



BIRMINGHAM CITY
School of Education
and Social Work

PRIMARY AND EARLY YEARS TEACHER TRAINING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BCU

Mentoring the next generation of primary teachers for our region

Placement information pack 2023/24



Birmingham City University

WELCOME FROM BCU

Primary and Early Years Teacher Training

Dear School Partners,

We hope you have had a successful year and we send you our very best wishes for the summer term.

We are now considering how we can continue our valuable work in training teachers in 2023/24. It has been another busy year in the School of Education and Social Work here at BCU. In partnership with our schools, the Department of Early Years and Primary Education has supported a large number of teacher training placements this year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all of your support in your school for their contribution to ITE at BCU this year.

We are delighted to see that so many of our PGCE Primary and BA Primary with QTS final year associate teachers are staying in the region following completion of their training and finding ECT posts with you. This is a real strength of our partnership, and we are very proud to be working with you to train the next generation of primary teachers.

We are committed to developing effective and strategic teacher education partnerships. We celebrate and highly value our partner schools within our provision. This includes offering CPD opportunities to partners; including accredited mentor training, support for Early Career Teachers and, most importantly, the opportunity to contribute to the design and delivery of our ITE curriculum. We advertise all partnership events in monthly newsletters, which are available on our partnership webpages.

The high standard of support that our associate teachers receive in your school is reflective of our shared vision for excellence and we are looking forward to developing this further as we continue to work with you in 2023/24.

Please take some time to look at the pack and to consider the ways in which you can continue to work with us during the next academic year.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you. Best wishes to you and everyone in your school community.



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PRIMARY QTS SCHOOL BASED TRAINING

Calendar 2023/24

PGCE Primary Core and SD Overview						
Week:	Week beg.	Monday PG	Tuesday PG	Wednesday PG	Thursday PG	Friday PG
	28-Aug-23	Bank Holiday				
1	4-Sep-23	Induction	Home School	Home School	Home School	Home School
2	11-Sep-23	Induction Day	FDTION	FDTION	PS	COREEgMaSci
3	18-Sep-23		FDTION	FDTION	PS	COREEgMaSci
4	25-Sep-23		FDTION	FDTION	PS	COREEgMaSci
5	2-Oct-23		Foundation Assignment Brf	FDTION	PS	COREEgMaSci
6	9-Oct-23	PSL subject choices	PS Conference Day	FDTION	PS	COREEgMaSci
7	16-Oct-23	Core Ass briefing	SBT1 Briefing	FDTION	PS	COREEgMaSci
8	23-Oct-23	SBT1 - PPSE	SBT1 - PPSE	SBT1 - PPSE	SBT1 - PPSE	SBT1 - PPSE
9	30-Oct-23			Pre-placement tasks	Pre-placement tasks	Pre-placement tasks
10	6-Nov-23	SBT1 - PPSE	SBT1 - PPSE	SBT1 - PPSE	SBT1 - PPSE	UT Sign off online
11	13-Nov-23	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	Languages Day
12	20-Nov-23	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1
13	27-Nov-23	Employability Call Back/ Language day Pt2	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1
14	4-Dec-23	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1
15	11-Dec-23	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1
16	18-Dec-23	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1
17	25-Dec-23	Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday			
18	1-Jan-24	Bank Holiday				
19	8-Jan-24	Core Ass briefing	FDTION	FDTION	PS	COREEgMaSci
20	15-Jan-24	PSL Ass briefing	FDTION	SBT2 Briefing	PS	COREEgMaSci
21	22-Jan-24	SBT2PPSE	SBT2PPSE	SBT2PPSE	SBT2PPSE	PSL Leadership
22	29-Jan-24	SBT2PPSE	SBT2PPSE	SBT2PPSE	SBT2PPSE	PSL Leadership
23	5-Feb-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	PSL Leadership
24	12-Feb-23			Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning
25	19-Feb-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	PSL Leadership
26	26-Feb-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	PSL Leadership
27	4-Mar-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	PSL Leadership

