV.UK website](#)

Maintenance grant

Home students in England may also be eligible for a non-repayable maintenance grant. This grant will be means tested and you can apply through Student Finance England. More details about these grants and the funding arrangements for trainees from the EU can be found on the [GOV.UK website](#)

Next steps

Call the Teaching Line for more information about becoming a teacher:

Freephone: 0800 389 2500

At The Port Alliance, we are able to offer mainly School Direct fee paying places and whether you wish to train in the Primary or Secondary sector, look for details of how to apply on the NCTL website <http://www.education.gov.uk/schooldirect>

Applications are now made through UCAS, the University admissions system. Click on

<http://www.ucas.com/how-it-all-works/teacher-training>

Remember you can apply for the first round from November 1st 2013. You can make up to 3 application choices. If you have not been successful in the first round, you can apply for the second round from January 1st 2014.

Sail to success with The Port Alliance!

You can e-mail us for more detailed information at schooldirect@whitbyhs.cheshire.sch.uk

Your contact at The Whitby High School is Mrs. Caroline Howard – Assistant Headteacher. To contact her personally, write to choward@whitbyhs.cheshire.sch.uk or contact her Assistant, Helen Speed hspeed@whitbyhs.cheshire.sch.uk

The schools within The Port Alliance working in partnership with The University of Chester are:

The Whitby High School – Lead School

We are offering Secondary places in Mathematics, English, Science, French and/or German, Drama, Art and Physical Education . All training places following fee paying route.

Whitby Heath Community Primary School – 1 training place

Woodlands Community Primary School - 1 training place

William Stockton Community Primary School- 1 salaried route training place

Capenhurst Controlled Church of England Primary School – 1 training place

Christ Church Aided Primary School – 2 training places

Meadow Community Primary School – 2 training places

The Oaks Community Primary School – 1 training place

St. Saviours Catholic Primary School – 1 training place

Why would you choose The Port Alliance?

- You have a unique opportunity to train in the geographical area which suits you
- You would work in a variety of settings from Nursery to Sixth Form
- We can tailor your training to reflect your strengths and interests
- We are a group of high performing schools who constantly pursue outstanding outcomes and thrive on innovation
- Between us, we transform life prospects for children living in Ellesmere Port, whether they start with disadvantages or ultimately aim to go to Oxford.

So, if you love working with children and are enthusiastic about learning to teach, come and train with us! We are looking for energy and humour, initiative and dedication to improve children's lives. If that sounds like you, then apply to The Port Alliance.

Remember, all the details you need are on the NCTL website

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schooldirect>