

Holy Rood Catholic Primary School *Watford*, Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School *Bushey*, Divine Saviour Catholic Primary School *Abbots Langley*, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School *South Oxhey*, St John's Catholic Primary School *Rickmansworth*, St Dominic Catholic Primary School *Harpenden*, The *Bletchley* Catholic Schools' Federation



## The North Herts Catholic Primary Alliance

### The North Herts Catholic Primary Alliance: *School Direct Programme 2016/17*

The North Herts Catholic Primary Alliance is an outstanding place to work and learn. We provide a supportive and tailored learning environment in partnership with our training partner St Mary's University, Strawberry Hill. We are very excited to be offering School Direct training for the 2016/17 academic year. Our vision is to prepare trainees to be outstanding teachers who will transform the lives of children and families through their inspirational teaching. A strong culture of mutual respect and concern for all is engendered through all of our schools by our shared Catholic ethos and identity.

All of our alliance schools have many years of experience of teacher training and a long standing partnership with St Mary's University. We are excited to now be supporting School Direct trainees. We recognise that trainee teachers offer much to the schools in which they train and we fully embrace the energy, drive, creativity, innovation and enthusiasm that they bring.

#### **Our Schools:**

There are eight primary schools currently in our alliance offering School Direct Places. For further information on all of our Alliance schools see their websites below:

#### **Holy Rood Catholic Primary School:**

[www.holyroodcatholicprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.holyroodcatholicprimaryschool.co.uk)

#### **Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School:**

[www.sacredheart682.herts.sch.uk](http://www.sacredheart682.herts.sch.uk)

#### **Divine Saviour Catholic Primary School:**

[www.divinesaviour.herts.sch.uk](http://www.divinesaviour.herts.sch.uk)

#### **St John's Catholic Primary School:**

[www.stjohns705.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stjohns705.herts.sch.uk)

#### **St Joseph's Catholic Primary School**

[www.stjosephs775.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stjosephs775.herts.sch.uk)

#### **St Dominic Catholic Primary School**



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[www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk)

**St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Primary School**

[www.st-thomasaquinas.co.uk](http://www.st-thomasaquinas.co.uk)

**Bishop Parker Catholic Primary School**

[www.bishopparker.milton-keynes.sch.uk](http://www.bishopparker.milton-keynes.sch.uk)

General information about the School Direct Programme can be found by visiting the Department for Education Website:

[www.gov.uk/dfes](http://www.gov.uk/dfes)

#### **Partner Universities:**

St Mary's University is our chosen HEI provider. Studying at St Mary's ensures that you are training with an 'Outstanding' (March 2011) provider for both Primary and Secondary provision with a long standing tradition of proven excellence in providing initial teacher training since 1850.

#### **Qualifications:**

The teaching profession looks for the highest quality candidates, so you will need to meet the following requirements before you can be accepted for teacher training:

- Hold and be able to provide certified evidence of having an undergraduate degree conferred by a UK university or an equivalent qualification. Most successful applicants will have a 2:1 degree classification or better. A candidate with a 2:2 degree classification will be considered if he or she is able to provide additional evidence of potential such as the award of a higher degree or substantial relevant professional experience.
- Have achieved grade C or above in at least 5 GCSEs (or approved equivalents) including English, Maths and Science
- Have at least two weeks experience in a Key Stage 1 or 2 school setting where the English National Curriculum is taught and be able to discuss your experience both in your written application and at interview. All observational experience should provide an opportunity to gain insight into teaching, learning and reflection upon professional responsibilities of teachers.
- Evidence at application of the ability to demonstrate a high standard of written English.

#### **Further Requirements:**

All students starting an Initial Teacher Training (ITT) course are required to pass the 'Professional Skills Tests' in Literacy and Numeracy before the start of the programme:

[www.gov.uk/dfes](http://www.gov.uk/dfes)

You should submit an application as early as possible via UCAS teacher training (applications open in late October) and then make arrangements to take the skills tests.



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If you studied outside of the UK, you should visit the National Academic Recognition Centre (NARIC) website to find out whether your qualifications are of an equivalent level to UK GCSEs, A Levels and undergraduate degrees:

<http://ecctis.co.uk/naric/>

### References:

You will need to provide two references to accompany your UCAS application. Your application cannot be processed without them.

### Training Bursaries:

Bursaries are available for trainees on eligible postgraduate courses in England who are not employed as unqualified teachers on the School Direct salaried route. Bursary amounts will vary depending on teacher training subject and degree class or highest relevant academic qualification.

Teaching is a prime career choice for high-quality graduates and we are looking for excellent graduates wanting to train to teach. To encourage the best people to enter the profession, larger financial incentives are offered to trainees with 2:1 or 1<sup>st</sup> class degrees.

The bursary scheme recognises exceptional achievement outside of degree results and allows flexibility in some cases. In exceptional circumstances trainees may receive a higher bursary than their degree class would otherwise allow. This allows the scheme to take account of, for example, trainees with a 2:2 degree and PhD or proven exceptional subject knowledge gained from another career. More information on this is available by visiting the DfE:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching/funding/postgraduate-funding>

### Queries:

Please email [admin@holyrood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@holyrood.herts.sch.uk) with any urgent queries or to find out more about training as a teacher with St Mary's and the North Herts Catholic Primary Alliance.