28	11-Mar-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2
29	18-Mar-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2
30	25-Mar-24					Bank Holiday
31	1-Apr-24	Bank Holiday				
32	8-Apr-24	PSL Presentations	PSL Presentations	FDTION	FDTION	FDTION
33	15-Apr-24	PS	CORE Reflection Day	SBT3 Briefing	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE
34	22-Apr-24	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE
35	29-Apr-24	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
36	6-May-24	Bank Holiday	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
37	13-May-24	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
38	20-May-23	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
39	27-May-24	Bank Holiday	Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning
40	3-Jun-24	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
41	10-Jun-24	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
42	17-Jun-24	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
43	24-Jun-24	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
44	1-Jul-24	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
45	8-Jul-24	UT Debrief online	ECF Prep	ECF Prep	PDT Standards Completion	PDT Standards Completion
46	15-Jul-24					
47	22-Jul-24	School Last day				
	29-Jul-24					

Key

-  School Based Training
-  Holiday
-  University Based Training
-  Self directed learning

PRIMARY QTS SCHOOL BASED TRAINING

Calendar 2023/24

BA1 Overview						
Week:	Week beg.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	28-Aug-23	Bank Holiday				
1	4-Sep-23					
2	11-Sep-23	Welcome Week				
3	18-Sep-23		Safeguarding/ Prevent	Academic support	EDU4141	
4	25-Sep-23		Safeguarding/ Prevent	Academic support	EDU4141	
5	2-Oct-23		EDU4141	Academic support	EDU4141	
6	9-Oct-23	EDU4140	EDU4141		EDU4141	EDU4140
7	16-Oct-23	EDU4140	EDU4141		EDU4141	EDU4140
8	23-Oct-23	EDU4140	EDU4141		EDU4141	EDU4140
9	30-Oct-23			Pre-placement tasks	Pre-placement tasks	Pre-placement tasks
10	6-Nov-23	EDU4138			EDU4138	
11	13-Nov-23	EDU4138			EDU4138	
12	20-Nov-23	EDU4138	SBT1 Briefing		EDU4138	
13	27-Nov-23	EDU4138 - Ass Brf	SBT1 Briefing		EDU4138	
14	4-Dec-23	EDU4138	SBT1 - PPSE	SBT1 - PPSE	EDU4138	
15	11-Dec-23	EDU4138	SBT1 - PPSE	SBT1 - PPSE		
16	18-Dec-23					
17	25-Dec-23	Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday			
18	1-Jan-24	Bank Holiday				
19	8-Jan-24	SBT1 - PPSE		Year Meeting		
20	15-Jan-24	SBT1 - PPSE	EDU4142 - Brf			
21	22-Jan-24	SBT1 - PPSE	EDU4142	EDU4142		
22	29-Jan-24	SBT1 - PPSE	EDU4142	EDU4142		
23	5-Feb-24	SBT1 - PPSE	EDU4142	EDU4142		
24	12-Feb-23			Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning
25	19-Feb-24	SBT1 - PPSE	EDU4139 - Brf		EDU4139	
26	26-Feb-24	SBT1 - PPSE	EDU4139		EDU4139	
27	4-Mar-24	SBT1 - PPSE	EDU4139		EDU4139	
28	11-Mar-24	SBT1 - PPSE	EDU4139			
29	18-Mar-24	SBT1 - PPSE			EDU4142 Presentations	EDU4142 Presentations
30	25-Mar-24					Bank Holiday

31	1-Apr-24	Bank Holiday				
32	8-Apr-24					
33	15-Apr-24	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1
34	22-Apr-24	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1
35	29-Apr-24	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1
36	6-May-24	Bank Holiday	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1
37	13-May-24	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1
38	20-May-23	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1	SBT1
39	27-May-24	Bank Holiday	Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning
40	3-Jun-24					
41	10-Jun-24	ASE	ASE	ASE	ASE	ASE
42	17-Jun-24					
43	24-Jun-24					
44	1-Jul-24					
45	8-Jul-24					
46	15-Jul-24					
47	22-Jul-24	School Last day				

