

A photograph of a classroom setting. In the foreground, a young boy with dark, curly hair and blue-rimmed glasses is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. He is wearing a blue school sweater over a white collared shirt. Behind him, two other children are visible, also in school uniforms. The background shows a bright, modern classroom with large windows and other students seated at desks.

Primary

Teacher Training

Our vision



For there to be an inspirational teacher in every classroom that champions young people to achieve and thrive.

Our School-Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) has become recognised across Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, and Rutland for delivering exemplary teacher training.

Inspiring through education

Our programme is a highly practical and school-based, ensuring you learn from the very best teacher's practice and have ample opportunity to apply your learning where it matters, in the classroom.

Our Primary course is proudly delivered in partnership with



“Trainees are exceptionally positive about their initial teacher education. Many seek out the programme because of its strong reputation for the high quality of training. Trainees benefit from an excellent curriculum, taught by experts.

- Ofsted, May 2023



Learn from experienced teachers and leaders

Many of our facilitators are experienced senior and middle leaders who have been recognised for their expertise and specialist knowledge.

You will be trained and supported by a community of leading practitioners, who have created a high quality and inspirational programme, so you can become an outstanding, child-centred teacher and potential leader of the future.

93%

of the trainees who qualified in 2023/24 found full time employment within our schools.



Our three pillars

Our three pillars define our core beliefs in providing outstanding teacher training.



The Location

Our placement schools are carefully selected to provide a rich and diverse learning environment for our trainees. You will complete your placements in at least two of our schools, across the year groups you are training in.

The Support

Our regional Hubs are led by a Hub Lead, along with a team of experienced professional tutors who get to know you well throughout your training year. They provide pastoral and academic support to ensure you reach your full potential during your training and beyond. During your school placements, you will also be supported by mentors, who will meet with you regularly to review progress and development priorities.



The Person

We believe an outstanding teacher has six key qualities. Over your training year you will have the opportunity to develop into a teacher that is **creative, professional, knowledgeable, resilient, reflective and emotionally intelligent**; also known as the **iL6**.



Creative

A creative teacher makes learning engaging and rewarding by taking risks, embracing bravery in trying new approaches, and adapting their teaching effectively to changes in the learning environment.



Professional

A professional teacher upholds high standards of conduct, demonstrates reliability and respect, and nurtures a positive learning environment, ensuring that students feel valued and supported.



Knowledgeable

A knowledgeable teacher possesses strong pedagogical and subject expertise, nurtures a curious mindset and actively engages in research and collaboration with colleagues to support ongoing professional growth.



Resilient

A resilient teacher faces challenges with perseverance and a positive mindset, maintaining high standards of self-care and self-esteem, while assessing risks effectively and applying coping strategies in times of crisis.



Reflective

A reflective teacher critically reviews their performance and progress with an introspective mindset, recognising strengths and weaknesses, and identifying next steps for continuous growth and improvement.



Emotionally Intelligent

An emotionally intelligent teacher demonstrates self-awareness by recognising and managing their own emotions, enabling them to navigate complex dynamics and build strong inter-personal relationships.

Our programme

Our innovative full-time programme blends school-based training with local specialist delivery to ensure you become embedded in the educational framework of the region.



Centre-based training

Our centre-based training offers expert-led sessions from current practitioners, covering pedagogy, curriculum knowledge, and behaviour management to build a strong theoretical foundation for the classroom.

School-based training and placements

You will be immersed the classroom, gaining hands-on experience in **two different placement schools across three year groups** during the year.

As you gradually take on more teaching hours, you will refine your skills, build confidence, and apply your learning in school.

Your termly timetable (approx.)

Autumn

2-3 days p/w
School-based
2-3 days p/w
Centre-based

Spring

3-4 days p/w
School-based
1-2 days p/w
Centre-based

Summer

4-5 days p/w
School-based
1 day p/w
Centre-based



Our course in numbers

11

Days
dedicated
to
university
study

50+

Days of
centre-based
training

120+

Days
hands-on
classroom
training

Qualify and start earning

If you choose to do one of our full-time courses, you'll receive Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) from our Outstanding university partner, University of Derby. From there, your teaching career can begin.



