

# TEACH PRIMARY



03 INTRODUCTION

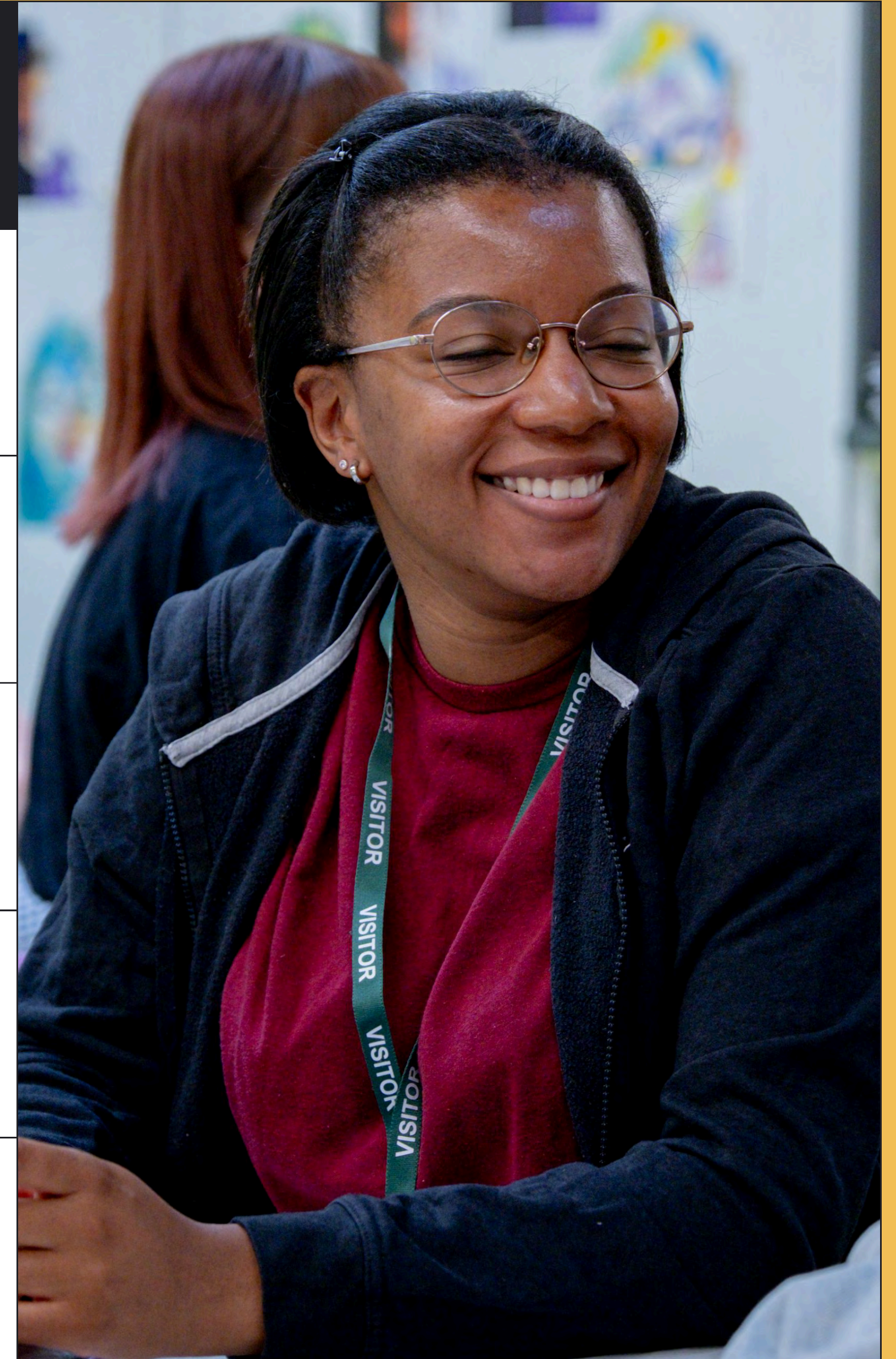
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# WELCOME TO **OUR SCITT**

I am delighted that you have chosen to begin your teaching journey with REACh Teach.

Choosing to train as a teacher is a big decision. It means choosing a profession built on purpose, care and responsibility. It means choosing to work with children at a stage of life where every experience can help shape confidence, curiosity and a love of learning.

Over the course of the year, you will develop the knowledge, skills and professional judgement needed to lead a classroom and support every child to succeed. Teacher training is both exciting and demanding.

There will be moments of challenge, but also many moments of progress and achievement as your confidence grows and your teaching develops.

Throughout the year, you will be supported by mentors, colleagues in your placement school and the wider REACh Teach team. Together, we will help you build the skills and experience needed to take the next step in your teaching career.

We look forward to welcoming you into the REACh Teach community and supporting you as you begin your training year.

*Kate McGreal*

National ITT Lead



# A MESSAGE FROM **OUR CEO**

Teaching is a profession that stays with you for life. Long after lessons are finished and classrooms have changed, the impact remains: in the confidence you build, the curiosity you spark, and the belief you help children develop about themselves and their place in the world.

In REAch2, we talk about great schools. But great schools are never buildings or structures, they are people. They are shaped, day by day, by teachers who care deeply, think carefully, and hold high expectations for every child.

That is the work you are stepping into.

You may not always see the impact immediately. In fact, some of the most important parts of this role reveal themselves years later. A child remembering that they felt safe. That someone believed in them. That they were encouraged to keep going.

That's why I often say: never underestimate what it is that you do, day to day with children — you are writing into their forever stories. There is real responsibility in that, but also real privilege. It is one of the few roles where what you do today can shape someone's tomorrow in ways you may never fully see.