Key

- Welcome week
- School Based Training
- Holiday
- University Based Training
- Self directed learning
- ASE - Additional School Experience

PRIMARY QTS SCHOOL BASED TRAINING

Calendar 2023/24

BA2 Overview						
Week:	Week beg.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	28-Aug-23	Bank Holiday				
1	4-Sep-23					
2	11-Sep-23					
3	18-Sep-23	Year Group Meeting		Academic support		Academic support
4	25-Sep-23	EDU5153			EDU5153	
5	2-Oct-23	EDU5153			EDU5153	
6	9-Oct-23	EDU5153	EDU5155		EDU5153	
7	16-Oct-23	EDU5153	EDU5155		EDU5153	
8	23-Oct-23	EDU5153	EDU5155 - Ass Brief		EDU5153	
9	30-Oct-23			Pre-placement tasks	Pre-placement tasks	Pre-placement tasks
10	6-Nov-23		EDU5153 - Maths Exam	Year Group Meeting	EDU5156	
11	13-Nov-23		EDU5155		EDU5156	
12	20-Nov-23		EDU5155		EDU5156	EDU5156 - Ass Brief
13	27-Nov-23		EDU5155		EDU5156	EDU5156
14	4-Dec-23		EDU5155		EDU5156	EDU5156
15	11-Dec-23				EDU5156	EDU5156
16	18-Dec-23					
17	25-Dec-23	Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday			
18	1-Jan-24	Bank Holiday				
19	8-Jan-24		EDU5154			EDU5154
20	15-Jan-24		EDU5154	SBT2 PPSE	SBT2 PPSE	EDU5154
21	22-Jan-24		EDU5154	SBT2 PPSE	SBT2 PPSE	EDU5154
22	29-Jan-24	SBT2 PPSE	SBT2 PPSE	SBT2 PPSE	SBT2 PPSE	SBT2 PPSE
23	5-Feb-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2
24	12-Feb-23			Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning
25	19-Feb-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2
26	26-Feb-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2
27	4-Mar-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2
28	11-Mar-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2
29	18-Mar-24	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2	SBT2
30	25-Mar-24					Bank Holiday

31	1-Apr-24	Bank Holiday				
32	8-Apr-24					
33	15-Apr-24	EDU5157- Intro	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157
34	22-Apr-24	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157
35	29-Apr-24	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157
36	6-May-24	Bank Holiday	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157
37	13-May-24	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157	EDU5157
38	20-May-23					
39	27-May-24	Bank Holiday	Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning
40	3-Jun-24	ASE	ASE	ASE	ASE	ASE
41	10-Jun-24					
42	17-Jun-24					
43	24-Jun-24					
44	1-Jul-24					
45	8-Jul-24					
46	15-Jul-24					
47	22-Jul-24	School Last day				

Key

- School Based Training
 - Holiday
 - University Based Training
 - Self directed learning
- ASE - Additional School Experience

PRIMARY QTS SCHOOL BASED TRAINING

Calendar 2023/24

BA3 Overview						
Week:	Week beg.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	28-Aug-23	Bank Holiday				
1	4-Sep-23					
2	11-Sep-23					
3	18-Sep-23	EDU6263	Phonics		Year Meeting	EDU6263
4	25-Sep-23	EDU6263	Phonics	Safeguarding/ Prevent		EDU6263
5	2-Oct-23	EDU6263		Safeguarding/ Prevent	SBT3 Briefing	EDU6263
6	9-Oct-23	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE
7	16-Oct-23	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE	SBT3PPSE
8	23-Oct-23	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
9	30-Oct-23			Pre-placement tasks	Pre-placement tasks	Pre-placement tasks
10	6-Nov-23	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
11	13-Nov-23	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
12	20-Nov-23	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
13	27-Nov-23	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
14	4-Dec-23	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
15	11-Dec-23	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3	SBT3
16	18-Dec-23					
17	25-Dec-23	Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday			
18	1-Jan-24	Bank Holiday				
19	8-Jan-24	EDU6265		EDU6265		EDU6265
20	15-Jan-24	EDU6262		EDU6265		
21	22-Jan-24	EDU6262		EDU6265	EDU6262	
22	29-Jan-24	EDU6262		EDU6265	EDU6262	
23	5-Feb-24	EDU6262			EDU6262	
24	12-Feb-23			Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning
25	19-Feb-24	EDU6264			EDU6264	
26	26-Feb-24	EDU6264			EDU6264	
27	4-Mar-24	EDU6264			EDU6264	
28	11-Mar-24				EDU6264	
29	18-Mar-24					
30	25-Mar-24					Bank Holiday
31	1-Apr-24	Bank Holiday				
32	8-Apr-24					