Committed to your development

From teacher training through to leadership development, we are committed to supporting teachers in growing throughout their careers.

Once you qualify, we will continue to work with you to support your career aspirations beyond your training and ECT years.



Our courses

We're proud to offer the following courses, with all specialist pathways being delivered alongside our general primary course.

Early Years (3-7 years)

Learn from Early Years experts and gain hands-on experience in nursery, KS1, and 0-5 years placements. Explore creative teaching and specialist training days in forest schools, private setting visits, Early Years English and Maths.

General Primary (5 - 11 years)

Our most popular course, learn from experienced teachers who will help you build confidence and refine your practice. Engage with expert-led subject sessions to deepen your knowledge, and take part in enrichment days covering cognitive science, early years, inclusion, and more—giving you a well-rounded understanding of children and how they learn.

General Primary (with SEND)

Our SEND programme equips you with the skills and experience to become a confident and knowledgeable SEND specialist primary teacher. You'll gain valuable experience in both mainstream and special schools, allowing you to hone your craft and deepen your understanding of SEND.



General Primary (with PE)

Develop high-quality PE teaching methods with the guidance of PE specialists and explore the latest research in PE pedagogy. Discover innovative ways to enhance the primary curriculum through sport while gaining hands-on experience by running a sports club at each placement.

General Primary (with Maths)

Learn from passionate Maths experts and develop effective teaching methods to promote Maths mastery. As part of our specialist Maths programme you'll gain a strong foundation in all areas of the curriculum while building the skills to become an outstanding Maths teacher.

Train to teach part-time

All of our specialist courses, are available part-time, offering a flexible schedule to your teacher training. Commit to just 3 days a week and earn your Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) in only 19 months.

What we offer:

- Full Initial Teacher Training: Including four intensive training and practice weeks (full attendance required).
- Two School Placements

Become a leader

Qualities we're looking for

We're not looking for perfection. Becoming an outstanding teacher is a journey, but we're eager to see how you already demonstrate some of these qualities, which we will refine over time.

- Resilient
- Emotionally Intelligent
- Reflective
- Creative
- Professional
- Knowledgeable

Entry Requirements

To apply for our teacher training, you will need to meet these requirements.

- 🎯 A Bachelor's degree.
- 🎯 A degree or A-level in your secondary specialist subject is preferred.
- 🎯 A grade C/4 in GCSE English, Maths and Science (or equivalent).
- 🎯 Proof that you have the right to work and remain in the UK for the duration of the course.

We're dedicated to treating all applicants fairly and with respect regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, age, race, religion or disability.

Application and Interview

To get started, follow these steps to make your application.

Apply online

Visit the DfE Apply website and search '**Inspiring Leaders**' to view the courses available. You'll need to input your qualifications and submit a personal statement that reflects your passion for teaching.

Interview

If your qualifications meet our entry requirements and we would like to take your application further, you will be invited to start our interview process. This will be in two parts:

1. The first part is a formal online interview with a panel. It will include a group welcome and introduction to the Teacher Training programme and an overview and introduction to our vision and ethos.
2. The second part will be an activity with Year 4 or Year 1 children (depending on the course). You will be sent guidance for this along with your invitation to interview.

Offer and enrolment

If you're successful, you'll receive an unconditional offer. To accept your place you will need to confirm this on DfE APPLY. We will keep in touch with details of the induction events and pre-course activities.





Afshan's Story

After leaving school, I trained to become a Senior Pharmacy Technician. I worked at the pharmacy and after a while, started managing a local GP surgery too. I thoroughly enjoyed my jobs, even though I was working 12 hours a day! Helping people has always fed my soul.

After having my first child, I decided to stay at home and continued to do so until my youngest started preschool. It was then, I volunteered at my children's school. I was offered a job as a 1:1 for child with complex needs, which I took very seriously. The Early Years team was fantastic and welcomed me with open arms. I loved that world! I returned to London for a term, worked as a Nursery Nurse, realised how much I missed my school family, and returned to Leicester, this time as a Cover Supervisor. It was then I knew, I wanted to be a teacher. So I began my BSc Psychology with the Open University, whilst I worked full time at my children's school.

