

Assessment-Only route to QTS

St Joseph's College SCITT has a limited number of places for those wishing to study on the Assessment-only route to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).

As this is not a training programme, places are for **experienced but unqualified** teachers. It is not suitable - or an alternative - for those unable to secure a place on an Initial Teacher Training course. Assessment is tailored to the individual and must be completed within 12 weeks. At least two years' whole class experience is required across two consecutive age phases and in at least two establishments with full responsibility for planning, teaching and assessment

Assessment can begin at any point in the year within 2 time frames (see below) if good quality teaching experience can be guaranteed. Applicants are expected to be working in a school during the period of assessment. The SCITT acts as a guide with a final assessor providing quality assurance, in order for the recommendation to be successful for the award of QTS.

See more information in the Assessment Only Route: Entry requirements and guidance.

Entry requirements

- A GCSE in Maths and English (plus Science for Primary applicants) at Grade C or above
- A first degree, usually at Grade 2.2 or above (equivalent qualifications from overseas will need NARIC certification)
- Pass of Skills Tests in numeracy and literacy
- Significant teaching experience (typically 2-3 years) in a UK school or college (preferably in at least two different institutions)
- Evidence that the standard of your teaching to date is 'good' or 'outstanding'
- A reference recommending the Assessment-Only Route from the headteacher/principal of the school in which you are currently teaching, plus a reference from a previous school
- A current DBS and Fit-To-Teach approval from your current school
- Evidence of progress against QTS standards/criteria in the form of a portfolio (commentary plus supporting evidence)

Application and fees

You must:

- complete and submit the expression of interest form and, when asked, the application form
- attend an interview at St. Joseph's College SCITT at which you will bring and present your portfolio of evidence showing your progress towards QTS

This route costs £2,350, with extra CPD sessions at £50 each if required or desired

If you are paying all or part of the cost yourself that must be by arrangement through your school. Invoices will only be sent to schools.

You can apply for assessment either from November to March or March to July. The annual deadlines for each assessment period are:

- 31 October for November to March
- 31 January for March to July

Successful applicants will:

- complete an Assessment Action Plan with the help of in-school mentors which will be approved by the SCITT Management Board
- be observed and mentored regularly by in-school staff (at least one weekly lesson observation to be carried out by your school mentor, followed by feedback)
- Successfully pass a Final Moderation day, with a SCITT assessor

The final assessment

- Two lesson observations across consecutive Key Stages
- Submission of a portfolio of evidence with six short 750 word commentaries.
- Discussion with your mentor or Head Teacher

Expectations of your employer

It's expected that during the 12 weeks your employer will give you sufficient opportunity to meet the Professional Standards for QTS. Your employer will need to agree to provide you with:

- a teaching timetable that will give you the opportunity to demonstrate competence against the Teachers' Standards for QTS. This includes the opportunity to work across two consecutive age ranges, with other colleagues and in a pastoral role
- a mentor to provide support for at least one hour each week
- adequate feedback on lesson observations, lesson planning and assessment (at least one weekly lesson observation to be carried out by your school mentor, followed by feedback)
- the opportunity to meet the SCITT verifier and assessor on any visit

On completion of the route, you will have earned Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and will be required to undertake an induction period of one year, if working full-time, as a NQT