Thank you for choosing to train with REAch Teach. I hope the year ahead is one where you grow in confidence, develop your craft, and begin to see the difference you are making.

I look forward to meeting many of you along the way.

Warmest Wishes,

*Cathie Paine CBE*

Chief Executive Officer – REAch2 Academy Trust



# OUR REACH TEACH TEAM



## Andrea Wright

Head of Learning and Development

Supporting the learning of 3,000+ staff across REAch2. With 20 years in education, I'm passionate about developing future teachers through purposeful training.



## Nichola Grimshaw

Regional ITT Lead

Spent 17 years training 1,000+ primary teachers. Drawn to REAch2's values, I love seeing trainees grow and go on to change children's lives.



## Kate McGreal

National Initial Teacher Training Lead

Passionate about tackling inequality and ensuring every trainee has a positive, enriching experience as they begin their journey into teaching.



## Kim Kirner

Regional ITT Lead

16 years in inner-city primaries, 11 in senior leadership. As a REAch2 Deputy Head, I found a trust that matches my belief in education as a great leveller.



## Stephanie Larking

SCITT Business Manager

After 7+ years with REAch2, I'm proud to support our SCITT and help create a positive, enriching experience for trainees starting their journey into teaching.



## Julie Noon

ITT Administrator

Proud to support our team as an administrator, keeping things running smoothly and helping create the best experience for trainees every day.

# OUR APPROACH

We combine hands-on classroom experience with supportive, practical training to develop confident, inspiring primary teachers.





## POWERED BY REACH2 ACADEMY TRUST

Our programme is powered by REACh2 Academy Trust – the country’s largest primary-only trust; giving you access to a network of expertise, support, and opportunity that few providers can match.

Training with REACh Teach means you’re not just joining a course, you’re becoming part of a wider community.

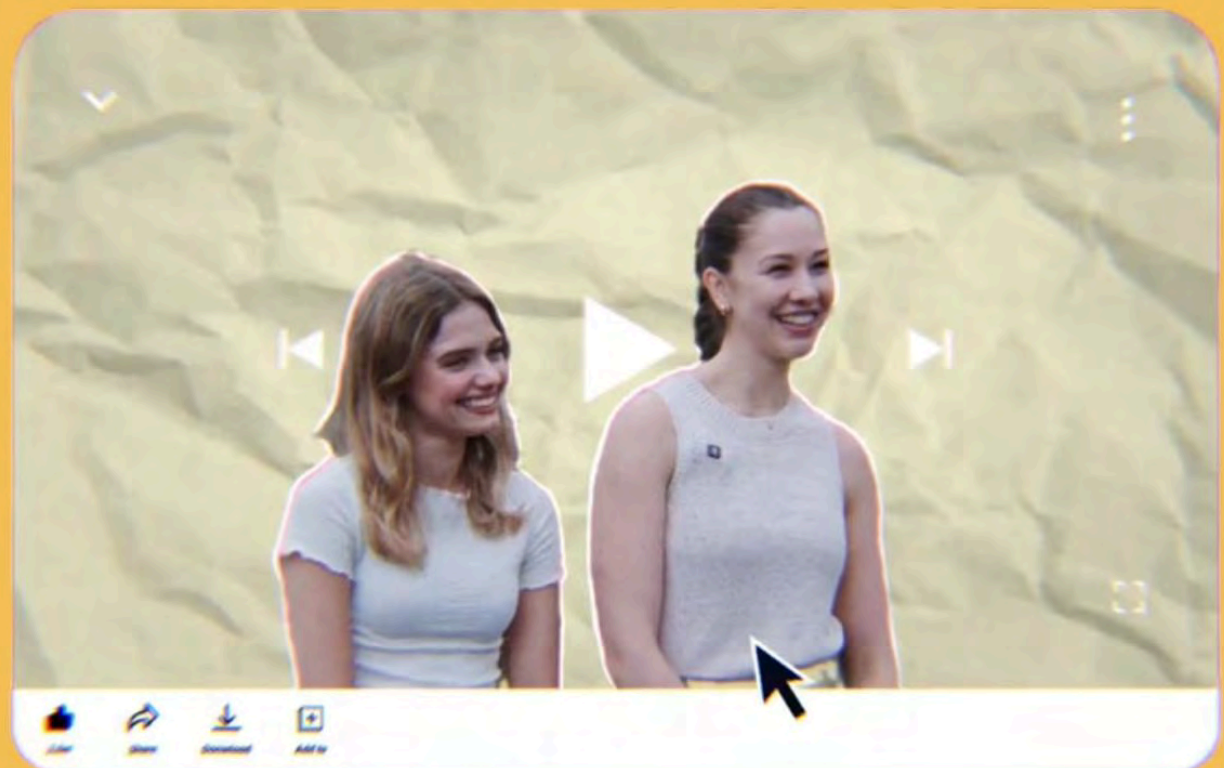
You’ll be supported by experienced teachers, school leaders, and dedicated training teams who are all focused on helping you succeed from day one in the classroom.

From tailored mentoring to hands-on experience across our schools, our teams work together to ensure you feel confident, supported, and ready to thrive as a primary teacher.

## SUPPORTED EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

From experienced mentors to dedicated training teams, you’ll receive guidance, mentoring, and encouragement from day one, helping you grow in confidence and thrive in the classroom.





[Watch Video - Hear from REAch Teach Trainees About Their Experience](#)

“REAch Teach is really flexible. There’s online learning, but it’s mostly hands-on. I chose my own school, dived straight in, learned loads from others, and it’s been so much fun.”

## Grace Butler

Former REAch Teach Trainee - Class of 2024



# A CAREER IN **TEACHING**

## SHAPE A LOVE OF LEARNING

By fostering curiosity, you empower children. Every lesson transforms a simple question into a journey of exploration, ensuring their natural desire to understand continues to grow.

