

What is School Direct?

School Direct is a school based route into teaching offered by Sturminster Newton High School leading to a postgraduate certificate in education (PGCE). Sturminster Newton High School, working in partnership with The University of Exeter and the Mid- Somerset Consortium (MSC), recruits and select our own trainees in identified subjects.

These placements are for the 'fee paying' route. Trainees pay tuition fees of £9,000, although some trainees may be entitled to a bursary (dependent on subject and degree class). In exceptional circumstances there may be the opportunity for trainees to follow the salaries option and any trainee who wishes to discuss this is asked to contact the individual schools directly.

Trainees will work alongside our experienced staff and spend a greater proportion of their time in the classroom and in school. All candidates will follow the full PGCE course offered by the University of Exeter or the Mid-Somerset Consortium.

The selection criteria

You must have a first or second class UK University degree

- You must have at least a grade C in GCSE English and Mathematics
- You must have passed all the appropriate skills tests
- You will be able to demonstrate a desire to work with secondary aged students
- You will have a commitment to the highest quality of education for all
- 50% of your degree must be in the subject which you wish to train to teach

The selection process

- Potential trainees who are selected for interview will be informed in writing and given a date for interview. The interview process will include some or all of the following:
- Teaching – potential trainees are asked to teach a short lesson something to the other trainees and the Selection Panel, or to a group of students.
- A meeting with the department –a subject specific group exercise where the potential trainees meet the HoD, the mentor and 1 or 2 other members of the department to assess suitability to work with the department via a subject based discussion.
- Student panel – potential trainees will be interviewed by a panel of students
- Generic lesson observation (1/2 lesson)
- Formal interview – panel interview with members of the Selection Panel (and if available a member of the appropriate HEI)

Trainees will be also be required to complete a Disclosure and Baring Service form once the position has been offered.

How do we decide which trainees should be placed with which schools?

If more than one school within a partnership is offering a subject training place candidates will be required to express a preference at the point of application.

If their first preference cannot be met they can be offered an alternative place within the partnership

Applications for these positions are now open. For more information on school direct visit:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching/teacher-training-options/school-based-training/school-direct.aspx>

For more information about initial teacher education at the University of Exeter visit: <http://socialsciences.exeter.ac.uk/education/pgce/>

For more information about initial teacher education at the Mid Somerset Consortium visit: www.msctt.org.uk

For an informal chat by phone or in person, please contact:

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