



SWIFT Teacher Training Spring News Update

Issue 2 | Monday 22 January 2024

Welcome

Welcome, to SWIFT Teacher Training’s half termly news update. It has been a busy start to the term at the central office, with a bump in applications over the holidays. Are you ready to make a change in 2024 and start your teaching career?

We’re here to support you with your queries and questions and help you through the application process.

Best wishes,

The SWIFT Teacher Training Team - Sarah, Nicky, Abby and Stephanie

[APPLY HERE](#)

News



Tor Bridge Primary School rated Outstanding by Ofsted.

Tor Bridge Primary is our Campus Office and Primary Lead Site for our Plymouth area Campus. Our Primary Curriculum Design Lead, Olivia Bartlett is Head of School. We’d like to congratulate Tor Bridge and all of its staff and pupils for having received Outstanding in their recent Ofsted Inspection.



Southwest Secondary School of the Year 2024

We are delighted to announce that Kingsbridge Community College, our South Devon and Torbay Campus Office, Central Administrative office and Secondary Lead School, has won the Southwest Secondary School of the Year 2024 Award for The Sunday Times Parent Power Guide. The Guide is widely acknowledged as the most authoritative survey of the UK’s top schools.

SWIFT Teacher Training sharing good practice for Intensive Training and Practice Weeks

We’ve had some really positive feedback about our Intensive Training and Practice weeks. During your training you will take part in 4 weeks of intensive training and practice, these will focus on areas such as classroom routines, questioning and special educational needs. The weeks include carefully designed activities to extend your knowledge base, deepen your understanding and improve your classroom practice of key areas of teaching. This is on top of your time spent in your placement schools.

SWIFT Teacher Training is one of six National ITT Providers who were invited by the DfE to share their approach to Intensive Placement and Practice with other Providers. We were also asked to be one of three ITaP case studies in a recent National Workshop run by The National Association of School-Based Teacher Trainers (NASBTT).

Meet the Team | Physical Education

Meet Gary Burman, our PE Curriculum Designer. Teaching for over 20 years, and ITT Lead for Kingsbridge Community College, he has brought his passion for PE to our curriculum. He is a Great Britain AG Sprint Triathlete who will be representing the country at the European Championships in Portugal this year and the World Championships in Malaga Spain in October. Read more about our PE PGCE course [HERE](#).



Meet the Team | Mid Devon & Somerset Campus

Campus Lead | Tania Cox

Campus Administrator | Charlotte Skelding

We have five area campuses across Devon. Campuses are centres of excellence that provide placements, support and host Intensive Training and Practice weeks. When you start training with us you will be part of one of our local campus communities.

The SWIFT Mid Devon and Somerset Campus Office and Secondary Lead is based at the Uffculme School, while our Primary Lead is Uffculme Primary school. We currently have 11 schools providing placements across the Campus area, some of which are part of Multi Academy Trusts; Blackdown Partnership, Ventrus and First Federation.

Because the schools in the Mid-Devon and Somerset Campus have a range of rural and urban locations, they offer a broad array of experiences which will ensure all trainees acquire an excellent variety of teaching and learning opportunities across their placements. A benefit of the rich and diverse school communities in our campus is that trainees will undertake their teaching practice with the support of highly experienced school practitioners, working alongside colleagues with a wealth of knowledge about their subjects and phases, with many specialist teachers and leaders.

Our schools also provide trainees with the chance to teach students from varied demographics, with a breadth of needs. All of our schools have inclusion and adaptive teaching at the forefront of their school values and visions and will support all trainees to best prepare them for teaching beyond their training year.

Between them, our schools also offer unique additional aspects such as: nurseries, A-Level phases, nurture-bases for SEND pupils, pupil enrichment experiences, access to gyms, and many more exciting school-specific attributes, which can be explored in more detail through each school's individual website.

As a result of the school networks within the campus, and wider MAT and SWIFT partnership communities, trainees will be at the forefront of potential recruitment opportunities that arise in schools where they train. The schools within our campus are keen to support our next generation of teachers and welcome you into the first stages of the profession, where you will teach and learn along-side us.



Teacher Training Scholarships | Applications Now Open

You may be eligible for a bursary or scholarship to help support you through your training year. These are tax-free amounts of money you receive to train in certain subjects. You do not need to pay them back. You can find a full list of scholarships available [HERE](#).

In addition to tax free funding, successful applicants will receive a range of additional subject specific benefits which may include:

- free subject related memberships
- bespoke events and webinars across the ITT year and beyond to support CPD
- access to classroom resources
- support from experienced professional mentors
- networks of teachers, ex teachers, department leads, and other industry experts

Free Subject Knowledge Foundations for Teaching Physics



Making physics matter

If you are starting **science teacher training**, The Ogden Trust are offering **FREE** subject knowledge foundation

sessions to help you to deepen and secure your physics knowledge. This course provides the foundation knowledge you need for teaching physics at KS3 or even GCSE. If you have a physics education background, the sessions will refresh your learning and help you focus your thinking on the most important bits you might have to teach. If you don't see yourself as a physicist, the course will provide the physics foundation subject knowledge you need for the classroom.

The course will include:

- Six online one-hour sessions of synchronous learning.
- Each week will cover a core physics topic from KS3/GCSE content.
- Each session will be designed as a standalone and will not require preparation or homework.
- There will be opportunities to engage with activities during the sessions (optional) using easily available equipment. We will provide details of what will be needed in advance.

Find out more information on how to sign up [HERE](#).

Events

NowTeach Information Event | Online | Wednesday 7 February 2024 | 1800 - 1900

NowTeach are a professional network for career changers in teaching. Their mission is to attract and recruit experienced successful people to change career into teaching. They support Now Teachers, training providers, schools and the wider education system to realise the full potential of career-changers in education.

Interested in teaching?

Join us for this online event to find out more about retraining as a teacher in the South West with SWIFT Teacher Training





Wed 7th Feb, 6 - 7pm

Sign up at [NowTeach.org.uk/events](https://www.nowteach.org.uk/events)

Southwest Placement and Graduate Careers Fair | University of Plymouth | Wednesday 21 February 2024 | 1100 – 1430

Open to students at the University of Plymouth, come and visit our stand at this careers fair to find out more about our courses and how we can support you.

Classroom Experience and Information Event | South Devon & Torbay Campus | Oldway Primary School | Wednesday 28 February 2024 | 0915 - 1315

This is an opportunity to gain classroom experience in a primary school setting and find out more about SWIFT Teacher Training, our route into teaching, courses and PGCE. Find out more information and register [HERE](#).



Contact Us

If you have any questions or queries, please contact

Abby Spearing | SWIFT Teacher Training Administrator 01548 852641 ext 2592
abby.spearing@swiftteachertraining.org.uk

Nicky Sheppard | SWIFT Teacher Training Programme Manager
 01548 852641 ext 2575
Nicky.sheppard@swiftteachertraining.org.uk

Follow us on
[Facebook](#)
[Instagram](#)
[LinkedIn](#)
[X](#)
[TikTok](#)