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**Routes to becoming
a qualified teacher

Achieving Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) is essential in becoming a
qualified teacher. You need QTS to teach in primary, secondary and
special schools in England.** **This guide outlines what training you need.
In addition to having a degree, you must have GCSE English and Mathematics at grade 4 (C) or above, or an approved equivalent. To apply for a primary programme, you must also have GCSE Science at grade 4 (C) or above, or an approved equivalent. Level 2 Functional Skills is not an equivalent for entry into teaching.**

Please note that this is a guide - different training providers may have specific criteria for each route.

**I have a degree but no experience in teaching**

**I don’t have a degree**

**I have a degree and
I’m an experienced unqualified teacher**

**1. University degree**

**3. Postgraduate
teacher training**

**2. Undergraduate apprenticeship**

**4. Postgraduate
apprenticeship**

**5. Assessment-only**

**QTS = Qualified Teacher**

 **Please see overleaf for more information on each section**

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| **1. University degree** |
|  **Bachelor’s degree*** The most common route if you are wishing to teach a subject in secondary schools.
* Typically, a three-year university course.
* Level 3 qualifications would be required.
* Tuition fees apply – These vary per university (approximately £9,250 per year).
* Funding support is available through Student Finance.
* With a Bachelor’s degree, you would then need to complete a one-year postgraduate course to achieve QTS.
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|  **Bachelor’s degree with QTS*** A common route if you are wishing to teach in primary schools.
* Typically, a three or four-year university course that includes QTS.
* Level 3 qualifications would be required.
* Tuition fees apply – These vary per university (approximately £9,250 per year).
* Funding support is available through Student Finance.
* You might also be eligible for bursaries and scholarships (subject-dependant).
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|  **2. Undergraduate apprenticeship** |
|  **Teacher Degree Apprenticeships (TDAs)*** A new route to becoming a qualified teacher.
* A 4-year full-time programme that involves working in a school and earning a salary, whilst working towards getting a Bachelor’s degree with QTS.
* Level 3 qualifications would be required.
* Fully-funded - No tuition fees and you will also receive a salary.
* You will spend approximately 40% of your time studying for a degree with a university.

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 **Please see overleaf for information on postgraduate options**

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| **3. Postgraduate teacher training** |
|  **Postgraduate Certificate of Education (PGCE) including QTS*** A one-year programme delivered by a university, a School Centred Initial Teacher Training provider (SCITT) or a School Direct partnership.
* Tuition fees apply – these are approximately £9,250.
* Funding support is available through Student Finance.
* Bursaries and scholarships are available for certain secondary subjects.

**University*** Lecture-based postgraduate course which includes at least two school placements.

**School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT)*** A school-based course with regular training delivered by a SCITT.
* The PGCE qualification is delivered by a partner university.

**School Direct*** A school-based course with regular training delivered by a partner university or School Centred Initial Teacher (SCITT) provider.
* Salaried places available where you are paid as an unqualified teacher with the school paying the tuition fees. Most programmes lead to a PGCE qualification (there may be an additional cost to you for this).
* Fee-funded places available. Course fees are usually around £9,250 but funding support is available via Student Finance. For certain subjects, bursaries and scholarships are available up to £31,000. The PGCE qualification is delivered by a partner university.
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|  **4. Postgraduate apprenticeship** |
|  **PGTA (Postgraduate Teaching Apprenticeship)** * A relatively new route to becoming a qualified teacher.
* A full-time employment-based programme that involves working in a school, whilst earning a salary.
* Fully-funded - No tuition fees and you will also receive a salary.
* Most programmes lead to a PGCE qualification (there may be an additional cost to you for this).

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|  **5. Assessment-only** |
|  **Assessment-only route to QTS*** 3 month fast-track route for experienced unqualified teachers that have sole responsibility for teaching, assessment and planning.
* You must be able to prove you meet the Teachers’ Standards without needing additional training.
* You will complete a series of assessments over 12 weeks.
* Fees are usually between £1,500 - £4,000 (may be covered through your school).

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**For more information, please visit:**

* **getintoteaching.education.gov.uk**