

# TEACHERS



Teaching is a rewarding career for people who enjoy helping others learn and grow. Teachers work with children or adults in schools, colleges, or other education settings. There are many routes into teaching, and different people may choose the path that suits them best.

## QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED

To become a teacher, you usually need a university degree. Many teachers study subjects such as English, maths, or science, while others take degrees in education. After gaining a degree, most people complete teacher training, which gives them practical experience in schools and helps them learn how to plan lessons and manage classes.

## TEACHER TRAINING ROUTES

There are several ways to train as a teacher. Some people take a university-based course like a PGCE (Postgraduate Certificate in Education), which combines academic study with school placements. Others follow a school-based route, such as School Direct or Teach First, where they work in a school while training. Both options lead to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS), which is needed to teach in most schools in the UK.

## SKILLS AND PERSONAL QUALITIES

Being a good teacher takes more than just qualifications. Teachers need excellent communication skills, patience, and the ability to motivate others. They also need to be organised and creative, as they often have to plan lessons that suit different learning styles and abilities. A genuine interest in helping young people is one of the most important qualities a teacher can have.

## EXPERIENCE AND VOLUNTEERING

Before training, it's helpful to gain experience working with children or young people. Many people volunteer in schools, tutor students, or help with youth groups to see what teaching is really like. This experience also makes applications to teacher training courses stronger.



## REWARDS OF THE CAREER

Teaching can be challenging, but it is also extremely rewarding. Teachers see their students grow in confidence and understanding, and they know they are making a real difference. The job also offers opportunities for career development, such as becoming a head of department, a special educational needs coordinator, or even a headteacher.

Find out more

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zksvf82>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jBXXyYnIrK4>

### Example Questions

- Teaching is a rewarding career for people who enjoy ...
- How do you become a teacher?
- What subjects do many teachers study before?
- Name 4 skills needed to become a teacher.
- True or False. It is helpful to gain experience working with children.