## EVERY DAY IS DIFFERENT

Each day brings new discoveries. Every interaction offers a chance to spark imagination and build resilience, ensuring that every child feels valued as they navigate their unique path to success.

## CREATIVITY WITHOUT LIMITS

Primary teaching is where creativity meets purpose. It is the art of turning lessons into adventures. Through drama, play, or discovery, you have the freedom to make every subject feel like a journey.

## PART OF A COMMUNITY

Building vital links between school and home makes you a community pillar. Beyond teaching, you support families. These relationships create a network where every child feels they truly belong.



"I wish I'd known it was going to be okay. As a new teacher, I spent a lot of time doubting myself and wondering if I'd made the right choice. Teaching isn't just a job, it's a calling.

Being in the classroom from day one and learning from mistakes helped me build confidence and grow my skills. It was tough at first, but pushing through made it incredibly rewarding.

The best part is seeing the children grow, gain confidence, and knowing I'm making a real difference. I wish I'd known how rewarding it would be—it would have made those early months feel easier."

*Andrew Rigby*

National Director of Education, REAch2 Academy Trust



[Watch Video - Andrew Rigby Talks About Teaching](#)

# TEACHING IS TRULY WORTH IT

Choosing to train with REAch Teach is the first step into a career that makes a real difference every single day.

Teaching gives you the opportunity to inspire children, shape futures and help young people discover what they are capable of. Few professions offer the same sense of purpose, creativity and impact.

Not only is teaching one of the most respected professions, it also offers clear opportunities for development and progression throughout your career. As your experience grows, so do the opportunities to take on new responsibilities, specialise in areas of interest or move into leadership.

**Once you qualify, you will also be joining a profession with a strong and competitive salary. Newly qualified teachers currently earn a minimum starting salary of £31,650, with higher starting salaries available in London.**

While you train, you also benefit from discounts and rewards available to students and education.



# LIFE IN PRIMARY



## A TRULY REWARDING CAREER

This career offers a unique chance to shape the future. Witnessing a child's breakthrough provides an unmatched sense of accomplishment. You build foundations for a lifetime of success.

## PATHWAYS TO LEADERSHIP

The primary sector has a clear leadership ladder. Within a few years, you can lead a specific phase across the school or move into pastoral and senior management roles.

## MASTER OF EVERY SUBJECT

Unlike secondary, you aren't confined to one speciality. You'll lead lessons from science to art, keeping your own knowledge broad and every single workday excitingly varied.

## COLLABORATIVE CULTURE

Primary schools thrive on close-knit teams. You'll work in a supportive staff room where sharing resources, creative ideas, and expert advice is the daily norm for every teacher.

# OUR VISION

## GROW GREAT PRIMARY TEACHERS FOR GREAT SCHOOLS

We are committed to developing confident, reflective and skilled educators who are equipped to make a meaningful difference in the classroom from day one.

Through high-quality training, strong school partnerships and hands-on experience, we support trainees to build the knowledge, behaviours and professional mindset needed to thrive.

In doing so, we help strengthen schools and ensure more children benefit from inspiring teaching and positive learning experiences.



# OUR MISSION

## RELATIONSHIPS FIRST (HIGH SUPPORT – HIGH CHALLENGE)

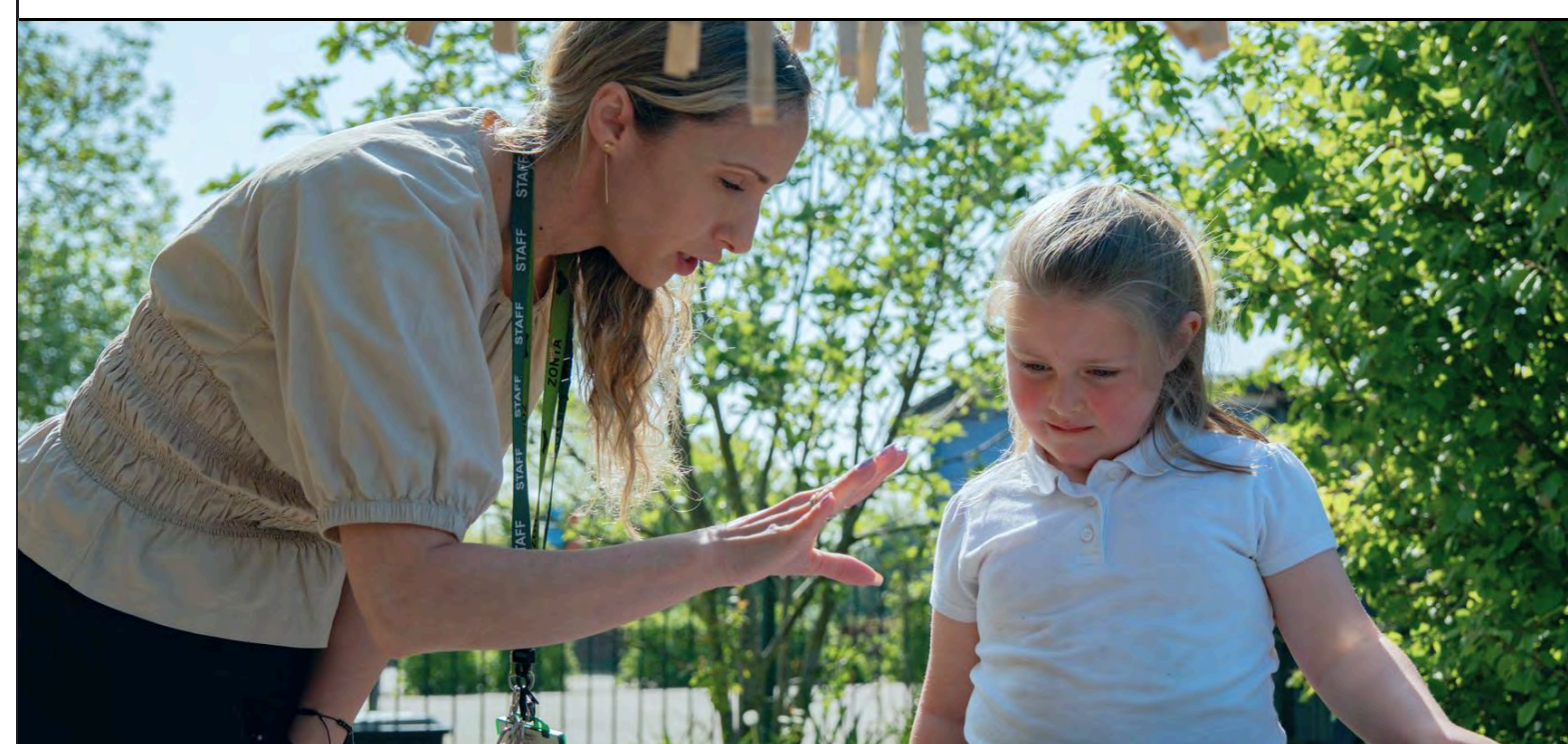
Strong, trusting relationships help teachers understand pupils, meet their needs and create inclusive classrooms where every child can thrive.