33	15-Apr-24					
34	22-Apr-24					
35	29-Apr-24					
36	6-May-24	Bank Holiday				
37	13-May-24					
38	20-May-23					
39	27-May-24	Bank Holiday	Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning	Placement planning
40	3-Jun-24					
41	10-Jun-24					
42	17-Jun-24					
43	24-Jun-24					
44	1-Jul-24					
45	8-Jul-24					
46	15-Jul-24					
47	22-Jul-24	School Last day				
	29-Jul-24					

Key

- School Based Training
- Holiday
- University Based Training
- Self directed learning

MENTORING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PRIMARY TEACHERS FOR OUR REGION

Statistics from the Department of Education indicate that BCU teacher training graduates are more likely to stay in the region than graduates from other institutions in our region.

The majority of BCU leavers travel 26km or less to their first job as ECT - this is higher than the regional average.

“The quality and strength of associate teachers, who have been on placement, enables us to recruit to positions in our schools from a field of talented individuals who have already shown their potential whilst on their teaching practice. A number of associate teachers from BCU have been employed as ECTs at our schools and we are absolutely delighted with the performance.”
CARL GLASGOW - Executive Headteacher

PRIMARY QTS SCHOOL BASED TRAINING

Payment for schools

Placement type	Payment per associate teacher
EYFS Placement	£325
KS1 Placement	£375
KS2 Placement	£325
BA QTS Year 1 Placement (All KS)	£400



WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BIRMINGHAM CITY UNIVERSITY

Benefits for schools

- Associate teachers can support teachers in class effectively, working with children and individuals to make progress towards their targets.
- In some placements, associate teachers can support the work of the school in more than one class during the year.
- BCU will provide bespoke mentor training based in schools through University Tutors (UTs).
- Schools can benefit from welcoming the associate teachers back for their final placements and this could support recruitment of ECTs.
- This is an excellent opportunity for teachers to develop their own skills of mentoring, lesson observation and providing feedback and also inform their own professional practice and CPD.

Roles and responsibilities

Lead Mentor (LM)

- Oversee the placement through close consultation with the Mentor/UT
- Work in partnership with the BCU Hub Lead to quality assure all processes to support the Associate Teacher
- Formally observe lessons in consultation with Mentor and UT
- Liaise with University Tutor (UT)
- Complete formative and summative assessment with Associate teacher and UT/Mentor
- Review progress

Mentor (Class Teacher)

- Oversee the placement through close consultation with the Lead Mentor/UT
- Formally observe lessons in consultation with Lead Mentor and UT
- Liaise with University Tutor (UT)
- Complete formative and summative assessment with Associate teacher and UT/Lead Mentor
- Review progress

University Tutor (UT)

- Joint observation with colleague (Mentor/Lead Mentor) in school
- Complete formative and summative assessment with Associate teacher and Lead Mentor/Mentor
- Liaise with colleagues in school

Placement support

- School Based Training Documentation
- Website:
www.bcu.ac.uk/education-and-social-work/partnerships-and-collaborations/primary-early-years-partnerships/overview
- University Tutor
- Partnership Office:
education.partnerships@bcu.ac.uk
- PGCE or BA with QTS Course Team

BA (HONS) PRIMARY EDUCATION WITH QTS

Our three-year undergraduate course

Overview of the Course

Our course offers students the chance to gain the professional qualification of Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) as well as a degree.

