

Interested
in a career in
teaching?



Central Region
Schools Trust

Founded by the RSA

Teach Central (Training Provision of Central Region Schools Trust)

Headline Figures 2024-25

100% of secondary associate teachers passed at Grade 1& 2
Teach Central Completion Rate (Secondary) 100%
Teach Central Completion Rate (Primary) 100%

If you are interested in School Experience, please contact twilson@crst.org.uk to organise time in one of our partner schools across the family.

We are located in schools throughout the West Midlands and Worcestershire and can offer experience across Primary, First, Middle, High & Secondary phases.



Welcome

“Teach Central & the wider Central Region Schools Trust has a strong history of supporting educational innovation, thinking and approaches through high quality training, delivered by experienced practitioners in our outstanding schools. Our tailored Professional Development programme ensures that our associate teachers can successfully progress on their chosen career path. We invest heavily in research and development opportunities, to further support social justice through exceptional schools.”

TEACH CENTRAL

Teach Central, formerly ‘The RSAA Teaching School Alliance’, is the teacher training provision of the Central Region Schools Trust, and is led by Good and Outstanding schools across the West Midlands and the wider central region. We work in partnership with all phases of education including - first, primary, middle, high and secondary schools.



Our schools are located in different areas across the Midlands; we can offer training in Birmingham, Dudley, Redditch (South Birmingham), Kidderminster, Worcestershire and Warwickshire.

Through our family of secondary, high, middle, first and primary schools, we provide a range of professional development opportunities to teachers at all stages of their careers. One of our main aims is to take a leading role in recruiting and providing high quality training to new entrants to the profession, identifying leadership potential and supporting teachers on a successful career path.

Why train with us?

Working with Teach Central brings endless opportunities and unique benefits to associate teacher teachers. There is a strong encouragement and support for teachers as researchers, who are encouraged to try out new things and share their findings. There is also opportunity to have a wider influence on education. The Central Region Schools' trust continue to contribute to the education debate, and there are opportunities for associate teachers working within the trust to be part of this.

“Completing my teacher training with Teach Central has been an incredibly positive and rewarding experience. From the very beginning, the support available has been outstanding. Everyone I’ve worked with has been approachable, encouraging, and always ready to offer help or advice whenever needed. .”

Teach Central is an established Lead Partner with Birmingham City University. The distinct difference between a PGCE core route and our Lead Partner route is that trainee teachers start their placement from the beginning of the academic year, in September, in their placement school. The rationale for this is that trainee teachers have the optimum exposure to school practice, policy and the wider functions of the school community. This allows trainees to gain invaluable experience at the very beginning of their journey, thus enabling them to make the very best progress.

Teach Central, and BCU (primary & secondary phases) are proud to be working together to provide this innovative and creative route into teaching. This partnership allows us to work closely together to provide trainee teachers with the opportunities they need to become creative and inspirational leaders of learning who will motivate and engage all young people.

“My mentor was brilliant. She was always there when I needed advice, whether it was about lesson planning, dealing with tricky situations in the classroom, or just needing someone to talk to after a tough day. ”

Our partnership aims to produce highly skilled graduate teachers who have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of teaching and learning, which will enable them to demonstrate the highest levels of professional practice.

Our partnership offers unrivalled facilities and excellent teaching informed by research and evidence. Teachers, as experts, support our trainee teachers to develop into the next generation of great practitioners and leaders.

Our programmes prepare trainee teachers to address the needs of all learners and their communities, to overcome disadvantage and barriers to learning and to continually reflect upon the impact of their professional practice.



We offer **multi-tiered levels of support** to guarantee that our trainees make exceptional progress throughout their training and beyond. The Central Region Schools multi-academy Trust, of which Teach Central is the teacher training provision, ensures the best possible educational outcomes for the children in our care, to prepare them for a happy and fulfilling life.

Our training programmes last for one academic year (September – July), and is a full time programme. Throughout the year, you will undertake two high quality school placements across our multi academy trust, and extensive network of partner schools.

“I have enjoyed support from experienced mentors, a strong and balanced department and an open-door policy. With clinics and in person meetings, I have been supported at every step of the way to become the best teacher I can be. This has set a strong foundation for my further career.”

Your first placement will start in September at the beginning of the academic year. You will also enjoy a bespoke programme of training developed, and delivered by our family of schools and partners.

