



Careers in Teaching & Education

Your guide to teaching, early years, support and education careers

Liverpool & Merseyside | Level 1 to Degree Level | SEND-friendly options may be available



Why Choose a Career in Teaching & Education?

- Make a real difference to children's lives — support learning, development and wellbeing
- Multiple career paths — Teaching Assistant, Early Years Educator, Teacher, SEND Support Worker
- Job security and progression — high demand for education professionals across the UK
- Supportive work environment — part of a school or nursery team working towards shared goals
- Holidays and flexibility — school holidays allow time with family
- Entry routes for all backgrounds — various pathways to your chosen role



Skills and Personal Qualities

- Patience, empathy and understanding — working calmly with children of different abilities
- Communication skills — explaining clearly, listening to children, working with parents and staff
- Creativity — planning engaging activities and adapting learning to children's needs
- Organisation and planning — managing time, resources, behaviour and routines
- Reliability and responsibility — children depend on consistent, trustworthy adults
- Teamwork — working with teachers, parents and other professionals to support learners



Useful School Subjects

- English — communication, reading and supporting literacy
- Maths — supporting numeracy and everyday classroom learning
- Health & Social Care — child development, care and safeguarding
- Drama / Music / Art — creative activities for engaging children
- PE — supporting active play and physical development



Local Courses (Levels 1 to 3)

Courses are available at local colleges across Merseyside. Many courses accept students without GCSEs.

Teaching Assistant Courses (Levels 1 to 3)

- City of Liverpool College — L1 Teaching Assistants (12 weeks) | L2 CACHE Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools
- Hugh Baird College — Diploma in Supporting Teaching and Learning (Teaching Assistant) L3
- St Helens College — Health & Social Care L2-L3 (transferable to support roles)

Early Years & Childcare Courses

- City of Liverpool College — NCFE CACHE L2 Certificate Education & Childcare | Early Years courses L1–L3
- Hugh Baird College — T-Level: Education & Childcare (Early Years Educator) L3 | Foundation Year available
- St Helens College — Early Years Education & Childcare L2–L3

Teacher Training & Education Professions

- City of Liverpool College — Access to HE: Professions in Teaching & Education L3 | In-Service Teacher Training (PGCE/Postgraduate Diploma)
- Hugh Baird College — Access to Higher Education | Foundation Degrees & Degrees in Education/Childcare
- University routes — Primary Education degree (3 years) + PGCE/School Direct (1 year) for QTS

SEND-Friendly & Supported Provision

- Supported study options may be available — speak to your careers adviser about what could work for you

Apprenticeships and Training

- Early Years Educator Apprenticeship — Level 3 (earn while you learn)
- Health & Social Care Apprenticeship — Level 2–3 (pathway to SEND support roles)
- Teaching Assistant Apprenticeships — combined work and training
- School Direct Teacher Training — earn while training to be a teacher
- Short courses — safeguarding, Paediatric First Aid, British Sign Language, SEND training
- Search live vacancies: www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk
- Supported Internships (for students with an EHCP) are run by local colleges with their selected employer partners — ask your careers adviser whether this route could suit you

Jobs, Volunteering and Work Experience

Education careers range from classroom support to qualified teaching, in schools, nurseries and specialist settings. Most roles require a DBS check.

Role	Where You Work	Starting Qualification
Teaching Assistant (L1–L2)	Primary and secondary schools	Level 1–2 Supporting Teaching & Learning
HLTA / Senior Teaching Assistant	Schools, specialist settings	Level 3 + experience
Nursery Practitioner	Nurseries, preschools, children’s centres	Level 2 Childcare
Early Years Educator	Nurseries, settings, childminding	Level 3 Early Years Educator
SEND Support Worker	SEND schools, councils, specialist provision	Level 2–3 Health & Social Care
Primary Teacher	Primary schools	Degree + PGCE/School Direct (QTS)
Experienced Teacher / Leadership (career goal)	Schools	QTS + experience

Teaching Assistants earn £17,000–£22,000 (HLTAs £22,000–£28,000). Early Years roles £18,000–£25,000. Newly qualified teachers start at £28,000–£34,000, rising to £35,000–£50,000+ with experience and leadership.

Work Experience & Volunteering

- Contact local schools about volunteer work or work experience
- Volunteer with youth groups, sports clubs or holiday clubs to build experience with children
- For teaching degrees, visit university websites or www.ucas.com

Next Steps and Contact Information

- Visit college open days and websites
- Search for local jobs: www.indeed.co.uk | www.notjustjobs.com

- Find apprenticeships: www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk

TAGS Careers	www.tags.careers — local careers information and resources
Colleges	City of Liverpool College: www.liv-coll.ac.uk Hugh Baird: www.hughbaird.ac.uk St Helens: www.sthelens.ac.uk
Teacher Training	Teaching Vacancies: www.teaching-vacancies.service.gov.uk UCAS: www.ucas.com
More Support	Your careers adviser can provide additional guidance tailored to your needs
Apprenticeships	www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk www.indeed.co.uk www.notjustjobs.com