Students choose to specialise in age phases 3-7 or 5-11, qualifying them to teach in primary schools and early years settings.

Students are placed in local schools, where they can develop their practical experience, right from the start of the course, key to developing committed, creative and confident teachers.

Taught modules in Core, Foundation, Subject Study and Professional Studies. Students will look at theory and pedagogy in university and practice in school.

The learning is led by highly experienced tutors who facilitate a wide range of practical experience and taught sessions designed to encourage reflective and critical evaluation of research, policy and practice.

BA QTS YR1	
Prelims (one day a week TBC):	8, 15, 22, 29 January 2024 5, 19, 26 February 2024 4, 11, 18 March 2024
Block:	15 April – 24 May 2024
<ol style="list-style-type: none">Associate teachers will complete a day a week in school, followed by a block placement.This can operate as paired or single placement and is designed to develop the associate teachers' knowledge and understanding.One day per week in school starting in the spring term half term followed by a six-week block placement in the summer term. During this first preliminary visits associate teachers will complete set tasks, enabling them to learn more about teaching across the curriculum,During the block placement the associate teachers will plan and teach, building up to two lessons per day.	

BA QTS YR2	
Prelims:	17, 18, 23, 24, 29 Jan – 2 February 2024
Block:	5 February – 22 March 2024
<ol style="list-style-type: none">Associate teachers will complete preliminary visits and a six-week block placementThe preliminary days will build from 2 days per week in w/b 15 Jan to w/b 22 Jan, to 5 days in w/b 29 JanAssociate teachers build up to planning and teaching for 60% of the timetable by the start of week 4. Associate teachers will develop confidence in using formative assessment to secure children's progress and will become increasingly accountable for children's attainment and progress.This school-based learning is designed to build upon associate teachers' knowledge and understanding of teaching and learning, assessment and behaviour management strategies developed through centre based training and during their first School Based Training experience.	

BA QTS YR3	
Prelims:	17, 18, 23, 24, 29 - 31 Jan 1 – 2 February 2024
Block:	5 February – 22 March 2024
<ol style="list-style-type: none">Associate teachers will complete preliminary visits and a seven-week block placement in the Autumn Term.Associate teachers build up to teaching and taking responsibility for the class for 80% of the timetable by the start of week 5.Associate teachers will participate in all classroom procedures including registration, assessment and tracking.	

PGCE PRIMARY AND EARLY YEARS

School-based training overview

Overview of the Course

- The PGCE Primary and Early Years course is a one-year course based in the Faculty of Health, Education and Life Sciences.
- The course consists of modules and units of assessment leading to a Postgraduate Certificate in Education with Qualified Teacher Status.
- First week of Autumn term in a school setting to observe experienced teachers establishing routines and relationships with their new class.
- Three taught modules (Core, Foundation and Professional Studies and Leadership) where associate teachers will have the opportunity to look at pedagogy in university and in practice in school.
- School based training in two different schools in two different key stages.

Associate teachers have had input on:

- This includes:
- The primary curriculum, planning and assessing the core and the foundation subjects
 - Behaviour management strategies, theories related to learning, formative and summative assessment processes, safeguarding, SEND and adaptive teaching
 - Planning, teaching and assessing small groups, one to one interventions and whole classes.
 - Associate teachers on 3-7 route will have had experience of teaching, planning and assessment in EYFS

PGCE SBT1	
Prelims:	23 October – 9 November 2023
Block:	13 November – 22 December 2023
<ol style="list-style-type: none">Associate teachers will complete preliminary visits and an eight-week block placement.This can operate as a paired placement to support professional development for associate teachers.Associate teachers begin teaching one lesson per day building to a 50% timetable by the end of the placement.Designed to develop associate teachers' understanding of the range of teaching, learning and professional skills in the context of one-to-one, small/focus groups and whole class teaching.Placement will be formatively assessed against the BCU Key Themes.Associate teachers will usually return to their SBT1 placement school for SBT3	
<small>Note: The above dates show the start and end dates of the placement. To see exact days the associate teachers will be in school, please refer to the calendar at the front of this booklet.</small>	

PGCE SBT2	
Prelims	22 January – 1 February 2024
Block	5 February - 22 March 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">SBT2 will comprise of preliminary visits and a six-week block placement.SBT2 will focus on working with children and small groups identified by school data to support 'closing the gap' targets and some whole class teaching with a teaching timetable starting at 50% building to 60%.SBT2 will be formatively assessed against the BCU Key Themes.SBT2 is designed to build upon associate teachers' knowledge.	