For training bursary information, visit the “[Get into Teaching website.](#)”

There are **minimum entry requirements** for all of our Lead Partner School ITT programmes. Our courses have been designed to build your confidence and subject knowledge and give you the necessary skills to become an effective classroom practitioner.

We strongly believe in school-led training, because we recruit high calibre trainee teachers, and support them to become the very best practitioners and in turn transform students’ outcomes through challenging and stimulating teaching.



We provide one-to-one support and access to a comprehensive and tailored CPD package, which will ensure you are fully supported throughout your training year and your professional development.

Teach Central and Birmingham City University work closely together to deliver a programme to meet the needs of local schools, local learners and local teachers. Trainee teachers spend the majority of their time in school-based practice and centre-led training sessions at specific times.

Central to our training is the study of education, pedagogy, subject-specific and professional practice, which is delivered using a combination of practical workshops, taught sessions, seminar groups and individual study. Integral to our programme is our 'research-centred approach, which is delivered throughout the training year to empower trainee teachers to engage with research to raise standards of progress for all learners; this model focuses on creativity, initiative and 'out of the box' thinking.

“Throughout the programme, I’ve been supported not just as a trainee, but as a developing professional. The balance between hands-on classroom experience and research-informed academic study enabled me to approach teaching with both confidence and critical insight.”

To complement this, we offer a programme of subject knowledge and enhancement that supports the development of subject pedagogy. Specialist subject knowledge is up-dated throughout the course to ensure trainee teachers are fully conversant with curriculum requirements. Trainee teachers are expected, as early career professionals, to take on significant responsibility for their own progress and development.

On completion of your training you will be awarded a PGCE with QTS; the programmes are assessed at masters (M) level. Graduates of the Lead Partner programme will be confident, passionate, knowledgeable and reflective teachers, ready to embark on a rewarding and fulfilling career, hopefully taking up positions that arise within our multi-academy Trust.



“Thanks to the consistent guidance and constructive feedback I’ve received, I’ve been able to build my confidence and develop my practice in a meaningful way. Teach Central has created an environment where I’ve felt supported to grow both personally and professionally, and I feel well-prepared as I move forward into my teaching career. ”

Lead Partner Programme

This school-led option offers practical, hands-on training and education based in good schools. Lead Partner courses are designed by groups of schools – with a university or a SCITT – based on the skills they are looking for in a early career teacher (ECT). The schools recruit you as a trainee teacher onto their Lead Partner course. This is a popular choice for those who hope to secure a role in the network of schools where they train.

The distinct difference between a PGCE core route and our Lead Partner route is **that trainee teachers start their placement from the beginning of the academic year**, in September, in their placement school. Our family of schools has a wide geographical base. Applications, where possible, will be matched to your preferred location.

There are two options available for Lead Partner training.

SUPPORTING SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH EXCEPTIONAL SCHOOLS



Lead Partner Programme



Option 1

Lead Partner Salaried
(Secondary & High only)

Aimed at those with some classroom-based experience. We will consider career changers on a case by case basis, dependent on experience. This experience will normally have been gained since leaving university and should be within an educational setting. You are employed as a member of staff in your placement school, as an unqualified teacher and paid a salary, starting in September of the academic year.

Option 2

Lead Partner Training Route (Primary, First, Middle, High & Secondary)

Open to all graduates who meet the minimum entry requirements. You are strongly advised to check the entry requirements prior to application. If in doubt, please contact us.

Funded by tuition fees (£9,535) paid by the trainee teacher directly. You will be eligible for the standard student support package, including training bursaries, tuition fee loans and scholarships where applicable.

Who we are looking for...

We are looking for people who have the right personal qualities and **potential to be a passionate and committed teacher** to improve the outcomes for the young people we work with.

While experience of working with young people is not essential, it is often found that the strongest applicants are those who have shown an interest in working with young people and a willingness to get some experience of school where possible. You are likely to be asked at interview about your experiences of being in a school, even if it just from an observational point of view. We are looking for those who have:

- Excellent communication and organisational skills
- Commitment to working hard and a demonstration of resilience
- Ability to establish good working relationships
- Confidence and ability to engage with children
- Commitment to a professional team
- Commitment to excellence in education
- Flexibility



In summary, why choose Teach Central?

