

School Direct



We are passionate about the training of our future teachers and we work with Liverpool John Moore's University to achieve the highest standard of training. If you want to be a teacher, you can apply to join our School Direct Programme through the UCAS website. Follow the link below:

<http://www.ucas.com/>

Our UCAS code is 1ME.

Our School Direct Programme will not only train you to be a teacher, but it will also enable you to gain a PGCE through the University, so giving you Masters credits. We offer primary and primary with PE training placements through the non salaried route. Successful applicants with a 2.1 degree are eligible for a DFE grant. Successful applicants can apply for a tuition fee from Student Finance England. Further details can be found on the website:

<http://www.gov.uk>

Our allocation for the academic year 2016/17 is 8 primary training places and 4 primary with PE training places.

About us

The Pensby Partnership is situated within Wirral. Our group of Partnership schools has a long established working relationship – Heswall Primary School, Barnston Primary School, Thingwall Primary School, Irby Primary School, and Gayton Primary School. We work very closely with Stanley Special Primary School and this gives our staff and trainees excellent opportunities to experience Special Educational Needs.

All our schools have been inspected within the last 5 years. This is the most rigorous framework to date and all schools were successful in securing at least 'good' judgements.

Our schools deliver primary education with some schools offering Nursery places as well as Reception places so covering the school EYFS spectrum.

More information can be found by accessing each school website. Links to these are:

Barnston Primary School

<http://www.barnston.wirral.sch.uk/>

Heswall Primary School

<http://www.heswall-primary.wirral.sch.uk/>

Irby Primary School
<http://www.irbyprimary.com>

Pensby Primary School
<http://www.pensbyprimaryschool.org/>

Thingwall Primary School
<http://www.thingwall.eschools.co.uk/>

Stanley Special Primary School
<http://www.stanley.wirral.sch.uk/>

Gayton Primary School
<http://www.gayton.wirral.sch.uk/>

Accommodation

The Pensby School Direct Partnership does not provide accommodation for trainee teachers.

Child Care Facilities

Some Pensby Partnership schools have child care facilities within their Nursery settings. These usually start from aged 3 upwards and would be dependent on places being available.

Applicants who need child care facilities should let us know so that guidance can be given.

Disability Access

Liverpool John Moores University has full disabled access. All schools in the Pensby Partnership comply with access requirements.

Applicants who would benefit from disabled access should let us know in their application so that they can be considered for placement in the most appropriate school.

Entry requirements

We are looking for applicants who are graduates, preferably with a 1st or 2.1 degree. We will consider applicants with a 2.2 degree if they can show they have had extensive school based experience for a least 2 years. Your degree can be in any field.

You will also need a 'C' grade or above in GCSE English and Maths.

Finally, you will be required to take the Maths and English skills tests as part of the application process, and ensure you have passed them both before the start of the course. Ideally you will have passed these test by May 2014.

The first attempt at taking your skills tests in each subject is provided free of charge. You can book up to two resits if required, but you will be expected to pay for these yourself.

You can book your tests up to three months in advance for a date by which you are expecting to have submitted an application. When you take the tests you will need to provide proof that you have applied for a teacher training course. The tests are held

at a Pearson Professional Test Centre (which also delivers Driving Theory tests, so you may be familiar with them already).

Candidates who meet this criteria will then be invited to interview. The interview process lasts 2 days.

Our training programme

The Pensby Partnership works in partnership with Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) and offers a Post Graduate Certificate with Qualified Teaching Status with 60 credits at masters level.

Course entry requirements are a 2.1 degree (2.2 degree considered if extensive school experience can be shown), GCSE English or Mathematics (or equivalent) at Grade C or above. In addition it is a national requirement that applicants successfully complete the Professional Skills Test in English and Mathematics.

The School Direct course begins with an Induction week which takes place in August.

Our Partnership is looking for high calibre trainee teachers with the skills to become outstanding teachers and future leaders in their profession.

We offer the non salaried primary teaching programme. Successful candidates will be trained within a partnership of very strong schools with a proven track record of success in all areas.

School training will either be held within your 'home' school or together with all trainees from the Partnership schools or alongside trainees from other School Direct Partnerships. In all these training situations, we provide trainers who are experienced and skilled in their field and who have relevant knowledge and experience of the classroom setting. In addition to this you will receive further training from Liverpool John Moores University within the University setting. You will also be able to access resources from the University. Together, the school Partnership and the University will deliver exciting, engaging, meaningful training that will help you develop the professional knowledge and skills to become an effective classroom practitioner.

