



### ESSA ACADEMY

Essa Academy is a vibrant and diverse community of 860 students aged 11-16. Our approach is simple and some say unique; we remove any barriers to learning for every child. We do whatever it takes using radical new learning environments where students are given the power, confidence and freedom to learn and be creative according to their individual needs and potential.  
[www.essaacademy.org](http://www.essaacademy.org)



### HARPER GREEN SCHOOL

Harper Green School and Arts College is a co-educational Community School for 11 to 16 year olds. It inspires and supports each and every student to achieve academic and personal success. Harper Green provides inspirational teaching, first class facilities and a broad range of enrichment opportunities. Our inclusive approach ensures that students are known as individuals and activities are planned closely to match their needs and instill enjoyment and success in learning.  
[www.harper-green.bolton.sch.uk](http://www.harper-green.bolton.sch.uk)



### LADYBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

Ladybridge High School is a vibrant multicultural 11-16 Community School. Community cohesion is very strong as is the school's track record for improvements in GCSE performance year on year. Attendance is well above the national average. Ladybridge is a happy, purposeful, proud and popular family school which is determined to be 'the best it can be'.  
[www.ladybridgehigh.co.uk](http://www.ladybridgehigh.co.uk)



### MOUNT ST. JOSEPH

Mount St. Joseph is an oversubscribed 11-16 Roman Catholic VA school in Bolton with approximately 900 students. As a school community our commitment is quite simple – we will do all we can to develop a school that will ensure each child is inspired and has a safe and happy time in a caring and Christian environment where there are high expectations of every individual and where aspirations can become reality.  
[www.msj.bolton.sch.uk](http://www.msj.bolton.sch.uk)



### RIVINGTON & BLACKROD HIGH SCHOOL

Rivington & Blackrod High School is a Church of England Voluntary Controlled 11-18 High School with 1850 pupils. We nurture and grow confident, ambitious, happy, powerful learners of all ages who both lead and manage their own personal and professional development. Our learning community is characterised by respect, tolerance and trust where every learner knows and feels they matter. Our learners thrive whatever the economic, social or technological context and have the power to make a difference.  
[www.rbhs.co.uk](http://www.rbhs.co.uk)



### RUMWORTH SCHOOL

Rumworth School is an OFSTED graded outstanding school which caters for students aged 11-19 who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. We also offer post 19 education at a centre called Lifebridge. The school roll is constantly increasing and we now have 240 pupils along with over 100 members of staff. Our main aim at Rumworth is to increase employability for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities when they leave us. We are very proud to have an outstanding team of staff who help to facilitate this and have the students core values at heart. ITT at Rumworth is inclusive, supportive and most of all empowers trainees to become comfortable with their own teaching styles.  
[www.rumworth.weebly.com](http://www.rumworth.weebly.com)



### SHARPLES SCHOOL

Sharples is an 11-16 school and it is the only specialist science college in Bolton. In 2013 Ofsted judged Sharples to be 'good' and commented that 'students show immense pride in their school'. At Sharples we set high standards and clear expectations for all of our students and seek to nurture within them a love of learning. Our vision is clear – continuous improvement – building upon the schools strengths and successes.  
[www.sharples.bolton.sch.uk](http://www.sharples.bolton.sch.uk)



### BOLTON ST CATHERINE'S ACADEMY

Bolton St Catherine's Academy educates young people from 3-19 years of age. Our values are underpinned by a growing Christian ethos. We are proud to be an inclusive academy for those of all faiths. The entire academy is geared to support every single child as they develop and progress. Our facilities are amongst the very best in the country and support us in delivering a rich, varied and relevant curriculum as well as fantastic extra curricular activities.  
[www.boltonstcatherinesacademy.org.uk](http://www.boltonstcatherinesacademy.org.uk)



### ST JOSEPH'S RC HIGH SCHOOL

St. Joseph's is a Roman Catholic Secondary School provided by the Diocese of Salford and is maintained by the Bolton Local Authority as a Voluntary Aided School. There are approximately 890 pupils enrolled, of which the majority come from our designated feeder primary schools. St. Joseph's has a long-standing reputation in the local community for its high academic achievement, which is underpinned by the school's caring and Christian values.  
[www.stjosephsbolton.org.uk](http://www.stjosephsbolton.org.uk)