I attended a few teacher training events. However, when I met Jo Venables and Phil Page at the Inspiring Leaders event, I knew they were 'my people'! From the moment we spoke, they put my worries at rest. I had managed to get this far because I'd worked at my children's school. I was worried that I would not be able to meet the expectations of a trainee teacher because my children were still at primary school.

Working as a Cover Supervisor for 5 years helped me develop a huge bank of strategies, subject knowledge and confidence. However, the ILTT course taught me so much more! The reflections Phil insisted we completed after each lesson were the bane of our lives! But they have shaped us as teachers! That reflection process is embedded within our live modelling, questioning, marking and feedback.

"What is the impact? How will you measure it?" Phil's words, again, are the basis for pretty much everything in teaching. From lesson planning to assessment. Everything must have a purpose and impact, or there is no point in doing it.

Having trained through COVID, we became experts at blended learning! Our cohort dwindled but nearly all of us are still in touch with each other – we made friends for life! The forest school training was amazing. I got to experience, first-hand, the need to give children time to complete an activity they are engrossed in. There was so much learning and so many opportunities to develop and scaffold oracy, gross motor skills and creativity. Lastly, something that I use with children every year – You win or you learn! This encourages children (and adults) to become resilient, lifelong learners.

As I trained during the COVID outbreak, it was difficult for me to go into school while my own children were at home. I spoke to Phil about my concerns and together we decided that I would teach online 4 days a week and attend school once a week. My second placement presented different challenges compared to my first, and I felt there were areas where additional support could have been beneficial. I spoke to Phil about how I felt and he visited me weekly at my placement school, ensuring I had the appropriate support.

Since leaving the training I am now part of the Parkland Primary School family. After completing my ECT years, I became an ECT Mentor. I am now Leading Year 3 and Science as well and am due to have a trainee teacher in the Spring Term.

The advice that I would give to upcoming trainees would be to remember, you win or you learn! I would also say be kind to yourself, you're in the business of shaping lives!



Sam's story

As an Inspiring Leaders teacher trainee, my first placements were at Mapplewells and Greenwood. These made me fall in love with teaching and reaffirmed I'd made the right career choice.

My then class mentor and learning coach, (now Headteacher at Bilsthorpe), was incredibly supportive and set me up well. My Professional Tutor was totally invested in my development, not just during my training year but beyond too.

Throughout my career, I've learned so much from my colleagues around me. From my year group partner who hugely influenced my practice, to my Headteacher who encouraged me to take up leadership roles across the school and Trust-wide, I have embraced the chance to push myself out of my comfort zone and try something new.

Even when things are tough, I strive to be a beacon of happiness for the children and staff because that creates a place of safety and positivity where they want to be.

Sam's career since graduating

NQT & Y6
teacher for
Beeston Fields
Primary School

Subject Lead for
Computing
(School)

Specialist
Subject Lead,
Trust-wide

Debate Club
Lead, Trust-
wide

Key Stage 2
Leader,
Hawthorn
Primary School

T&L and English
Lead, Hawthorn
Primary School

Things to look forward to

Team Building

A highlight of our course is a team building day, designed to show how school trips can bring the curriculum to life. You'll learn about planning logistics, managing student behavior, health and safety, and risk management. Plus, enjoy outdoor activities that demonstrate how fieldwork and research can enrich learning.



Graduation

Upon qualifying, you'll be invited to a graduation ceremony. Celebrate your achievements with friends, mentors, and family, and look forward to your future in education. It's a day of recognition and new beginnings.



Start your journey - Get school experience

If you are looking to gain some classroom experience to support your teacher training application, then book onto one of our school experience days.

They are a fully structured day spent in one of our amazing schools. You will have the opportunity to spend a day in the classroom, meet the staff team and immerse yourself in school life for a day.





If you have any questions, contact us by sending an email to info@iltoday.co.uk, and our friendly team will be in touch.

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teacher training

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