Each trainee is assigned a mentor from within their 'home' school who will guide them through the training programme. Our mentors are all experienced in this role and they regularly update their skills and knowledge to ensure they carry out the role effectively. You will work closely with your mentor, spending your weekly mentor sessions discussing your progress, reflecting on your experiences and performance and setting your targets for the next stage of your development.

You will be in your 'home' school from day one and this will enable you to experience school throughout the academic year. You will be regarded as a member of the teaching team and will attend staff meetings and development days. Being in a school setting means that you can experience the whole spectrum of tasks within a school, such as taking a school assembly, organising class trips, working with other specialist staff etc. Most importantly it will enable you to fully understand how we safeguard our children.

In the spring term, you widen your experience further, by joining another Partnership school for a second teaching placement. This gives you the opportunity to experience an alternative setting.

We try to allocate schools to trainees carefully so that trainees needs are considered. We cannot guarantee that we can meet placement requests.

Selection

Candidates who are successful in meeting the course requirements detailed in the 'Entry Requirements' section of this profile are invited to a final 1 day selection process. This 1 day selection process is vital as it enables candidates to show their potential for the course. A letter will be emailed to applicants to invite them to this stage.

You will be asked to attend one of the schools in the Partnership in the morning of the selection day. On arrival you will be briefed by a senior member of the staff team on expectations for the morning. You will spend the morning in a class, where you will interact with children and the staff. At break times you will have other opportunities to meet staff. At some point in the morning, you will be asked to work with a small group of children in a directed task. In the afternoon you will come to Pensby Primary School. You will be asked to complete a short written assessment and will then have a short interview.

What we look for

All schools need people who are dedicated to the children. Our staff must be passionate and enthusiastic about teaching. We want candidates to be eager, who are keen to learn and who can reflect and plan. You must have excellent organisational skills, be punctual and willing to give your own time to the school and its pupils. You must be able to reflect on your own practice, accept guidance and accept constructive criticism. Above all you need to be able to guide and drive your own learning, use your initiative and be proactive.

We are looking for candidates who have some meaningful and recent school experience (within the last 2 years) or experience with primary aged children in other settings. This could be through volunteering at a primary school, working with a sports team, working in a club or group for primary aged children e.g. cubs/Guides.

Where to Find Us

Pensby Primary School and its Partnership schools are situated in Wirral in the North West of England. Transport links to the area are excellent and the M53 motorway runs directly through the area. Train and bus services to the area are also excellent. Full directions to the Partnership schools can be found on their websites.

Why train with us

The Pensby Primary Partnership is a vibrant, successful Partnership that is well established. The Partnership schools have a very close working relationship and support structure. We are committed to training effective future teachers and leaders who will inspire future generations. Our Partnership is led by Pensby Primary School and there are a further 5 primary schools within it. These are:

Heswall Primary School, Barnston Primary School, Thingwall Primary School, Irby Primary School, Gayton Primary School.

We have very close and unique links with Stanley Special Primary school. Stanley Special Primary School shares a site with Pensby Primary School and both schools are housed in new state of the art buildings.

The Pensby Partnership works very closely with other School Direct Partnerships in the area, so widening our expertise and diversity.

Trainees who are offered a placement in one of the Partnership Schools, will gain from the following unique opportunities:

Schools with Clear vision,

Schools with well proven track records for school improvement and teacher training,

Schools with high calibre staff who are eager to share their skills, knowledge and practice,

Well experienced school mentor systems and cross moderation particularly in the support and development of trainees,

Schools with a minimum of an OFSTED 'Good' judgement with all having strong 'Outstanding' elements (all within the new stringent OFSTED framework,

Warm and friendly working environment within a supportive culture,

Long lasting proven history of partnerships with Higher Education Institutes,

Wonderful children with exceptional behaviour who are eager to learn,

A wide range of subject specialisms within school,

Outstanding EYFS training in line with the new framework,

Outstanding SEN training available,

Opportunities to work with leading teachers, within successful schools,

Unique Special primary school experience available in the cluster.

The close connections between other School Direct Partnerships gives our trainees the opportunity to form a large and supportive network of like minded students.