

Overseas Trained Teachers (Non EEA)

As an Overseas Trained Teacher, you will need to gain Qualified Teacher Status in order to teach permanently in the UK. Only teaching qualifications obtained in the UK and the European Economic Area are recognised here, but you can teach for up to 4 years without QTS.

Teaching is a graduate-only profession in the UK, which means that your qualification must be recognised as a UK-equivalent degree. You can get your qualifications compared by contacting UK NARIC on 0870 990 4088. They will need to see your certificates and will write back to you with a statement of comparison. Schools will need to see a copy of your letter before employing you.

If you have a UK-equivalent degree, the following options are available to you:

1. You can work as a supply teacher through employment agencies. Agencies will usually expect you to have recent teaching experience. Schools will sometimes offer agency teachers longer-term supply work. If a Newham school offers you a Contract of Employment, you will be required to work towards Qualified Teacher Status as an Overseas Trained Teacher.
2. You could also apply for jobs with schools. These are all advertised in the Times Educational Supplement, which comes out weekly, and on www.eteach.com and www.newham.gov.uk. Schools usually expect applicants to have QTS, and you will need to make a strong case as to why you think they should consider you. If a Newham school offers you a Contract of Employment, you will be required to work towards Qualified Teacher Status as an Overseas Trained Teacher.
3. You can gain voluntary experience, or work as a Teaching Assistant in a school. Voluntary experience can be gained by writing to schools requesting experience. Teaching Assistant job advertisements can be found on our website: www.newham.gov.uk or in the Newham Recorder newspaper, available in newsagents every Wednesday. Contact details for Newham schools available here: www.newham.gov.uk/EducationAndLearning/Schools/SchoolsDirectory/default.htm

If you are having problems gaining voluntary experience, the organisation Empowering Learning may be able to help. They offer a free familiarisation course for OTTs with supported work experience (see: www.empowering-learning.com)

Please be aware that some supply agencies offer “Teachers Adaptation Programmes” which are extremely expensive, do not lead to recognised qualifications and may lead to as little as one days’ paid work. Any

concerns about colleges or courses in Newham should be directed to Newham Trading Standards,

Contact Details:

Telephone: 020 3373 9937

Email: trading.standards@newham.gov.uk

4. If you are an Overseas Trained Teacher (OTT) and teach in a maintained school or a non-maintained special school you must be provisionally registered with the GTC. For more information see http://www.gtce.org.uk/registration/provisional_registration/

Gaining Qualified Teacher Status

Once you are working in a Newham school as a teacher, you should discuss gaining QTS with your line manager. You have four years from the first day of teaching in the UK to obtain QTS, and this is regardless in breaks in service or immigration status. Your school may have a preferred training provider, but most work with SCITTELS: **(see the “information about Scittles” pdf document)**

In order to enrol on a programme, you will need:

- Original degree, teaching qualification and Maths and English GCSE level* qualification certificates
- National Academic Recognition Information Centre (www.naric.org.uk) letter stating that these qualifications and the equivalent of UK qualifications
- Proof of valid teachers registration from your country of origin if relevant
- A letter from your school confirming that you have had CRB and occupational health checks carried out
- Ofsted report and SATs/ GCSE results for your school
- Passport and a valid visa

Once you have this information, contact the Teacher Recruitment Manager to arrange an eligibility check meeting. RSM@newham.gov.uk. **Unfortunately it is not possible to direct teachers towards schools who may support their training to QTS.**

*If you intend to teach primary or Key Stage 2/3 (ages 7-14) you must also have achieved a standard equivalent to a grade C in a GCSE science subject.