

ASSESSMENT ONLY ROUTE TO QTS: INFORMATION FOR SUPPORTING SCHOOLS

Future Training is rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted in all areas and sets a new standard in school-based teacher training and mentoring. In 2017 the Good Teacher Training Guide rated us the top ITT provider in London, and the third best provider in the UK.

We are part of Future Academies, a family of seven schools in London and Hertfordshire. Our motto is *libertas per cultum* (freedom through education) and we have the highest expectations of our students and what they can achieve.

WHAT IS THE ASSESSMENT ONLY ROUTE?

The Assessment Only Route is designed for teachers supported by an employing school with considerable classroom experience who are looking to gain Qualified Teacher Status.

Successful applicants will be assessed twice in their school by a qualified assessor. They will assess the progress of the teacher in meeting the teachers' standards.

WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR ENTRY?

All candidates must meet the following criteria:

1. A UK Honours degree (or international equivalent). The candidate will be asked to provide a certificate and transcript for this degree.
2. Certificates which show the candidate has obtained **English Language** GCSE (grade C or above) and **Maths** GCSE (grade C or above). Applicants who are applying to do the Assessment Only Route in a Primary school will also need to demonstrate that they have achieved a grade C or above in at least one Science subject. If the candidate has lost their certificate they should obtain a new one from their qualifying exam board.

For candidates who qualified internationally, they should also obtain the statement of equivalency from UK NARIC. The candidate should obtain this before they apply as further testing may be required if their qualifications are not deemed to be equivalent.

In addition to these entry requirements, the candidate will also need to show:

1. **They have taught for a minimum of two years.** Only their time as a teacher, leading and assessing lessons should be counted as two years. It is not enough for the candidate to have spent some of this time as a Teaching Assistant or Learning Support Assistant. If they teach part-time, then they need to have taught for at least four years.
2. **They should have taught in at least two schools.** Ideally the candidate would have joined your school from another school where they were also employed as an unqualified teacher. The other school that the candidate taught at does not have to be a school in the UK, teachers who have gained the bulk of their experience abroad may also apply.
3. **They should have taught across at least two key stages.** If they have taught Key stage 3, then they should have also taught Key stage 4. It is acceptable if the candidate has taught in another setting (for example, they are currently teaching Secondary, but have previously taught Primary).

WHEN DOES THE ROUTE START?

The route can be started at any point during the academic year. If the candidate meets all the requirements of entry and we have received their application, we will arrange an interview. The interview could take place in your school, or at our offices in Pimlico.

We require a £200 deposit in order to complete the interview. For schools we have not worked with before, we will also ask them to complete a partnership agreement. This is to ensure that both the school and the candidate accept the commitment of the route and understand the requirements for completing the Assessment Only Route.

Applicants who are successful in the pre-assessment phase will then be assessed against the teachers' standards through the two assessments. The whole process, from first assessment to second assessment, would normally be complete within 12 weeks.

Schools should aim to put forward candidates who already meet the criteria for entry to this route. If they do not qualify for the route at this stage, we are happy to advise on meeting the eligibility criteria.

WHAT CAN THIS ROUTE LEAD TO?

Many very experienced, but unqualified teachers find the lack of Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) limits their career progression opportunities and job prospects.

The Assessment Only programme is an ideal way to secure QTS without further training or study. It also helps schools develop and reward hardworking staff whilst giving their governors and parents the reassurance of a fully qualified cohort of teachers.

Applicants can use this qualification to obtain further qualifications such as the Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) with another institution if they so wish.

STUDENT WORK

This is an assessment-only route to QTS that does not require further training or study. However, the trainee teacher will be expected to produce a portfolio of evidence against the QTS standards. We use an online system to do this.

On successful completion of the assessment phase Future Training will recommend the applicant to the Teachers Standards Agency (TSA) for the award of QTS and you will be issued with a certificate.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE SCHOOL

It is essential that the candidate is already at a stage where they can obtain Qualified Teacher Status. The school is asked to write a reference on the applicant's behalf in order to vouch for their suitability for the Assessment Only Route.

The school is not expected to deliver training to the trainee teacher, as the candidate should already be in a position where they can complete the process without the need for further training. However, the school should provide a suitable qualified teacher in the trainee teacher's department to mentor them.

The school is also expected to permit the assessors access to the school during the two assessment stages. It is advised that the teacher's mentor, or the CPL Lead within the school is present to assist with the observation.