

SCHOOL TEACHER – SCOTLAND

This sheet covers both Primary and Secondary teachers in Scotland.

Please see separate occupation sheets for teachers in England, Northern Ireland and Wales.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

School teachers may teach in nursery, primary, secondary or special schools. Primary teachers are expected to cover every curriculum subject and some may have a specialism that they develop and teach throughout the school. Secondary school teachers normally specialise in one or two subjects and usually teach these subjects to all age groups (12 to 18) and abilities.

Definitions are as follows:

Overseas Trained Teacher (**OTT**) – someone who has successfully completed a programme of professional teacher training in a country outside the UK and which is recognised by the competent authority in that country.

General Teaching Council for Scotland (**GTCS**) – the professional body in Scotland with which all teachers in state or grant-aided schools who hold a teaching qualification must be registered.

REQUIREMENTS TO DO THE JOB

To work as a teacher in a Scottish state, grant-aided or most independent schools, a teacher must register with the GTCS. To be eligible to register, an individual must have the relevant academic and teaching qualifications as well as classroom experience broadly equivalent to those of Scottish-qualified teachers as pertaining at the time the overseas teacher qualified. In broad terms, the entry requirements are either a degree plus a Professional Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) or a Bachelor of Education degree (BEd).

REGISTRATION WITH A PROFESSIONAL BODY

There are three types of registration by the GTCS:

Provisional registration - This category is for new members of the profession. New teachers must undertake a period of probation (of up to two years) before they can obtain full registration.

Conditional registration - In some cases, teachers trained outside of Scotland are required to undertake further study or training before they can obtain full registration and the GTCS will set a time limit in which they should become eligible for full registration (usually up to three years). Conditional registration is similar in nature to the Overseas Trained Teacher Scheme (OTT) in England.

Completion of both provisional & conditional registration leads to full registration.

Full registration - Equal to Qualified Teacher Status in England & Wales.

All teachers in Scottish state and grant-aided schools (and some independent schools) must be registered with the GTCS under one of the categories above. Registration is not presently compulsory in the independent sector although the majority of independent schools now make GTCS registration a requirement when employing new teachers.

OTTs need to apply and register before taking up a teaching post and this can be done outside the UK.

CASEWORKER TREATMENT

B&C

All Teacher posts in Scotland covering compulsory education are on the Shortage Occupation List.

The job meets the skills criteria.

Maintained Schools -

Applications may be approved in the following circumstances:

- a) Where an OSN has full registration with the GTCS
- b) Where the OSN has conditional registration – approval should be limited to the period specified by the GTCS as required to be eligible for full registration.
- c) Where an OSN has provisional registration – approval should be limited to period specified by GTCS in order for OSN to gain full registration.

Where Provisional/Conditional Registration is granted caseworkers would require a copy of the letter from the GTCS to confirm the period of probation/training that would lead to Full Registration.

A copy of the registration certificate should be obtained where the class of registration is unclear.

Independent Schools -

As no registration requirements govern this sector, applications should be considered against the usual skills threshold of the work permit arrangements. Many schools in the independent sector do however now make GTCS registration a requirement when employing new teachers.

TWES

This occupation is not suitable for training or work experience under the TWES criteria, as the applicant will usually be filling a post.

SALARY

Teaching Grades - Nursery, Special, Primary and Secondary Schools	Salary Range from 01/04/2007
Probationer	£19,878
Unpromoted Teacher	£23,841 - £31,707
Chartered Teacher	£32,688 - £38,868
Principal Teacher	£34,566 - £44,616

Other Related Occupations	Salary Range from 01/04/2007
Head teachers / Deputy Headteachers:	£39,207 - £76,527
Music Instructors	£22,056 - £29,322
Educational Psychologists	£35,577 - £45,255
Senior Education Psychologists	£48,069 - £55,713
Education Support Officers	£36,000 - £43,179

Salaries in the Independent Sector

Teachers working in independent schools are usually paid similar or higher salaries than in local authority schools.

ADVERTISING – (for England, Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland)

All Teacher posts in Scotland covering compulsory education are on the Shortage Occupation List.

The following journals are the main sources of advertising for teaching posts:

The Times Educational Supplement (TES)

Admiral House, 66-68 East Smithfield, London, E1W 1BX
Tel: 020 7782 3000 Fax: 020 7782 3200

The Times Higher Educational Supplement

Address as for TES.

The Guardian

119 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3ER
Tel: 0207 278 2332

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Scottish Executive Education Department

2A Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ
Tel: 0131 244 7930
Website: www.teachinginscotland.com

General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS)
Clerwood House, 96 Clermiston Road, Edinburgh, EH 12 6UT
Tel: 0131 314 6000 Fax: 0131 314 6005
Website: www.gtcs.org.uk