This is underpinned by high support and high challenge, where trainees are guided and encouraged, while also being pushed to reflect, improve and strive for excellence, building confidence, resilience and professional growth over time.

This ensures sustained impact in classrooms, benefiting pupils and supporting teachers effectively.

## A DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF ADULT LEARNING

A deep understanding of adult learning makes training purposeful and responsive, helping trainees use their experience to reflect, connect ideas and apply theory to practice.



## VALUES AT THE HEART OF WHAT WE DO

Guided by the REAch2 touchstones of responsibility, inclusion, inspiration, integrity, leadership, learning and enjoyment, these values underpin training and shape how trainees engage with pupils, colleagues and the wider school community.

By embedding these values into everyday practice, trainees develop the knowledge, behaviours and mindset needed to create inclusive, positive and high-performing classrooms, making a meaningful, lasting impact on children's learning.

# ALWAYS AIMING HIGHER

To deliver on our vision, REAch Teach's mission also incorporates REAch2's Always Aiming Higher strategy.

## GREAT SCHOOLS

Every REAch2 school sets high aspirations for children and focuses on delivering exceptional outcomes and experiences. The aim is to create remarkable places, people and learning within every school.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

Social justice is about breaking down barriers that prevent children from reaching their full potential and ensuring fairness for all through equitable opportunities, support, and access.



## SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability involves preparing children to understand and care for the environment while reducing the Trust's impact on the planet. Schools are encouraged to develop environmental awareness and empower pupils to become ambassadors for change.

## DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Digital transformation focuses on building modern digital infrastructure to enhance teaching and learning. By leveraging technology, schools can improve access and outcomes for staff and pupils.

# OUR PROGRAMME

Our programme is a one-year tuition-free teacher training programme with PGCE (60 Masters Level credits). It starts in September and is full-time only.

Training is delivered through a blended model, face-to-face in partner schools and online as part of a national network.

A key part of the programme is school placements. As part of the selection process, you can indicate your preferred main placement school. Placements develop your teaching practice in real classrooms, learning alongside experienced colleagues.

They follow an **A-B-A model**, meaning you experience more than one school while building strong relationships in your main placement.

## Autumn Term

You begin in your main placement school, gradually building your teaching responsibility as you get to know the pupils, routines and expectations of the school.

## Spring Term

You'll move to your second placement school, gaining experience in a different setting and Key Stage and continuing to develop your teaching practice.

## Summer Term

You'll return to your main placement school to continue developing and consolidating your practice.

You will gradually build up to teaching an 80% timetable for 6 weeks, preparing you well for your ECT timetable.



Sep - Christmas

Feb - Easter

April - July

School 1

School 2

School 1

# OUR CURRICULUM APPROACH

Like the children in our classrooms, our aim is for trainees to know more, remember more and apply more over time. We follow a know, explore, practise, apply model, breaking learning into small, focused areas and developing understanding through expert-led sessions, lesson observation, self-study and mentor-guided reflection.

## Know

Identify the essential knowledge trainees need to ensure that they have a strong grounding for being able to develop their classroom practice.

