



INTERVIEWS & ADMISSIONS 2007/8

Information for Candidates

Welcome

Welcome to an interview day for Leeds School-Centred Initial Teacher Training (Leeds SCITT). We hope that the day will be informative and will help you clarify your future career choices.

The information here aims to help you through the day, providing brief information about the interview process, together with more information about the courses, facilities and tuition offered by Leeds SCITT. If you have any further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to ask any of the staff you meet today.

For questions following the interview day, please contact the SCITT Administrator, Sarah Moxon on 0113 2837 290 or s.moxon@teachinleeds.org.uk

The Leeds SCITT Interview Process

Interview Information

In your interview pack you will have been given:

1. **Information for Candidates** (this document).
2. A **Programme** for the day, including times of activities and interviews.
3. A **basic English skills test**. It is essential that this is completed while you are attending the interview. Please complete both sections of the test, writing your answers on the test paper and hand the completed test to the SCITT Manager during the general interview or to the receptionist before you leave.
4. **An ICT Audit**. Please complete this and give to the SCITT Manager during the general interview or to the receptionist before you leave.
5. An **evaluation questionnaire** used to help us improve the interview process. Please complete this and return to the receptionist.

The Interview Day

The interview day consists of five components, and may last for up to four hours:

1. A **tour of the school** and the department of your chosen subject area.
2. A **pupil-based activity**, providing you a chance to interact with a group of school pupils or observe a lesson.
3. A **subject interview** with a specialist tutor relating to teaching your subject in schools.
4. A **general interview** which will focus on wider, more generic issues relating to education and working in secondary schools.
5. A **written test** of basic English language competence and an audit of ICT skills and experience.

More details are given in your programme for the day. If this programme causes you any difficulties with regards to your return travel arrangements, religious observance or any other reason then please let us know as soon as possible so that alternative arrangements can be considered.

Required Documents

You should have brought with you to the interview:

1. A completed **subject knowledge audit**. Please ensure that you hand this to the Subject Tutor at the start of your subject interview.
2. A completed **CRB Criminal Disclosure form** and related identification documents. Please hand these to the receptionist so that they can be photocopied and the originals returned to you before you leave.
3. **Additional information** that you feel may be useful and relevant to your application. This should be submitted during one or both of the interviews.
4. (For **Design and Technology Candidates** only) A small portfolio or sample of your work. This will be discussed during the subject interview.

Please note that copies of certificates are not required at this stage. They will be requested if you are offered a place on your chosen course.

Rationale of the Interview Process

The interview process is designed to enable Leeds SCITT to ascertain the extent to which applicants meet the Trainee Entry Requirements specified in the Standards and Requirements for Initial Teacher Training.

Accordingly the SCITT makes use of the admissions process to establish if candidates meet the following criteria.

Criteria	Evidence
<p>ESSENTIAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate personal and intellectual qualities to be teachers; • Ability to read effectively and communicate clearly and accurately in spoken and written standard English; • Commitment to working with children of the relevant age phase. (e.g. by gaining recent experience of their subject in a secondary school) • Subject specific degree level qualifications and, if appropriate, advanced level qualifications. • GCSE Grade C (or equivalent) English and mathematics (or potential to be able to gain qualification before starting the course) • The capacity to meet the Secretary of State's requirements for physical and mental fitness to teach as detailed in Circular 4/99 • Confirmation that the applicant had not been excluded from teaching nor from working with children, nor was registered with the Criminal Records Bureau as unfit for working with children or young persons <p>DESIRABLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject-specific experience and further qualifications. • Recent experience working with secondary-age children and/or experience as a trainer / teacher / mentor to others. • Basic level of ICT skills and experience. 	<p>BEFORE INTERVIEW DAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GTTR/Application Form and accompanying documents (if provided) <p>INTERVIEW DAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GTTR/Application Form and accompanying documents (if provided) • Basic English Skills Test • Subject Interview with a specialist tutor relating to teaching your subject in schools. • Subject Knowledge Audit • General interview which will focus on wider, more generic issues relating to education and working in secondary schools. • ICT Audit <p>AFTER INTERVIEW DAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRB Check • Medical Check • Check of Qualifications / Certificates

The Leeds SCITT Courses

Leeds SCITT provides school-centred initial teacher training in schools around the north of Leeds.

Training is offered at a secondary level in Design & Technology (including Food Technology), ICT, Music and Science. Over the year-long course all trainees will gain experience of the 11-18 age phase. In line with many other teacher-training providers, the qualification awarded at the end of the course will be for 11-16 education.

All courses run for 37 weeks from September to July. During this time you will be based in school with training provided by teachers well experienced in both teaching and teacher-training. Training sessions will be mainly practical in nature and will be supported by individual guidance.

Course Structure

There are three stages of training:

STAGE I (12 weeks) establishes the foundation of knowledge and understanding necessary for you to benefit from school-based training. This training comprises:

- Subject Application (12 hours per week in the lead school for your subject)
- Professional Studies (4 hours per week at Trinity & All Saints College)
- An optional unit in Catholic Education, Citizenship or ICT (2 hours per week at Trinity & All Saints College)
- Support tuition, if needed, for basic English and/or ICT. (2 hours per week at Trinity & All Saints College)
- Serial Visits (1 day per week) visiting the school at which you will spend Stage II of your training.

