

## **SCHOOL TEACHER – NORTHERN IRELAND**

This sheet covers both Primary and Secondary teachers in Northern Ireland.

Please see separate occupation sheets for teachers in England, Scotland 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 that is recognised by the competent authority in that country.

Qualified Teacher Status (**QTS**) – QTS status is awarded by the Department of Education for Northern Ireland to teachers recognised as being qualified to UK standards.

General Teaching Council for Northern Ireland (**GTCNI**) – professional body with which all teachers working in grant-aided schools must register.

### **INDUSTRY REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Grant-aided Schools -**

In Northern Ireland, an OTT who gained their qualifications outside the EU must apply to the Department of Education for Northern Ireland and be granted QTS prior to teaching. Before awarding QTS, the Department of Education for Northern Ireland must be satisfied that an OTT's qualifications are at a standard at least equal to that of a UK trained teacher.

#### **Independent Schools -**

There is no statutory requirement for a teacher in the private sector to hold QTS or to be registered. The Head Teacher of the school decides which qualifications to accept.

## REGISTRATION

Teachers in Northern Ireland must register with the General Teaching Council for Northern Ireland (GTCNI) before being eligible to teach in grant-aided schools. Independent Schools do not need registration.

## WORK PERMITS (UK) TREATMENT

### B&C

This job meets the skills criteria.

Applications can be approved where the OSN is qualified to teach in their own country, has QTS and is registered with the GTCNI.

**This is not a shortage occupation.**

### 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

### Maintained Sector -

Qualified Classroom Teachers start on the Main Pay Scale (M1-M6), usually at point M1. The Upper Pay Scale (U1-U3) is performance-based and can only be used once the teacher has reached the top of the Main Pay Scale.

	<b>SALARY FROM 01/09/2006</b>	<b>SALARY FROM 01/09/2007</b>
Unqualified Teachers	£12,498	£12,810
Qualified Teachers: M1	£19,641	£20,133
Qualified Teachers: M2	£21,195	£21,726
Qualified Teachers: M3	£22,899	£23,427
Qualified Teachers: M4	£24,660	£25,278
Qualified Teachers: M5	£26,604	£27,270
Qualified Teachers: M6	£28,707	£29,427
Qualified Teachers: U1	£31,098	£31,878
Qualified Teachers: U2	£32,253	£33,606
Qualified Teachers: U3	£33,444	£34,281
Principals	£38,559 - £95,631	£39,525- £98,022

## Work Permit (UK) Internal Caseworker Guidance

### Independent Sector -

There are no set salary scales for teachers in independent schools. Many schools pay similar salaries to those in the state sector, while others pay higher or lower salaries. (The maintained sector pay scale above should be used as a guide.)

## **TEACHING/CLASSROOM ASSISTANTS**

The majority of these posts will **not** meet the skills criteria, as there are currently no mandatory qualifications for teaching/classroom assistants, however, some may in exceptional circumstances. If in doubt contact the Policy Team.

### **Exchanges of qualified teachers**

There are a number of exchange programmes administered by the British Council's Central Bureau for International Education and Training and the League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers. These have been given special concessions by colleagues in Croydon, participants on these programmes will not require work permits. Contact details can be found under Further Information.

## **ADVERTISING**

### **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

**Northern Ireland** - The Belfast Telegraph, Irish News & News Letter

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

### **Department for Education & Skills**

Teachers Qualification Branch, Mowden Hall, Staindrop Road, Darlington, DL3 9BG  
Tel: 01325 392126  
Website: [www.dfes.gov.uk/index.htm](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/index.htm)

Work Permit (UK) Internal Caseworker Guidance

**Training & Development Agency for Schools (TDA):**

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

Tel: 020 7023 8001

Website: [www.tda.gov.uk](http://www.tda.gov.uk)

Overseas Trained Teacher Advice Line: Tel: 01245 454321

Fax: 01245 454337

Email: [ott@tdainfo.co.uk](mailto:ott@tdainfo.co.uk)

**Central Bureau for International Education and Training**

The British Council, 10 Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BN

Tel: 0207 389 4004

Fax: 0207 389 4426

Email: [centralbureau@britishcouncil.org](mailto:centralbureau@britishcouncil.org)

Website: [www.britishcouncil.org](http://www.britishcouncil.org)

**Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA)**

QCA Northern Ireland, 2nd Floor, Glendinning House, 6 Murray Street, Belfast, BT1 6DN

Tel: 028 9033 0706

Fax: 028 9023 1621

Email: [infoni@qca.org.uk](mailto:infoni@qca.org.uk)

**League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers (LECT)**

Commonwealth House, 7 Lion Yard, Tremadoc Road, Clapham, London, SW4 7NQ

Tel: 0870 770 2636

Fax: 0870 770 2637

Email: [info@lect.org.uk](mailto:info@lect.org.uk)

**The Department of Education for Northern Ireland (DENI)**

Rathgael House, 43 Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT19 7PR

Tel: 028 9127 9279

Fax: 028 9127 9100

Website: [www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)

**General Teaching Council for Northern Ireland (GTCNI)**

4th Floor Albany House, 73 - 75 Great Victoria Street, Belfast, BT2 7AF

Tel: 028 9033 3390

Fax: 028 9034 8737

Email: [info@gtcni.gov.uk](mailto:info@gtcni.gov.uk)