## Explore

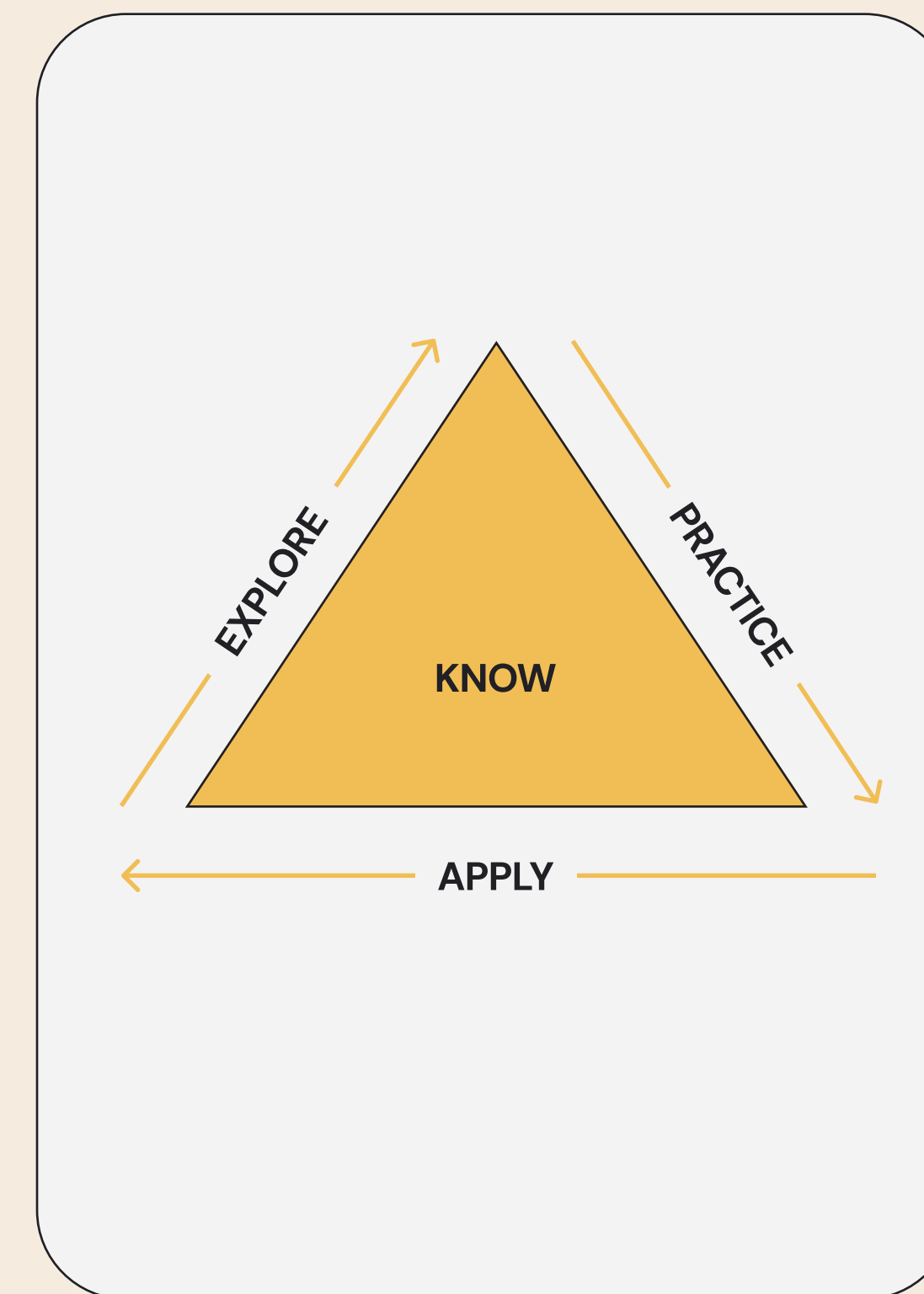
Via expert-led teaching and guidance, lesson observation and deconstruction, self-study materials, mentor support and guided reflection

## Practise

Deliberate practice within training sessions, in-school experiences and mentor support. Becomes more complex as multiple components integrated

## Apply

In classroom teaching across a range of contexts in increasingly complex sequences.



“Training with REAch Teach felt like the perfect route for me. With kids, it was important to have a school close to home so I could balance family and teaching. From day one, I felt supported and confident in starting my classroom experience.

Being in the classroom early helped me build relationships with children, staff, and parents, making me feel part of the school community from the very start.

The PGCE allowed me to connect theory to practice, plan effective lessons, and see the children’s curiosity and growth. I would definitely recommend Reach Teach for their support, guidance, and focus on primary teaching.”

*Halima Ali*

Former REAch Teach Trainee – Class of 2024



## HOW WILL YOU LEARN AND TRAIN?

Your training connects directly to classroom practice, helping you build confidence and apply new ideas.

Sessions take place online and in person, bringing you together with peers to share experiences and learn from colleagues across the partnership.

### Throughout the year, this includes:

- weekly training sessions to build core knowledge,
- regional training days to deepen understanding,
- intensive training and practice weeks to focus on building core knowledge and skills,
- guided self-study to support reflection,
- regular mentoring and feedback to help you continuously improve.

## INTENSIVE TRAINING AND PRACTICE WEEKS

During the year, you will take part in four Intensive Training and Practice weeks.

These weeks provide dedicated time to focus on key areas of teaching. You will have opportunities to observe practice in different classrooms, rehearse teaching strategies and reflect on how to apply new ideas in your own lessons.

A typical week may include:

**Monday** – online training introducing key concepts and strategies.

**Tuesday to Thursday** – in-person training in regional schools, including observation and practice

**Friday** – applying your learning in your placement classroom

Training locations will vary. Locations will be confirmed before you start. (Travel support may be available)





## WHAT THE PGCE MEANS FOR YOU

Delivered in partnership with Bath Spa University, you'll take part in a PGCE alongside your training, with structured opportunities to explore what research says about the classroom, school settings and the wider education system. This helps you make sense of different school approaches and supports you to pause, think, analyse, explore, reflect and question your own practice.

You'll also complete two assignments worth 60 Level 7 Master's level credits, linked to key aspects of education and the SCITT curriculum. These assignments are designed to have a direct impact on your practice as a developing teacher.



# YOUR **FIRST WEEKS** IN SCHOOL

We understand that starting your training in school can feel exciting and, at times, a little daunting.

In the early stages, you'll get to know your placement, settle into school life and begin building confidence through guided experiences in the classroom.

## During this time, you will:

- Observe teaching
- Learn classroom routines and expectations
- Support small groups of pupils
- Begin planning and teaching parts of lessons
- Meet regularly with your mentor

As your training progresses, these experiences are designed to help you steadily develop your independence and teaching skillset.