PGCE SBT3	
Prelims	18 April – 26 April 2024
Block	29 April – 5 July 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Associate teachers will usually return to their SBT1 placement school for SBT3.SBT3 consists of preliminary visits and a nine-week block placementAssociate teachers start the placement with a minimum teaching commitment of 60% and build up to teaching and taking responsibility for the class for 80% of the timetable. Associate teachers will participate in all classroom procedures including registration, assessment and tracking.SBT3 will be summatively assessed against the BCU Key Themes and the Teachers' standards.	



Extending the Partnership

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

As well as offering placements to our associate teachers and supporting them in school, we are always interested in developing our partnership further. Please see below some further opportunities that you may wish to be involved in:

Recognition

All BCU ITE partner schools are informed of a range of opportunities available to them through the BCU Teacher Education Partnership Recognition process. We will issue all partner schools with a BCU Partnership certificate, which serves to recognise their contribution and commitment to ITE in the BCU programme. School mentors will be invited to annual celebration events at BCU, which are further opportunities to consult with the primary team and explore a range of opportunities within the BCU Teacher Education Partnership.

Accreditation

We offer fully funded online Level 7 credits in Coaching and Mentoring to all BCU Partner Schools. We also run a series of mentoring training sessions which will include for 2023/24 both online and face to face each term to support mentor development.

Admissions and recruitment

We welcome the input of school mentors, senior leaders and head teachers when we are interviewing applicants for the BA (Hons) Primary Education with QTS and Primary PGCE courses. If any colleagues are able to support our interview days at BCU, please let us know.

Subject knowledge enrichment

The School of Education and Social Work has started to work in partnership with many other curriculum areas across the university to host academic seminars. The first such event was a Teachers of English Conference, hosted by prestigious academics within the School of English.

Strategic input

The primary ITE Strategic Partnership Committee meets termly and is a key part of our continuous improvement in the training of BCU primary teachers in both our undergraduate and postgraduate courses. Our Strategic Partnership Committee is made up of mentors and senior leaders from across the region, so if you would like to be involved please let us know.

Delivery on the BCU programme

We have a number of different modules across our primary programmes covering the Core Curriculum, Foundation Curriculum and Professional Studies. We would like to encourage input on these from school-based colleagues. If you have a specific area of professional interest, a role in school, or are keen to support subject-specific activities with our associate teachers here at BCU, please get in touch. You could be involved in contributing to the planning of the modules or teaching sessions or both.

We are keen to develop the opportunities above and welcome suggestions for developing innovative partnerships. If any of these opportunities would be of benefit to your school please get in touch. We would love to hear from you.

OTHER PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Innovative ways to work with BCU

In addition to the assessed PGCE and BA QTS school experience placements designed to develop our students' classroom practice we are also keen to work with schools in other ways. This provides a unique opportunity to build a community that can develop best practice through research and innovation.

- We have a range of modules, arts projects and sports schemes that involve students working within schools to develop specialist knowledge and pedagogy.
- Our year 3 students will be engaging in their own research projects and are often looking for schools who they can work with to investigate practice, policy and educational values.
- During spring term PGCE students undertake a Professional Studies and Leadership module. They focus on barriers to learning in their specialist subject and how through a whole school initiative this could be addressed with a resulting impact on pupil progress. Associate teachers are keen to engage with schools to develop skills and have a positive impact on teaching and learning
- In discussion with staff there are other opportunities for developing varied experiences, either working in school or faculty. Previous examples include associate teachers supporting at sports days, year 5 children attending an 'aspiration day' in Faculty.
- The University can also support CPD in your school through bespoke training of staff, research initiatives and a range of postgraduate and Master's level courses.
- Consultancy to support PE development in school.
- Many faculty staff support schools in our partnership by becoming Governors. If you are looking for a co-opted governor let us know.