STAGE II (16 weeks) is school-based and seeks to provide the basic skills necessary for you to function as a teacher. You will be gradually inducted into the roles and responsibilities of a teacher, both as a subject specialist and as a contributor to the wider life of the school.

STAGE III (8 weeks) is school-based (in a contrasting school to Stage II) where your skills will be refined and your ability to transfer competence from one school to another will be tested. This allows you to verify that you have met the national standards prescribed for newly qualified teachers. It also provides opportunities for you to develop your professional profile by working with different pupils in a different context.



Assessment

Assessment matches the pattern of delivery. During Stage I assessment is mainly by coursework assignments and test. During Stages II and III your progress will be assessed by performance in classroom teaching and training activities.

The recommendation for the award of Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) at the end of the course is made with reference to evidence of attainment against the national standards described in "Qualifying to Teach", (DfES/TTA/02/02) and derived from the three stages of the course.

In order to be eligible for the award of QTS you must pass the Leeds SCITT course and pass the national skills tests in literacy, numeracy and ICT.

The Leeds SCITT course also leads to a Post-Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) from the University of Leeds.

Partnership Schools

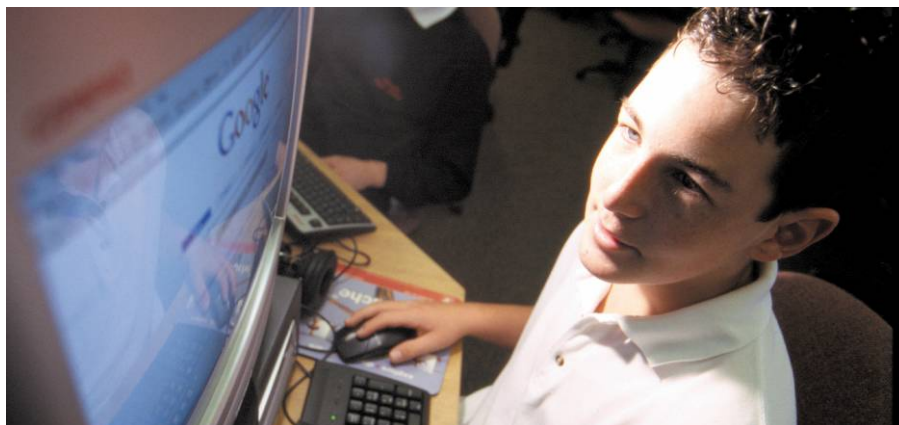
Leeds SCITT consists of four lead schools around the north of Leeds together with eight associate schools in the area.

In Leeds SCITT schools you will have the use of specialist teaching areas, several of which have been either recently built or recently refurbished. All schools involved have networked ICT facilities, access to electronic study facilities and specialist equipment relevant to designated subject areas. Most of the schools have specialist status and so have additional resources, accommodation and/or links with other school and colleges.

During the year long course you will spend your time in two or three schools. During Stage I you will be based in the lead school for your subject:

Design & Technology	Guiseley School
ICT	Salt Grammar
Music	St Mary's, Menston
Science	Wetherby School

During Stages II and III you will have one training placement in one of these schools and another placement in one of the associate schools. As far as possible personal needs and preferences will be taken into account when arranging Stage II and III placements.



Money Matters

Employment

Leeds SCITT is not an employment based teacher-training scheme, nor can it guarantee or promise employment after training is completed. However, employment prospects for newly-qualified teachers of the subjects offered are very good. You can expect a starting salary in excess of £19,000 and a "golden-hello" payment of £2500 (£5000 for science teachers).

Training Salary

If you are a home/EU resident you will receive a £9,000 training salary paid in monthly instalments, once you have fully registered. If you wish to know more about the training salary arrangement, including issues regarding eligibility, please contact:

1. The Teacher Information Line (0845 6000 991) for information regarding training salaries, golden hellos, priority recruitment subject initiatives, other incentives)
2. The DfES Student Support Team (01325 392822) for information regarding student support loans and hardship fund). A free booklet is also available by calling the DfES free information line on 0800 731 9133
3. Your local education authority (LEA) regarding grants. If you are a home/EU resident you should automatically be eligible for a tuition grant, and may be eligible for a maintenance grant for a PGCE course. You should contact the LEA of the area from which you may previously have received a grant. Otherwise you could contact the LEA in which your home is based.

Fees

Leeds SCITT are in the process of determining our fees policy for 2007 and will keep applicants informed of fee levels when these have been set. As with other ITT providers, our fee and bursary provision is subject to the approval of our access agreement by the Office of Fair Access (OFFA).

Accommodation

Leeds SCITT is unable to accommodate teacher-trainees at Trinity & All Saints or elsewhere. However, the Leeds Trinity Students' Union organises a housing workshop each summer for post-graduate students of the college, including those entering Leeds SCITT, in order to introduce students to Leeds, landlords and properties. A letter of invitation to this workshop will be sent to you should you be offered a place with Leeds SCITT.