### THORNLEIGH SALESIAN COLLEGE

Thornleigh Salesian College is a vibrant, innovative, voluntary aided 11-18 Specialist Sports College with a culture of aspiration and achievement and has an excellent reputation as an 'outstanding Catholic school' (diocesan inspection October 2011) serving its local community. We offer all our students a variety of opportunities and experiences which nurture their unique characters and talents enabling them to flourish and be the best that they can be.  
[www.thornleigh.bolton.sch.uk](http://www.thornleigh.bolton.sch.uk)



### TURTON SCHOOL

Turton is an oversubscribed and high-achieving 11-18 school of 1650 students, with 450 in the Sixth Form. We are an inclusive school with a 'can do' approach. Kindness, compassion and good relationships are at the heart of everything we do. We need people with the ability to motivate and inspire others, the commitment to care for everyone in our school community and a passion for learning and teaching that energises young people and allows them to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for their future.  
[www.turton.uk.com](http://www.turton.uk.com)



### WESTHOUGHTON HIGH SCHOOL

Westhoughton High School is an inclusive 11-16 community school of over 850 pupils. Our school ethos is LEARN (Look after each other; Enjoy school, Aim high, Respect ourselves, each other and our environment; Never stop learning) and it underpins everything we do. Ofsted (October 2015) described us as a good school with outstanding personal development, behaviour and welfare. We are proud to be serving our community by providing exciting educational opportunities that prepare the next generation for their various futures.  
[www.westhoughton-high.org](http://www.westhoughton-high.org)



RIVINGTON SCHOOL DIRECT

LADYWOOD TEACHING SCHOOL ALLIANCE PARTNERS IN EXCELLENCE

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## WHAT IS SCHOOL DIRECT?

School Direct is a new and exciting way of training to be a teacher.

Prospective trainees will have the opportunity to request where they would like to be trained and all efforts will be made to accommodate this.

## RIVINGTON SCHOOL DIRECT IS:

A partnership of twelve secondary schools in Bolton and one North West University, supported by primary and secondary special schools and the Bolton Pupil Referral Service who together deliver Initial Teacher Training.

## THE PARTNERSHIP HAS:

- an excellent record in training outstanding teachers
- a very supportive mentoring culture
- outstanding practitioners both in the schools and the universities
- nine years of Training School experience
- four successful years with School Direct
- an exceptional employment record



For further details contact [schooldirect@rbhs.co.uk](mailto:schooldirect@rbhs.co.uk) or [www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching](http://www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching)

## TRAINEE PLACES FOR 2017-2018 ARE AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

- |                            |                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| • English                  | (French, Spanish & German) | • Design Technology  |
| • Mathematics              | • History                  | • Art & Design       |
| • Physics                  | • Geography                | • Music              |
| • Chemistry                | • Religious Studies        | • Physical Education |
| • Biology                  | • Drama                    | • Sociology          |
| • Modern Foreign Languages | • Computer Science         | • Business Studies   |

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

- GCSE English Language and Mathematics at grade C or above (or equivalent qualification)
- a first degree from a UK higher education institution or equivalent qualification
- a degree classification at 2:2 or above
- a demonstrable interest in teaching within the curriculum area that can be shown in a number of ways such as time spent in schools, knowledge of the chosen curriculum area and relevant practical experience

Please note, for purposes of Initial Teacher Training, level 2 numeracy and literacy qualifications are not considered as equivalent to GCSE grade C in Mathematics or English.

## ABOUT YOUR PLACEMENT

### You will:

- complete your placements in two of the appropriate partnership schools for your subject
- have your own personal tutor/mentor
- have opportunities to experience professional development in a wide variety of alternative school settings (Special, Pupil Referral Service and Sixth Form)
- create an e-file of evidence to support your successful development
- have the opportunity to follow a nationally accredited leadership course
- gain a PGCE with Masters Accreditation through Manchester Metropolitan University (which has been graded as outstanding or good for all areas of Initial Teacher Training)



Francesca Frazer

PGCE Religious Education (School Direct Route):  
 "As a School Direct trainee, we are at our placement schools from the first day of term, so it feels like you're another member of the staff."