We are keen to develop the opportunities above and welcome suggestions for developing innovative partnerships. If any of these opportunities would be of benefit to your school please get in touch. We would love to hear from you.



MENTOR TRAINING

Become a Leading Partnership School

Our University tutors will support you by delivering mentor training in your school, or cluster schools, at the start of the Associate Teacher school based training experience. As a School or Lead Mentor, you will also have access to work with our BCU Hub Leads and collaborate with other School/Lead Mentors in your region during the school year to understand and develop our BCU ITE Curriculum. Bespoke CPD will be offered during the year and accessed through our Primary Partnership Website.

During the session we would be looking at:

- Developing the Associate Teacher as a reflective, research-led practitioner
- Getting the most out of the weekly meeting
- Using the Associate Teacher's Subject Specific and Professional Journals to support robust developmental mentor conversations
- Using subject prompts to support effective feedback
- Using critical incidents to support and develop Associate Teachers' practice experience
- Supporting the Review and Progress meetings
- Working with a struggling Associate Teacher - how to use the 'Rapid Improvement Targets' (RITS)
- Outlining the key features of the school based training you will be supporting
- School Partnership Mentor Event, an opportunity to network with other Lead Mentors.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Am I able to offer a placement to one associate teacher instead of a pair for BA QTS and PGCE School Experience 1?

A: Yes, you can offer a placement to one associate teacher, but a paired placement is more beneficial to the associate teachers.

Q: Have all associate teachers been subject to a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check prior to starting their placement?

A: Yes, all of our associate teachers are required to complete this before placement commences.

Q: Do the associate teachers on paired placements have to be based within the same class?

A: Most schools would base paired placements in the same class but, if you want paired associate teachers in different classes, that is fine, as long as they have opportunities to share planning and to team teach. Associate teachers placed in parallel classes in the same age group also works particularly well.

Q: I have trained through another institution; can I still be a school tutor/mentor?

A: Yes, if you have trained as a school tutor mentor at another institution you can be a mentor for our associate teachers. Your named University Tutor will be happy to discuss this further with you. Please also see enclosed information about Online Mentor Training which we are pleased to offer to our Partner Schools.

Q: Where can I find key information about the course?

A: All key information, including dates and documents, is available on our website: www.bcu.ac.uk/education/partnerships

Q: Can a class teacher also be the lead mentor?

A: Yes, but ideally, having a separate mentor allows students to have another source of support within the school.

Q: If I can't attend the School Briefing Meeting, is there another way in which I can obtain the information required for the placement?

A: Yes. All relevant documentation relating to the placement will be sent out ahead of the start date. We are also able to send out a copy of the School Briefing presentation if required. The University Tutor assigned to your placement will also be on hand to answer any further questions you might have.

CONTACT DETAILS

Should you have any questions regarding our teacher training placements, please get in touch with one of our Education Partnerships Team on:

t 0121 331 7303

e education.partnerships@bcu.ac.uk

BA (Hons) Primary Education with QTS

Course Leader – Kate Glanville

t 0121 331 7349

e kate.glanville@bcu.ac.uk

PGCE Primary and Early Years with QTS

Course Leader – Alison Pemberton Smith

t 0121 331 7383

e alison.pemberton@bcu.ac.uk

We hope that we have given you sufficient information to enable you to identify which associate teachers your school will benefit from supporting, but if you need further information please contact your link tutor or contact the Partnership Team on:



0121 331 7303



education.partnerships@bcu.ac.uk

For more information regarding our Primary Partnership, visit our website:

www.bcu.ac.uk/education/partnerships

Birmingham City University
Faculty of Health, Education and Life Sciences
School of Education and Social Work