You'll build on your early experiences by taking on increasing responsibility in the classroom, supported through ongoing mentoring, feedback and opportunities to reflect on and refine your practice.

## Example Day:

**Morning** – classroom observation

**Midday** – supporting small group learning

**Afternoon** – planning with your mentor

**After School** – reflection and training



# STUDENT FINANCE

## FUNDING YOUR TRAINING WITH REACH TEACH

Planning for your training year also includes thinking about finances. We want this to feel manageable and achievable from the start.

The cost of the REAch Teach programme is £9,535 for the full year. Most trainees choose to fund this through a Tuition Fee Loan from Student Finance England, which is paid directly to REAch Teach.

This means you do not need to pay your fees upfront. You can also apply for a Maintenance Loan to help with living costs while you complete your training.

### ZOOM WEBINARS

Get expert guidance on training, balancing study and life, and planning your next steps, with support and advice from our team.



#### Managing Your Finances

Including guidance on Student Finance, budgeting effectively, maximising your income, and exploring the option of part-time work alongside your studies.



#### Balancing Training with Family Life

For those with caring responsibilities, explore practical approaches to building routines, managing commitments and finding a sustainable balance.



#### Workload Planning

Explore strategies to help you organise your study time, approach coursework with confidence and maintain a healthy balance throughout the year.

## TUITION FEE VS MAINTENANCE LOAN

A Tuition Fee Loan covers the cost of your course fees and is paid directly to your training provider by Student Finance England. You only begin to repay this loan once you are earning above the repayment threshold.

**Tuition Fee Loans are not means-tested.** This means you can apply for the full tuition fee loan regardless of your household income.

A Maintenance Loan supports your living costs during training, such as rent and everyday expenses. The amount you can receive depends on your household income and location.

# HOW YOU ARE SUPPORTED

You'll be supported by a dedicated team whose role is to help you become the best teacher you can be.

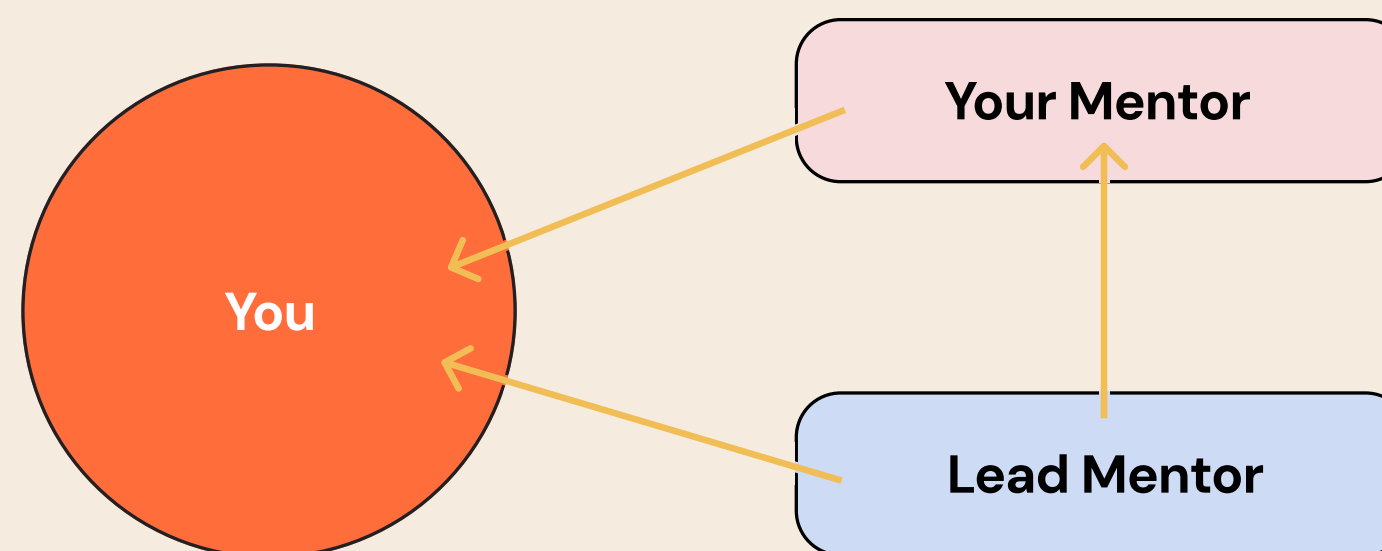
Your school mentor will be your main point of contact for in-school development, meeting with you weekly, as well as providing ongoing feedback and support throughout the week.

You'll also have opportunities to work with other staff in the school, including observing colleagues and meeting with subject and school leaders to deepen your understanding of practice.

Alongside this, your Lead Mentor will support both you and your school mentor, helping to monitor your progress towards Qualified Teacher Status over the year.

You'll receive training from subject specialists, delivered in person or online, alongside support from a university tutor for your PGCE.

You'll also be supported by Regional and National ITT Leads, who oversee your progress, quality of training and contribute through visits and sessions, ensuring consistent guidance and support throughout your journey.



## WHAT MENTORSHIP LOOKS LIKE IN PRACTICE

Florence, a REAch Teach mentor, shares her experience:

“I have the privilege of supporting trainee teachers as they begin their journey into the classroom. From those first days in September, it’s about helping them feel part of the school community building relationships, understanding routines and exploring what great teaching looks like in practice.

As the year unfolds, my role evolves alongside them. Through observations, feedback and shared reflection, I support trainees to grow in confidence, celebrating successes while gently challenging them to keep developing. By the end of the year, they are ready to take their next steps into teaching.”