**About My PGCE:**  
 My desire to teach was inspired by my secondary school RE teacher. Her enthusiasm, commitment and approachability encouraged me to develop a thirst for deeper knowledge and the confidence to explore my potential.

Having studied and taught teaching in higher education for a number of years, I wanted this to be a very different experience. As a School Direct trainee, we're at our placement schools from the first day of term, so it feels like you're another member of the staff. I chose Rivington School Direct because there's such a variety of schools in the Alliance, all of which are in my local area, so I was excited to know I'd be able to experience contrasting schools, but also work with young people in my own community.

My professional and subject mentors at my placement schools, Turton High School and Sixth Form and Westhoughton High School, have been excellent, encouraging and supporting me throughout this experience.

They gave me so much confidence and allowed me to teach at all levels including GCSE and A Level. Preparing students for their final exams is daunting but so rewarding – you really feel like you've been through it with them and in some way you've contributed to their results.

Being a trainee means you are constantly researching new and innovative teaching strategies, something that as a full-time teacher will probably be too time-consuming. I've especially enjoyed having the freedom to try new things, being able to experience such a variety of different school am very lucky to have already secured my first post, teaching Religious Studies and Classics at Bolton School Girls' Division. I'm excited for the new challenge this brings. I hope to enthuse and inspire my students, and to encourage them to reach their full potential, just as my teachers did for me.



Gill Ellis

**What motivated you to become a teacher?**  
 I had a well-paid, challenging job in newspapers but I had been doing it for so long that I was no longer getting any real job satisfaction. I started studying maths (my favourite subject at school) as a hobby in the first place, but I soon remembered how much I used to enjoy it and it went from there.

**Why did you choose the Rivington School Direct Route?**  
 I opted for the School Direct route because I wanted to choose the schools where I did my training. I chose Rivington School Direct because I was impressed by the level of support on offer. With School Direct you still go to university and get all the qualifications, but you have more of a connection to your schools.

**What have you liked about being a trainee?**  
 I love going to university and being a student myself. Learning to teach is fascinating, the way young minds work and the step-by-step approach to learning. Experienced teachers make it look so easy but I have found it really, really difficult. The schools have been brilliant though, and the teachers have been so patient, and so generous, giving advice and encouragement. I chose two completely different schools, one very small, the other a large, faith school with a sixth form, so I have had two very contrasting experiences.

**What is the most positive thing in your mind about Rivington School Direct?**  
 Besides the support structure, the training is very good. The training sessions are a good chance to meet up with the other trainees. You also get to visit a lot of the other schools in the partnership which is interesting.

**What are your future aspirations?**  
 At the moment I just want to become the best Maths teacher that I can possible be, but in the future I would like to train to become a mentor for trainees myself.



Dr Jeff Gaskill

**What motivated you to become a teacher?**  
 After working for many years in scientific research, I felt the time had come for a change. I had always thought of becoming a teacher and I felt that I could use my knowledge and experience to help pupils in many different ways, from giving a real life context to scientific topics, to helping pupils prepare for studying science at university and beyond.

**Why did you choose the Rivington School Direct Route?**  
 I think the big advantage of the Rivington School Direct programme is the deep integration with the schools. From the first day of term you are welcomed like one of the members of staff, immediately getting involved with all aspects of school life. Also, I found it very reassuring to know which group of schools I would be placed in. This offered me some security when compared with traditional PGCE routes.

**What have you liked about being a trainee?**  
 The best part of the training is the time in the classroom with the students. The enthusiasm and curiosity of the students towards science has been very inspiring and has served to enhance my own love of the subject.

**What is the most positive thing in your mind about Rivington School Direct?**  
 The quality of the professional development training is a strength of the Rivington School Direct programme. The skills of the mentors within the alliance are used to great effect to deliver practical and useful advice through the career development sessions. In addition, there is a great sense of community amongst the trainees, and the network of mentors. This camaraderie has been vitally important in supporting me through this challenging, though ultimately rewarding year.

**What are your future aspirations?**  
 This year is hopefully just the start of a long career in teaching. Over the next 5 years, I would aim to be increasing my role within the science department, taking more responsibility and playing an active role in the development of schemes of work.