

September 2024

Assessment Only Programme

The Assessment Only (AO) programme provides a pathway for teachers who have considerable experience working in schools and /or educational settings, but do not possess Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). The AO programme allows candidates to demonstrate that they **already meet all of the standards for QTS, without the need for any further training.**

Overseas Trained Teachers (OTTs) who qualified as teachers outside of England may be able to obtain QTS by having their qualifications assessed by the Department for Education (DfE) without the need to complete the Assessment Only programme. For the latest information, please visit <https://apply-for-qts-in-england.education.gov.uk/eligibility/start>.

Entry Requirements

Candidates must:

- be employed at a school as an Unqualified Teacher, lead-teaching an 80% timetable and have the employing school's support for the Assessment Only programme.
- have an Enhanced DBS in place with the school in which you will be assessed.
- have a Bachelor's Degree (300 higher education credit points, of which 60 must be at a level 6 of the Qualifications and Credit Framework) from a UK university or equivalent*.
- have English (language or literature) and Maths at grade C/4 or above at GCSE or equivalent*. Candidates who are aiming to become qualified within the primary age phase, must also have a Science GCSE at grade C/4 or above or equivalent.
- have at least two year's full-time teaching experience (or part-time equivalent) as an unqualified teacher (not a TA/HLTA), working in at least two schools. They must have taught in the second school for a minimum of 20 days including planning, teaching and assessing for the equivalent of an 80% timetable.
- have experience of teaching across the age-range they are applying to be assessed in (3-7, 5-11, 7-11, 11-16, 14-19)
- have satisfactory employment and background checks

**Candidates who completed their qualifications outside the UK should visit the UK national agency for international qualifications and skills (ENIC) website (www.enic.org.uk) to find out whether their qualifications are of an equivalent level to UK GCSEs, A-levels and an undergraduate degree.*

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Application Process

In the first instance, the school should contact the Tommy Flowers SCITT to express an interest in the Assessment Only programme on behalf of the candidate. The school and candidate will be sent the pre-application checklist.

The employing school and candidate will:

- complete the pre-application checklist to ensure eligibility. All evidence and documentation of compliance needs to be collated prior to application.
- complete a review of TFSCITT teaching assessment criteria to confirm suitability
- submit an application form.
- send electronic copies of ID, Degree and GCSE certificates (including ENIC confirmation and equivalency tests); evidence of Vretta Elevate my Maths and second placement school testimonial to be validated.
- receive a copy of the Assessment Only programme handbook

Following acceptance of the application, candidates will be interviewed by a member of the SCITT team and a senior leader at the school to assess their readiness for the 12-week assessment period. The interview process will include an observation of the candidate teaching in their school, a presentation of supporting evidence (as outlined in the handbook) and a formal interview.

After the interview, a starting point for the 12-week assessment period will be agreed. Once registered with the Department of Education, the candidate will be assessed at the employing school by the SCITT team within 12 weeks. Full details of this process can be found in the handbook.

The cost of the AO programme is **£2,900**, to be paid by the school. Following acceptance on to the AO programme, full payment is required prior to the initial interview.

For the pre-application checklist and handbook please contact the Tommy Flowers SCITT by emailing TFSCITT@st-pauls.org.uk.

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