

Tips for School Direct Application

In your personal statement, clearly illustrate:

- Why you want to be a teacher
- Passion for your chosen subject
- Your ability to work successfully with children, adults and as part of a team
- The skills you have to support your role as a teacher

In general, take great care to provide accurate, relevant and compelling information that will convince initial teacher training providers of your suitability for the programme.

This means taking every opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of the realities of teaching, including the challenges and opportunities, as well as your enthusiasm for using your creative and intellectual skills in the classroom.

You can do this by including examples of any experience you have of working with young people – perhaps as a classroom assistant, or youth worker, or as a volunteer in a school. If you don't have such experience, we strongly recommend that you gain experience before deciding to become a teacher.

You should complete your application so that it:

- is clear, well organised and easy to read
- emphasises the relevance of your previous work and/or studies for the course(s) for which you are applying
- provides evidence of your social and communication skills

The online form may time out, so we suggest that you have your personal statement in a word document that you can copy and paste into the form.

Follow these simple guidelines and you should put yourself in a good position to be invited to attend an interview with your chosen training providers, where you will be able to build on the evidence provided on your form.