

School of Education

The Teachers' Standards

Teachers make the education of their pupils their first concern, and are accountable for achieving the highest possible standards in work and conduct. Teachers act with honesty and integrity; have strong subject knowledge, keep their knowledge and skills as teachers up-to-date and are self-critical; forge positive professional relationships; and work with parents in the best interests of their pupils.

Teaching is emotionally demanding work, and levels of work-related stress, anxiety and depression are higher within education than within many other occupational groups. There is an increasing recognition that the nature of teaching and learning and the contexts in which this takes place demands what we might call 'everyday resilience'; that the capacity to be resilient is an important factor in teaching and teacher effectiveness over time.

Competence standards relating to teaching, personal and professional conduct have been issued by law. [The Teachers' Standards](#) set a clear baseline of expectations for the professional practice and conduct of teachers and define the minimum level of practice expected of teachers in England.

You are strongly encouraged to familiarise yourself with these standards before applying for this programme.

Fitness to Teach

The School has a responsibility to ensure that trainees have the health and physical capacity to teach and will not put children and young people at risk of harm. The activities that a teacher must be able to perform are set out in the [Education \(Health Standards\) \(England\) Regulations 2003](#). Under these Regulations, we are responsible for ensuring that only trainees who have the capacity to teach remain on the programme. Successful applicants offered a place on an ITT programme will be contacted by our Occupational Health Service and asked to complete a fitness questionnaire prior to commencing the programme. A satisfactory medical report is one of the conditions of entry to the course and it is important to disclose all health issues at this stage.

Applicants should at an early stage disclose any disability that may have implications for fitness to teach and contact our [Disability Services](#) team for professional advice where necessary. People with disabilities or chronic illnesses may have the capacity to teach, just as those without disabilities or medical conditions may be unsuitable to teach. Any assessment of whether an individual is fit to teach will take account any reasonable adjustments that could be made to assist the applicant in working in the teaching profession.