[Watch Video - Florence on Her Experience Supporting Other Trainees as a Mentor](#)

“Mentoring has been a genuinely rewarding experience. Seeing those “lightbulb” moments when a trainee realises the difference they’ve made is something really special to be part of”

### Florence

Year 4 Teacher and SCITT Mentor

“Support and mentoring on the programme are central to ensuring every trainee thrives from the very start of their journey. The strong triangulation between trainee, mentor and lead mentor means each trainee benefits from a consistent, coordinated approach, with everyone working together to provide high-quality guidance from day one.

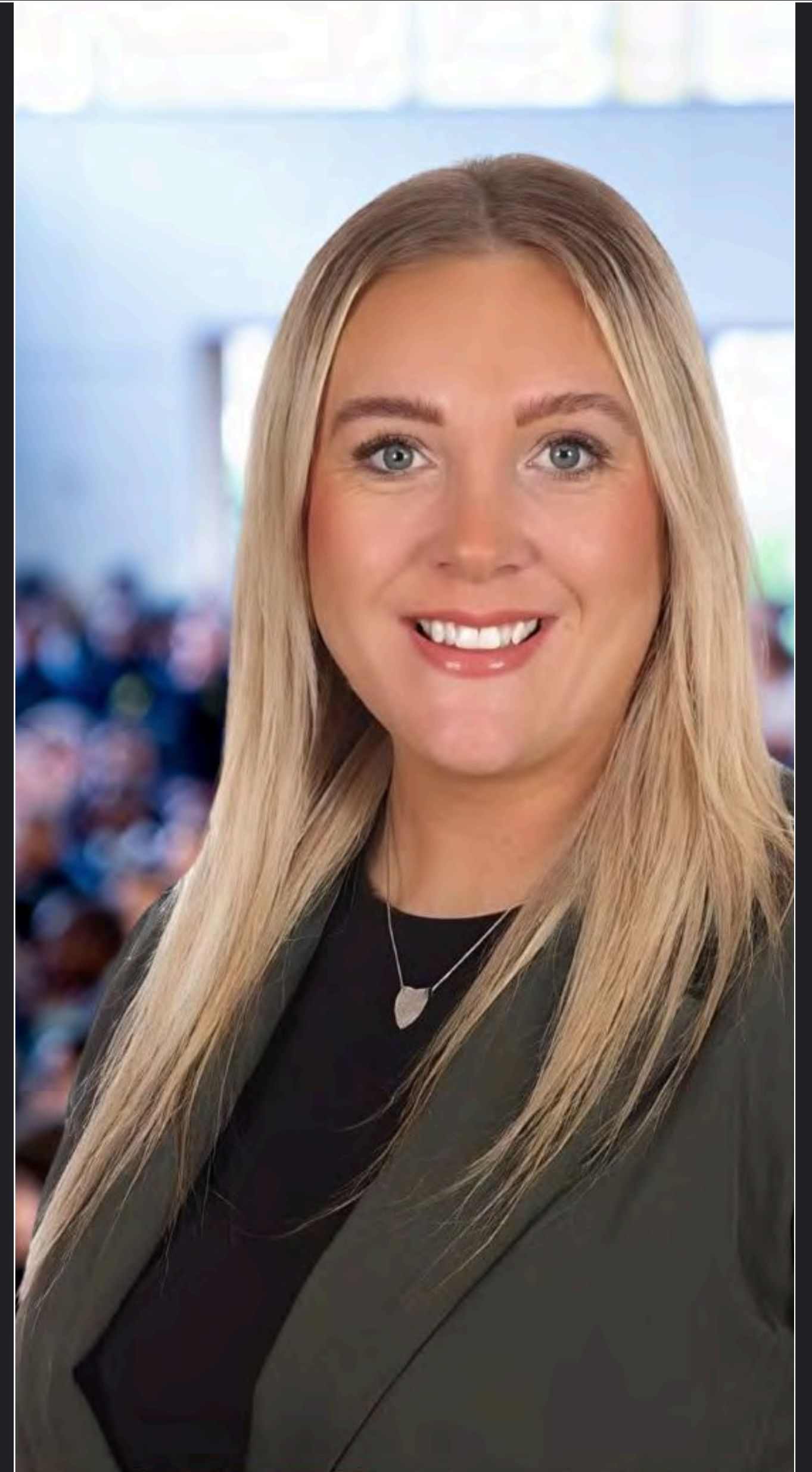
Stepping into school in September can feel daunting, but trainees are immediately supported by expert teachers across our trust who understand how to nurture emerging classroom practice.

This is complemented by rigorous quality assurance from lead mentors, ensuring the support offered is both effective and aligned with the highest standards.

Our mentoring model allows trainees to make meaningful and practical links between theory, training and real classroom experience, helping them grow in confidence and capability throughout the year.”

*Jessica Richardson*

Lead Mentor



# DISCOUNTS AND **BENEFITS**



## Blue Light Card

Savings Card for Employees in Teaching and Healthcare

Blue Light Card offers discounts across thousands of retailers, travel, and leisure activities—helping you save while you train.



## YouTube Premium

Discounted Subscription

YouTube offers a reduced-price student membership for YouTube Premium, providing ad-free viewing, downloading, background play and access to YouTube Music.



## UniDays

Student Discount Card

UNiDAYS offers students exclusive discounts on a wide range of brands, from fashion and tech to food and entertainment.



## REACH2 Employee Benefits

Employee Discounts Across a Range of Partners

Access benefits and discounts, save on shopping, tech and fitness through Perks at Work, Discounts for Teachers and partner offers.



## Totum

Student Discount Card

The Totum Card gives students and early career teachers exclusive discounts on shopping, travel, and more.



## Employee Assistance Programme (EAP)

Counselling and Wellbeing Support

The EAP offers 24/7 counselling and advice on work, personal and family matters. Available to you and your family free of charge.

