



THE
TOMMY
FLOWERS
SCITT

OUTSTANDING TEACHER TRAINING IN MILTON KEYNES

Prospectus 2019/20





WE ARE

OUTSTANDING

Ofsted, December 2017

Welcome to the Tommy Flowers SCITT

The Tommy Flowers SCITT (School-Centered Initial Teacher Training) is a network of primary and secondary schools in the Milton Keynes region dedicated to developing the next generation of inspirational teachers. Graded an 'oustanding' provider of both primary and secondary teacher training by Ofsted in December 2017, we are delighted to share with you our innovative training programmes.

Working in partnership with schools, our teacher training programmes partner trainees with specialist mentors and a dedicated team of subject and professional tutors. We create varied experiences for our trainees that will set them up to become excellent teachers for the children in this region.

Our trainees are nurtured into teachers who develop positive attitudes to learning and behaviour in their pupils, have strong subject knowledge and engage their classes with enthusiasm and energy. With the majority securing employment in their placement school following the completion of the course, our Newly Qualified Teachers, *'often exceed levels of performance expected at such an early stage of their career.'* (Ofsted, 2017)

If you have a passion for teaching, are organised and hard-working, please explore our courses further and contact us to find out more about studying with the Tommy Flowers SCITT.

We are looking to recruit trainees in the following phases and subjects:

Secondary

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- English
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Modern Foreign Languages
- PE
- Physics

Primary

- General Primary (with a focus on either Early Years or Key Stages 1 & 2)
- Primary School Direct (Salaried)

Primary and Secondary training

***‘Trainees receive
exemplary
training.’***

Ofsted, December 2017

The Tommy Flowers SCITT primary and secondary courses devote the majority of training time to experience in school and in the classroom. In our partnership schools, you will learn from outstanding practitioners, particularly your personal mentor. All primary trainees specialise in either the age 3-7 or 5-11 brackets, whilst secondary trainees work with the 11-16 age range, with post-16 enhancement.

Trainees have two contrasting placements, a base placement from 1st September to 30th June, with a 7 week second placement in February and March. In addition, you will receive a personalised programme of additional visits to specialist schools, developing skills specific to your needs. This enables you to experience a range of educational approaches preparing you to work with the unique, dynamic and diverse communities Milton Keynes has to offer.

From day one, you will be regarded as a teacher in your school. However, your teaching timetable will develop and grow to suit your own experience, pace and progress. Trainees come with a range of prior experiences; you may be a new graduate, changing careers or already have experience within schools, so the course is tailored to match your needs.



WE ARE SHAPING THE FUTURE

*Join a profession where you can inspire, motivate
and mould the next generation of leaders.*

One day per week is dedicated to training. You will join your fellow trainees for a broad programme of training that Ofsted (December 2017) described as ‘exemplary’. Led by experts in their fields from across the city, the training programme follows three strands:

Subject studies

For secondary trainees, subject studies will develop teaching strategies specific to your chosen subject, whilst primary trainees explore all the subjects taught at primary level, from Early Years to Year 6.

Professional studies

You will learn the skills associated with being an outstanding teacher from planning and assessing, to supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) or managing behaviour effectively.

PGCE

10 sessions in partnership with Northumbria University, but delivered in Milton Keynes, to prepare you for the written assignments (see page 6).

Post-Graduate Certificate of Education (PGCE)



In addition to providing Qualified Teacher Status, the Tommy Flowers SCITT also offers a PGCE. This is a Masters level qualification that provides 60 credits towards the 180 credits required for the awarding of a full Masters degree. The PGCE is accredited by the University of Northumbria.

The PGCE sessions are taught through lectures, seminars and tutorials and assessed through the submission of written assignments about pupil progress, reflections on your own teaching and what academics say about pedagogy.



Training to become a teacher is exhilarating but also demanding. We believe that the wellbeing of trainees is paramount and so a wide range of support is available.



Support

‘From even before day one of the training, every member of staff I had contact with was, and still is incredibly supportive.’

Emma Brown-Andrews,
Trainee 2017-18

School mentor

Your school mentor is the person you will see every day and who will act as a critical friend. The mentor will support you in planning lessons, will observe and provide feedback on your strengths, progress and next steps and will have a dedicated weekly mentor meeting to help you develop further.

Professional Tutor

The Professional Tutor (often the Deputy or Assistant Headteacher), is responsible for teacher training within the school. They will support the School Mentor and yourself and ensure that you are getting a broad experience and a range of opportunities.

Partnership Manager

You will see your Partnership Manager weekly at training sessions. Their role is to organise and co-ordinate the whole programme but are also there to provide advice and support where required. The Partnership Manager will also observe you teach and moderate your assessments.

Peer support

Tommy Flowers SCITT trainees make friends for life through the course. At the weekly training sessions, plenty of opportunities are given for trainees to share, talk through ideas and work collaboratively.



**'Tommy Flowers SCITT
NQTs often exceed levels
of performance expected
at such an early stage of
their career.'**

Ofsted, December 2017

Assessment Only Programme

For unqualified teachers who have already been teaching in schools for at least two years, our Assessment Only Programme provides a pathway to achieve Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). The Assessment Only Programme allows you to demonstrate that you already meet all of the standards for QTS, without the need for any further training.

Applications are jointly made by the teacher and their employing school. A Tommy Flowers SCITT Partnership Manager will assess the readiness of the teacher to start the 12-week assessment period.