- Teach Central is an established Lead Partner with Birmingham City University
- The programme starts, in your placement school from the beginning of September, so you are immersed in whole school CPD, Safeguarding and identifying strategies for supporting pupils with an educational need, and are treated as a 'member of staff' from the inception of your training.
- We offer multi-tiered levels of support to guarantee that our trainee teachers make exceptional progress throughout their training and beyond
- Through our family of secondary, high, middle, first and primary schools, we provide a range of professional development opportunities to teachers at all stages of their careers.
- Our provision includes a subject based mentor with a dedicated session each week one-to-one
- Support from the school based professional mentor

“The programme is well-structured and gave me real insight into classroom teaching, backed by strong support from mentors and tutors. If you're considering teacher training, I highly recommend Teach Central, you'll be well supported every step of the way.”

In summary, why choose Teach Central?

- Continual support & communication from the Trust Lead for ITT
- A University tutor
- Our partnership offers unrivalled facilities and excellent teaching informed by research and evidence.
- A named placement school with a scheduled visit in the summer ahead of starting your training. This allows trainees to familiarise themselves with school culture, processes, policies, planning and curriculum in preparation for a September start.
- Our programmes prepare trainee teachers to address the needs of all learners and their communities, to overcome disadvantage and barriers to learning and to continually reflect upon the impact of their professional practice.
Please click here for [DFE Apply](#).



DFE APPLY

Applications are made on the [DFE Apply](#) website.

1st October 2025

'Find' courses opens

DFE Apply 2025 'find post-graduate courses' goes live.

8th October 2025

'Apply' stage opens

Applicants will be able to start their applications from this date.

Primary

Training route only

- Primary education
- Primary early years education
- Primary education with specialism in mathematics
- Primary education with specialism in SEND
- Primary education with specialism in physical education

Programme

We work with Birmingham City University to provide a bespoke training programme, which is the highest calibre in supporting teacher development throughout the primary phase. Training will include a theory based approach interwoven with the practical application of the pedagogy.



Lead Partner Salaried

- Chemistry
- English
- Mathematics
- Modern Languages
- Physics

Lead Partner Training Route

- Art and Design
- Biology/Chemistry
- Physics
- Computer Science
- Design Technology/Food & Product Design
- Drama
- English
- Geography
- History
- Music
- Mathematics
- Modern Languages
- Physical Education
- Religious Education

“Being part of the Trust has given me access to CPD opportunities that have genuinely boosted my confidence and skill set - from behaviour management strategies to inclusive practice. The support and development opportunities within the Trust, and from my apprenticeship, have not only helped me grow professionally but have made me feel valued and motivated to keep pushing for the best outcomes for our students.”

Entry Requirements

- A degree from a UK Higher Education Institution or equivalent qualification. A 2:1 is desirable but not essential; we will consider a lower class degree, or if an overseas applicant, a 2:2 or equivalent. In all cases, we consider each application on an individual basis.
- Secondary candidates should note that subject knowledge will be judged on a case by case basis; however, salaried applicants must demonstrate a good understanding of their subject discipline/specialism. For secondary candidates; a standard equivalent to a grade C/4+ in the GCSE examinations in English and mathematics is required. For primary applicants, English, mathematics and science are required at Grade C/4+ or equivalent.
- All entrants have achieved a standard equivalent to a pass (Grade C/4+) in English, mathematics and science (for primary applicants)
- All entrants hold a degree from a United Kingdom Higher Education Institution or equivalent qualification (including overseas qualifications, professional or vocational qualifications)
- All entrants hold suitable qualifications, either in their chosen subject area, or demonstrate capacity to complete a subject enhancement course
- All candidates are required to apply via DFE Apply.
- All entrants have provided suitable references and have been subject to Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).
- Applicants/trainee teachers with disabilities are under no obligation to disclose their disabilities.

How we select Trainee Teachers?

Teach Central and Birmingham City University (primary & secondary phases) will check all applications. Applications will be matched, where possible, to the applicants' preferred geographical location of school. Those applicants meeting the entry criteria will be shortlisted and invited for interview which will involve:

- A range of tests and activities to test suitability for teaching
- A formal interview, which will consist of a panel of senior staff, asking a series of questions, covering a variety of topics.
- A short interaction with students. This will include a teaching element for up to 30 minutes
- A 30 minute written task. Applicants will be given material to study relating to the task before the interview

Further checks will include:

- References (if not already done)
- DBS
- Physical & mental fitness to teach
- Verification of qualifications (if not already done)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) declaration to be completed.



Contact:

For enquires about Initial Teacher Training at Teach Central, please contact:

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WEB:

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