

## Frequently Asked Questions about the TDA

### 1. How much time will I spend at university?

You will be at university for 40% of your time over the course of your degree apprenticeship. In practice this means you will have workshops on two consecutive days during block teaching (6 week modules) There are 4 blocks in each year with an assessment week and an enhancement week at the end of each one.

Typically, workshop timings may look something like this:

Thursday: 10am and 12pm

Friday: 10am

You would use the rest of your time on these days to do recommended reading, catch up with lecturers or your academic mentor, or work on your assignment or assessment.

### 2. How much time will I spend at my school?

Over the course of the degree apprenticeship you will spend 60% of your time in school. How this is spread out depends on the time of year and the level of study. During the university term time when you must attend workshops you will be in school 3 days a week (typically Wednesdays). During this time in school you will be given PPA time (preparation and planning time) for your lessons, time with your mentor and time for marking and other school-related activities.

During the university holidays, when schools are still open, you will be in your school 5 days a week (the whole of September, most of June and July). In years 3 and 4 you will only be studying during 2 blocks so will be in your school 5 days a week for half of the year. Some of this time will also be spent on training days with Leicester SCITT.

### 3. What is RPL?

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) takes into account relevant experience that may contribute towards the QTS aspect of this course. This can be discussed at interview and could mean that those who have worked for a long time in a school could be allowed to complete fewer QTS skills modules and could achieve the degree apprenticeship in 3 years.

### 4. What does 'off the job' training mean?

Off the job training is an essential part of an apprenticeship. It refers to training, mentoring and other activities which you must undertake in order to meet the apprenticeship standards. This takes place during your working hours and will include time spent with the team and Leicester and Leicestershire SCITT.

For more information about what kind of activities this could entail visit [Apprenticeships: off the job training - GOV.UK](#)

### 5. How do I apply for the TDA?

Applications will open in April and should be made through the DfE Apply website [Visit teacher training courses - GOV.UK](#)

Interviews will take place between April and the end of June. Applications will close in July.

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You will need to be involved in: planning, teaching across the curriculum, assessment, marking, managing behaviour, SEND, extra-curricular activities, school duties and more. How your time is organised will be at the discretion of your employer. However, certain aspects of teaching will need to be experienced at different points in the apprenticeship as recommended by the team at SCITT. You will be regularly observed by your school mentor and will have a mentor meeting for feedback and discussion for at least 30 minutes every week (this will be included as part of your PPA time).

13. How will my progress towards QTS be assessed?

The SCITT team and your school mentor will be responsible for assessing you against the Teacher Apprenticeship Standard: [Teacher / Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education](#)

You will need to demonstrate and provide evidence for the knowledge, skills and behaviour set out in this, which replicate the Teacher Standards used to assess whether teachers can be awarded Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). You will have formative observations throughout your