At the end of the 12-weeks, the SCITT team will undertake an assessment day to include observations, an interview and scrutiny of the evidence against the Teachers' Standards.

In addition to the degree, GCSE and skills test entry requirements listed on page 10, Assessment Only candidates must have been employed as an unqualified teacher in at least two settings prior to application and have experience of teaching two consecutive key stages.

Further details may be found at
www.tommyflowersscitt.co.uk/assessment-only

There is a fee of £2,300 for the Assessment Only Programme, payable by the candidate and/or the employing school.

*‘From experience,
the course gives
the best training
and experience for
future teachers,
with all the
support and
guidance needed.’*

School Mentor

Entry requirements

Batchelor’s Degree

You will be a graduate by the time the course starts, with a 2:2 or above. For secondary trainees, your degree should be in, or closely related to, the subject you intend to teach. Subject Knowledge Enhancement (SKE) courses are offered in a range of subjects. Visit www.getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/subject-knowledge-enhancement-ske-courses for more information.

GCSE

All candidates must have at least a grade 4/C (or equivalent) for GCSE Maths and English. Primary candidates should also have a grade 4/C (or equivalent) in a Science subject. The National Recognition Information Centre for the United Kingdom (UK NARIC) can provide advice on the equivalence of overseas qualifications.

Skills tests

The QTS Professional Skills Tests in Literacy and Numeracy must be passed before starting the course, but can be taken after the interview.

School experience

Ideally, you should have at least 10 days’ experience in schools. This could be voluntary work or employment, for example as a Teaching Assistant. It is good practice for you to have completed this before applying for a place on the course.

What are we looking for?

In addition to meeting the entry requirements, the Tommy Flowers SCITT is looking for the following qualities:

Desire to help children achieve their potential

Ambition to be a good or outstanding teacher at the end of the training year

Motivation and enthusiasm with high levels of professionalism

Ability to work as a team

Willingness to contribute to the wider life of a school

Organisation and high quality communication skills

Self-reflection and determination to take on board feedback and improve

Strong subject knowledge

How to Apply

Applications for our primary and secondary courses should be made through UCAS Teacher Training at www.ucas.com/apply/teacher-training. Those considering applying for the Assessment Only Programme, should contact the Tommy Flowers SCITT to request an application form.

On your application form, you will be required to include your personal details, education and qualifications, school and work experience, a personal statement and references.

Tips for writing a successful application:

- Explain fully why you wish to train to teach.
- Consider why you have chosen that age range or subject.
- Include your full work history.
- Add your school experience, including voluntary work.
- Show your full qualifications.
- Choose your referees wisely and ask them to complete their section promptly.
- If you require NARIC for your qualifications, secure this before applying.
- If you require support completing your application, please contact us.

WE ARE

RECRUITING

'Headteachers state that the SCITT is their preferred training provider.' (Ofsted, December 2017)

Training costs and funding: 2019-20

All trainees undertake a route to gain Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and a Post-Graduate Certificate of Education (PGCE). The training costs are set at £9,250 for all tuition-fee routes. See below for information on the salaried primary route.

Finance

Most trainees are eligible for student loans via Student Finance England (www.slc.co.uk). There is also the option to pay for fees out of private finance, as a lump sum or in instalments. Depending on your personal financial circumstances, you may be eligible for maintenance loans and other funding avenues available through Student Finance England.

Bursaries and Scholarships

Generous tax-free funding is available in a range of secondary subjects. You could get a bursary of up to £26,000 or be awarded a prestigious scholarship. If you teach maths, you could receive £30,000 – a bursary of £20,000 and further £10,000 once you are teaching. The amount of the bursary or scholarship depends on the subject you are training to teach and your degree classification. For more information on awards of scholarships and bursaries for 2019/20, please visit: www.getintoteaching.education.gov.uk

Salaried Route (Primary only)

Salaried trainees are employed by their placement school as an Unqualified Teacher for the duration of the course. The tuition-fees are paid for by a Department of Education grant. This is a very popular route and places are usually awarded to exceptional candidates or those with significant experience within educational settings. In many cases, salaried trainees are talent-spotted by senior leaders within their schools and stay in the school they are already employed in to undertake their training year. The level of lead-teaching that a salaried route trainee would be expected to teach throughout the course will be set on an individual, personalised basis, taking prior experience into consideration.

Interview process

If your application meets the required standard, the Tommy Flowers SCITT will invite you to a selection day hosted in one of our partner schools. Here, you will undertake a number of activities to help us determine whether we can offer you a place to train to teach.

Classroom Activity

You will lead a 20-minute classroom based activity, working with a small group of children within the age-range/subject you have applied for. The details and topic will be sent to you in advance so you have plenty of time to plan your ideas. This activity allows us to see your interactions with children, the types of questions you ask and your understanding of how to get children to learn a new skill or knowledge. We fully understand that this takes place before you have trained to teach, but it gives a strong indication of your starting point.

English activity

This is a 20-minute, unseen English task, where you will be given a topic to write about independently. The topic will be accessible to all, but work experience or volunteering in a school may help give you further ideas.

Subject knowledge activity – secondary only

You will answer some questions from a previous GCSE paper in the subject you are applying to teach to allow us to assess your subject knowledge. Subject knowledge enhancement courses (SKE) are available.

Interview

Candidates will be interviewed by a Partnership Manager and a senior leader from a partnership school.



'Headteachers state that the SCITT is their preferred training provider...The majority achieve the highest level of attainment.'

Ofsted, December 2017



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National Teaching School
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