

Teaching London: LDBS SCITT

2 West End Lane, Kilburn, London NW6 4NT

Inspection dates

16 January to 19 January 2023

Inspection judgements

Primary age-phase

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education and training

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to be a trainee at this ITE provider?

All trainees receive exceptional training and pastoral support at the centre and on placements. Communication across the partnership is highly effective. One trainee said, reflecting the views of many: 'Everyone here is working towards the same goal – me becoming a teacher. Having that behind you is a powerful driver.'

Training is of a very high standard and delivered by experienced staff, including partnership school leaders. Trainees access the very latest educational research, including how pupils learn in theory and practice across the primary age range. This includes pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities and pupils who speak English as an additional language. Leaders provide distinctive opportunities for trainees to work together on projects in a wide range of schools. All trainees benefit from intensive training in systematic synthetic phonics. They apply and deepen their understanding of early reading and phonics throughout the course.

Trainees gain a very thorough understanding of the demands, expectations and rewards of the teaching profession. Leaders prioritise safeguarding training from the start. Training on managing pupils' behaviour ensures that trainees are thoroughly prepared and confident to begin their initial school placement. Trainees build on this core knowledge throughout their training. As a result of all these strengths, trainees are exceedingly well prepared to start their career in teaching.

Information about this ITE provider

- There are currently 72 trainees enrolled on the Schools Direct programme. There are

13 participants undertaking the assessment-only route into teaching.

- The course prepares trainees to teach primary-age pupils. This includes the early years 3 to 7 years age range and the general primary 5 to 11 years age range.
- Trainees attend the SCITT centre weekly to participate in training sessions. The majority of training takes place in primary schools that work in partnership with the provider.
- The SCITT enables trainees to work towards a Postgraduate Certificate in Education and qualified teacher status (QTS) through the Schools Direct salaried or fee-paying routes. Participants are also able to apply for QTS to teach primary- and secondary-age pupils through the assessment-only route,
- The SCITT works in partnership with over 60 primary schools across London. The majority of schools have been judged good or outstanding by Ofsted. The SCITT completes risk assessments for the small number of partner schools judged to require improvement by Ofsted.

Information about this inspection

- The inspection was carried out by three His Majesty's Inspectors
- Inspectors held meetings with senior leaders, including the partnership steering group and programme director. Inspectors also spoke with some partnership school leaders, school mentors and former trainees.
- Inspectors spoke with 12 trainees during the inspection. Inspectors also reviewed trainee responses to Ofsted's online survey.
- Inspectors carried out focused reviews in the following subjects: early reading, mathematics, English, physical education and history. Inspectors also reviewed the curriculum and trainee experiences of other subjects.
- As part of the inspection, inspectors visited eight placement settings and communicated with trainees, mentors and leaders from a range of other settings.

What does the ITE provider do well and what does it need to do better?

The highly ambitious curriculum extends well beyond the requirements of the core content framework. The delivery of the curriculum is skilfully organised and sequenced. This helps trainees to build their developing knowledge securely. Focused content of professional studies sessions delivered at the start of the programme enables trainees to be well prepared for their school placements. Trainees have wide-ranging opportunities to implement, embed and apply core knowledge of how to manage pupils' behaviour effectively in different school settings over the course of the programme. For example, trainees keep a behaviour audit log throughout the year in which they reflect on how their classroom practice progresses after each centre-based session.

Leaders prioritise building trainees' knowledge of and confidence in teaching early reading, including using systematic synthetic phonics. At the start of their training year, trainees are taught the principles that underpin phonics programmes used in schools. Trainees have

opportunities to teach early reading using systematic synthetic phonics to pupils in their placement schools. In addition, trainees have distinctive opportunities to observe experts and each other. They then refine their phonics teaching during intensive training and practice school experiences. Many trainees said they felt confident teaching phonics even though they had no experience prior to starting the course.

Centre-based tutors work collaboratively with school-based mentors to devise the placement-based training curriculum. Leaders and mentors provide trainees with wide-ranging and relevant opportunities to apply in school what they learn during centre-based sessions. Centre-based learning is structured thoughtfully. Subject sessions integrate and build on what trainees learn in professional studies sessions. Trainees are taught how to apply their knowledge of teaching and the way that pupils learn subjects from the early years through to Year 6. For example, trainees learn how to use information from assessment to inform the next steps in pupils' learning in different subjects across the primary age range.

Leaders have devised a training curriculum for mentors that aligns closely to the ITE curriculum. School mentors have thorough knowledge of the ITE curriculum. As a result, the school-based training curriculum is consistently implemented and is effective. Leaders use a range of approaches to check that mentoring is of high quality. They are proactive in providing strong support for mentors and school leaders. Subject tutors and school-based mentors work together and ensure that the experiences and feedback trainees receive in schools are focused and specific.

Leaders use a range of formative assessment to ensure trainees know and remember the curriculum and to inform the delivery of the curriculum. Recently, leaders broadened the way trainees are assessed across the year following feedback from school partners, ITE mentors and trainees about trainee workload and well-being. Leaders work with a range of external reviewers to ensure that assessment standards are demanding.

Does the ITE provider's primary phase comply with the ITE compliance criteria?

- The provider meets the DfE statutory compliance criteria.

ITE provider details

Unique reference number	70037
Inspection number	10254560

This inspection was carried out in accordance with the 'Initial teacher education inspection framework and handbook'.

This framework and handbook sets out the statutory basis and framework for initial teacher education (ITE) inspections in England from September 2020.

Type of ITE provider	School-centred initial teacher training
Phases provided	Primary
Date of previous inspection	28 June and 9 November 2017

Inspection team

Andrea Bedeau, Lead inspector	His Majesty's Inspector
Adam Vincent	His Majesty's Inspector
Aliki Constantopoulou	His Majesty's Inspector

Annex: Placement schools

Inspectors visited the following schools as part of this inspection:

Name	URN	ITE phase
St Anselm's Catholic Primary	102230	Primary
Stepney Greencoat Church of England Primary	100946	Primary
St Bartholomew's Primary	100726	Primary
Christ Church Church of England Primary	101533	Primary
St Luke's Church of England Primary	100954	Primary
St James' Church of England Primary	100829	Primary
Freezywater St George's Church of England Primary	102031	Primary
Bannockburn Primary	100113	Primary

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