# FREE SUPPORT AND SERVICES WITH BATH SPA UNIVERSITY

All trainees have access to a range of free advice and support services provided by Bath Spa University.

This includes academic skills support to help with assignments and study techniques, wellbeing and mental health services, and guidance for those who may need additional learning or disability support.

Trainees can also access careers advice and guidance on future opportunities, along with practical help such as financial advice, digital skills support and access to library and learning resources.

These services are designed to support you throughout your training and help you succeed both academically and personally.

These services are there to ensure you feel supported at every stage of your PGCE journey.

[!\[\]\(675ef7f53d3bd4a69f2bfe6acc6c2026\_img.jpg\) Explore Services and Support](#)



# TRAIN **LOCALLY** GROW NATIONALLY

From the very beginning, you become part of a wider community of trainees on the same journey.

During induction and shared training days, you will meet others who understand the excitement and challenge of learning to teach. As the year progresses, these connections continue to grow.

You will be encouraged stay in touch, share experiences and support one another, building friendships alongside your professional confidence. Many trainees describe the programme as a genuine community, where everyone understands what it feels like to be learning something new.

While you train in a local school, you are never alone. With support from mentors, fellow trainees and the wider REACh Teach team, you are part of a network that extends far beyond your placement.





## LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

You'll have opportunities to learn beyond the classroom through training sessions, collaborative discussions, school-based experiences and wider development activities, helping you deepen your understanding, share ideas and apply new approaches in different contexts.

## A CULTURE OF COLLABORATION

You'll be part of a culture that values collaboration and feedback, where trainees, mentors and colleagues share ideas, reflect together and learn from one another. This supportive approach encourages open dialogue, shared practice and continuous improvement across your training experience.

## LOOKING AFTER YOU

You'll be supported to look after your wellbeing throughout your training. Alongside access to guidance, mentoring and practical support, you'll be helped to manage workload, maintain balance and feel confident navigating the demands of the year.

## STAYING CONNECTED

You'll stay connected through weekly training sessions, with some in-person sessions to really cement those more local relationships. There will also be informal opportunities to stay connected through social channels and messaging, as well as emails, calls and online meetings as needed.



“Training with REAch Teach has been really exciting. I’ve had the opportunity to experience different school settings as my role in the classroom has gradually grown.

The year has been shaped by new challenges and lots of everyday learning. From planning full days of teaching to moving between placements and responding to feedback, each experience has helped me better understand how classrooms work and how children learn.

Training across different phases has also broadened my perspective. My time in Key Stage 1 has deepened my understanding of the foundations of learning and given me plenty to think about as I continue to shape the kind of teacher I want to become.”

## *Desni Shilling*

REAch Teach Trainee – Class of 2025



📸 Desni dressed as 'Cat in the Hat' for World Book Day

# NEXT STEPS

Once you've accepted your place, we'll guide you through everything you need to feel confident and ready for September.

From completing enrolment and safeguarding checks to accessing key resources, you'll have clear steps and support at every stage.

## Zoom Webinars

APRIL - JUNE

Optional Support with Managing Finances, Balancing Training and Workload Planning

## Getting Started

MAY

Compliance Checks and Forms

## School Visit and DBS Checks

MAY - JULY

Arrange a Visit to your Placement School and Begin DBS Application

## Induction Events

JULY - AUGUST

Online Induction Activities with 1-Day in Person.

As September approaches, there are a few important steps that will help you begin your training year feeling organised, confident and ready to start in school.

Alongside completing practical preparations, you'll take part in a mandatory induction programme designed to support your transition into training and to help you understand what to expect in the months ahead.

### In the lead-up to September, you will:

- Complete safeguarding and health checks
- Progress your DBS application
- Finalise GCSE equivalency tests if required
- Make initial contact with your placement school
- Attend mandatory induction sessions in July and August
- Begin engaging with programme systems and introductory training content

## KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Trainee Pre-Induction (Mandatory)

 Tuesday 14th July 2026

 4:00–6:00pm

 Zoom

### Summer Induction (Mandatory)

 Tuesday 25th – Friday 28th July 2026

 9:00am–4:00pm

 Zoom + Face to Face on Wed 26th July)

### Official Course Start Date

 Tuesday 1st September 2026

 8am–4pm

 Your Placement School

### Optional Webinars

Look out for webinars throughout April to July to support with finance, workload and balancing family life.



“Training with REAch Teach has been really positive. I trained at Summerside Primary Academy in North London, and I loved how straightforward and supportive the interview process was.

Being in the classroom from day one meant the children got to know me straight away. Teaching alongside my mentor and observing other teachers helped me build a strong toolbox for my own lessons.

The best part is getting to know the children, seeing their confidence grow, and watching their personalities shine. I’d recommend REAch Teach for the day one support, classroom-based learning, and focus on primary schools.”

*Vishal Depala*

Former REAch Teach Trainee – Class of 2024



## PRE-SEPTEMBER INDUCTION PROGRAMME

This is an opportunity to meet members of the training team, get to know your fellow trainees and develop an early understanding of the REAch Teach programme.

It's also an opportunity to explore key aspects of professional practice, including safeguarding and your statutory responsibilities as a teacher, while beginning to engage with core ideas about the primary curriculum, planning and how children learn.

These early experiences are designed to build confidence and establish the supportive professional relationships that will continue throughout your training year.

You may find this checklist helpful as you prepare for the start of the programme in September.

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN: YOUR CHECKLIST

### Getting Organised (May - July)

- Complete the trainee medical form
- Start your DBS process and attend ID verification

### Get to Know Your School (April - July)

- Make contact with your placement school & mentor

### Getting Ready for Induction (Summer)

- Make sure the mandatory induction dates are in your diary

## STAY UP TO DATE

Stay up-to-date on all things REAch Teach



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