



THE UNIVERSITY OF
BUCKINGHAM



BA (Hons) in Primary Education

For teaching assistants
in prep schools


We want to help you to achieve your professional aspirations

- ① Are you an experienced TA without a degree working in a prep or pre-prep school?
- ② Do you want to become a teacher and inspire young minds, helping to shape their futures?
- ③ Do you have the determination to learn, develop and push yourself alongside your work as a TA?
- ④ Does your school support your efforts and ambition?

If your answers are yes, then explore our exciting new degree in primary education, specifically designed for people like you.

Continue reading to find out more or register your interest by visiting:

www.buckingham.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/ba-hons-primary-education

Find out more 



Key features

- Three-year part-time BA (Hons) degree course, plus a short induction course
- Designed for full- or part-time teaching assistants who do not have a first degree and work in prep or pre-prep school schools
- Delivered online, so you can study alongside working in a paid TA job
- Focuses on primary education, policy and practice, giving you a strong foundation for a teaching career

Start date | July 2023 *(the compulsory induction day is in July 2023, online)*

Graduation date | June 2026 *(October 2027 for those adding the teacher apprenticeship QTS course)*

Entry requirements

- You must be in employment as a teaching assistant in school
- You cannot have a university degree already
- You will need to ensure that you have a GCSE grade 4 or better in maths, English and science by the end of the course. *(If required, you will be given support to achieve this.)*
- Ideally you should have passed two A-levels or equivalents.
- You must apply by **31 May 2023**
- You must pass an interview
- You must be determined and organised
- You must have both a positive reference and a letter from your school supporting your application



Course delivery

- › The main mode of study is online, giving you the flexibility to study anywhere and at your own pace. There are also opportunities to meet fellow students at the University of Buckingham.
- › The course is delivered with our partner, Anspear, which has extensive experience of delivering training and development for staff in schools and provides its technology platform to other organisations, allowing them to deliver distance learning degrees, vocational training and more.
- › The course materials are designed for optimal use on Anspear's mobile learning platform. This enables you to learn online or offline on mobile phones and tablets, as well as online on laptops. You will be provided with a suitable personal device to facilitate learning.
- › The course materials are written by academics and leading headteachers in England.
- › The course is excellent value. You will need to find out whether your employer is happy to fund your studies, or whether you will take a student loan.
- › You will have your own University of Buckingham personal tutor who will support you throughout the course.
- › The degree course makes full use of your school experience and reflections by integrating degree learning and assessment with your everyday practice.
- › You can continue onto the 12-month course leading to *Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)* at the University of Buckingham. This is followed by up to 3 months for the End Point Assessment (EPA). The course is **free of charge** (at the time of writing) because it is paid, through your employer, by the apprenticeship levy. QTS is needed to teach in most schools in England.
- › A typical teacher training course is only 10 months long, so adding a three-year degree to that will ensure you have a much higher level of knowledge.

To embark on this course, candidates should be highly motivated and have the ability to spend a good amount of time each week to do the necessary reading and writing. Part-time teaching assistants are welcome.

Fees

The course is £4000 per year for three years. Your employer may be willing to fund or part-fund your studies, or you can apply for a student loan. Bursaries and scholarships are available on application.

For information on fees, please contact:  schoolofeducation@buckingham.ac.uk.

Course structure

Before the course begins, there is a 25-hour online introduction to University study to complete. The *BA (Hons) in Primary Education* course consists of 10 modules of 30 credits each, plus a 60 credit Enquiry module.

You will be assessed in different ways including computer-based assessments, completing written assignments and reflecting on experiences in school. Some elements of study take place during part of the school holidays.

Induction course

The 25-hour induction course is an important precursor to the degree course. It will help prepare candidates for the higher level of study and build confidence.

The induction will introduce learners to the learning platform and cover research skills, forms of writing and presenting Information. It will include video and audio material, and provide additional support for English and maths for undergraduate study.

Although there will be no formal assessment, there will be written and computer marked activities based around use of the system and a set text on teaching and learning in primary education. Writing frames and model answers will be included as will tutor feedback on the longer pieces.

Year 1

- › Child development and the purpose of education
- › School organisation and regulation and successful primary schools
- › The science of learning and successful primary learners
- › The role of play and creativity in primary education

Year 2

- › Child development 2: barriers to learning, classroom culture and managing behaviour
- › Early years learning and an introduction to oracy and phonics
- › Literacy and numeracy

Year 3

- › Foundation subjects and statutory RE
- › Teaching primary science and assessment in primary schools
- › Literacy and numeracy throughout the curriculum
- › Enquiry module (a small-scale research project of your choice)



If you are interested in this degree course, email: [✉ education@buckingham.ac.uk](mailto:education@buckingham.ac.uk).