THE UNIVERSITY OF
BUCKINGHAM

INSPIRING
FUTURE
TEACHERS

BA (Hons) in Primary Education

For teaching assistants and others supporting teaching and learning in schools

BA (Hons) in Primary Education

This three-year course is aimed at those without a degree working in schools who want to become teachers. Those applying are likely to be teaching assistants, others supporting teaching and learning in primary settings and sixth formers who have been offered a teaching assistant job after A-levels. It can also be suitable for those whose degree was awarded overseas yet is not recognised as an equivalent to a UK university degree.

Once students have the degree they will need to take the one-year Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) course which is a requirement of many schools in England and which is free-of-charge at the University of Buckingham via the apprenticeship route.

About the course

This is a three-year course involving 10+ hours of work every week. Students have to find that time in the evenings, weekends and holidays.

Start date | July 2025 *(the compulsory induction day is in July 2025, online)*

This degree has many significant advantages:

> It enables students to work in a paid full or part-time job while taking the course.

> The course is online, which enables participants to work and complete tasks at times they can manage.

> The course materials are written by academics and teachers in England.

> The course is excellent value. Every student will need to find out whether their employer is happy to pay, or whether they will take a student loan.

> Each student is provided with a Chromebook for their personal use.

> All students have a University of Buckingham tutor, who supports them throughout the course.

> The degree course is integrated with every student's work because much of the study is based on them reflecting on their setting and what happens there.

> For students living in England, the BA can be followed by the 12-month Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) course at The University of Buckingham which is free of charge (at the time of writing) because it is paid, through your employer, by the apprenticeship levy. QTS is needed to teach in many schools in England.

In addition to their contracted hours of work, students will need to be able to commit approximately 10-12 hours per week to the necessary reading and writing for this course.

Overseas applicants should know that the course content is about primary schools in England only. You will not be eligible for the apprenticeship-funded QTS course but can apply for the International QTS course for which there is a fee.

Course dates*

Application deadline	**16 May 2025**
Course Welcome Webinar	**Monday 16 June 2025** *(online)*
Course Induction Webinar	**Monday 23 June 2025** *(online)*
Course start date	**Monday 23 June 2025**
Course end date	**July 2028**

Entry requirements

> Applicants must be in employment in a primary school or other setting with primary age students. The school/setting concerned will need to write a letter supporting an application.

> Applicants cannot have a UK university degree already.

> Two A-levels or equivalents (overseas qualifications must be checked through UK ENIC to show they are the same standard as British A-levels).

> Complete a successful interview with a member of the Faculty of Education.

> It is not a requirement for the BA, but to apply for a place on a QTS course you must have a pass in GCSE English and maths (C grade/grade 4 or above) or an equivalent.

> Overseas applicants must have a good standard of written English and have an IELTS score of **6.5** or above or have completed some of their education in English.

> Sixth formers who are taking A-Levels may apply. Any offer made will be conditional

Those who wish to apply for the BA but who do not have two A-levels, or who wish to improve their academic writing skill, should take the 14-week academic writing course we offer. It will cost **£480** including VAT. Those who do not have two A-levels will be assessed at the end of the course and will either be permitted to apply for the BA or not.

Course structure

There are **10** modules of **30** credits each, and a final **60** credit **Enquiry** module. To help make the course appropriately progressive in terms of academic challenge, in Year 1 the four modules will be at **Level 4**, in Year 2 at **Level 5** and Year 3 at **Level 6**. The syllabus will be subject to revision but currently includes:

Year 1

Module 1	Child development
	The purposes of education and approaches to learning
Module 2	School organisation and regulation
	Quality primary education
Module 3	The science of learning
	Successful primary school pupils
Module 4	Play and the developing child
	Creativity

Year 2

Module 5	Child development and barriers to learning
	Classroom culture and managing behaviour
Module 6	The early years of education
	Introduction to oracy, vocabulary and phonics
Module 7	Literacy
	Numeracy
Module 8	Foundation subjects (1)
	Foundation subjects (2) and statutory RE

Year 3

Module 9	Teaching primary science
	Assessment
Module 10	Literacy throughout the curriculum
	Numeracy throughout the curriculum
Module 11	Analysis of research
	Planning an enquiry
	Enquiry

Students will access a range of learning materials to work through and will be assessed based on three assignments per module. These assignments will be based on students' study and require them to link this to their in-school/setting observations and experiences. The final **Enquiry module** is assessed and will involve a longer, research-based assignment on an area of your choice from the programme. It will involve a literature review of 2,000 words and a research project of 6,000 words, written over two terms.

Course fees

Start	Type	1st Year	Total cost
Jul 2025	UK	**£5,000**	**£15,000**
Jul 2025	INT	**£5,000**	**£15,000**

> The course is full time for three years.

> A non-refundable registration fee of **£300** is also payable.

> There is a limit to the numbers on this course so early applications are advised.

> Bursaries can be available on application.