

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is this programme for?

The programme has been designed with SCIS for experienced teachers who are employed as teachers in independent schools in Scotland and do not hold an initial teaching qualification.

2. Do I need to hold a particular type of post to be eligible to apply?

To apply for the programme you must be working as a teacher, with class teaching as part of your role in a school. This can be a part-time teaching post, or a different post with teaching as part of your responsibilities.

If you are working as a teacher, but not employed as a teacher please check your eligibility for registering as a teacher with the GTCS prior to applying for the programme.

3. What qualifications do I need to apply?

To apply for this programme you must hold a degree, honours degrees are preferred, as the programme is taught at masters level (Scottish Qualifications Framework Level 11).

Note that when you complete your registration with the GTCS you will be required to meet their entry requirements for teacher education i.e. to hold Higher English and National 5 Mathematics (or a recognised equivalent) plus a degree for primary teaching and a degree in the subject you wish to register to teach for secondary.

We strongly recommend that you contact the GTCS before registering for the TQPR programme to discover if there are qualifications, other than TQPR, that you require for registration. Doing so will enable you to plan your professional learning for registration.

4. How does it support the requirement for teachers in the independent sector to register with the GTCS?

This programme gives you a GTCS accredited teaching qualification and, subject to meeting the other registration requirements (see question 3), you will be fully registered as a teacher when you complete the TQPR programme.

For information about registering with the GTCS see:

<http://www.gtcs.org.uk/registration/independent-schools-registration.aspx>

5. What does the programme include?

There are two parts to the programme. In the first part you take three 20 credit modules at SCQF Level 11: Teacher Professionalism

1. Curriculum and Pedagogy
2. Policy into Practice

If you decide that you do not want to complete the programme and register with the GTCS registration then you can exit the programme at this point with a Postgraduate Certificate in Contextualising Classroom Practice.

To begin the second part of the programme you must hold Provisional (Conditional) registration with the GTCS and study the final, 60 credit module at SCQF Level 11.

6. How is it taught?

The programme is a part-time distance-learning programme that is taught online in the UHI Virtual Learning Environment over a two year period.

The programme begins with an induction day held in Perth College UHI, where you will have the opportunity to meet tutors and fellow participants. The induction dates for 2018 – 19 are Saturday 29th September for a semester 1 start and Saturday 26th January for a semester 2 start.

7. How will I be supported during the programme?

Three key members of staff will support you as a TQPR student: your personal academic tutor (PAT), who will provide pastoral support throughout the programme and can connect you to University support services. In each module you will be supported by the Module Tutor and your Critical Friend in school.

8. How does it connect with my work in school?

The first three modules ask you to reflect, critically analyse and develop the curriculum, pedagogy and policies you are using in your teaching. This supports you to use the fourth module to lead a professional enquiry in your setting that enables you to evidence that you meet the Standard for Full Registration.

9. Do I need to be teaching a set number of hours?

No

10. Are there any observations?

No.

The programme works with the existing quality assurance structures in schools, including observations and professional review and development processes. The programme works with the observations and personal review and development structures in your school.

11. What happens if I need to take a break from my studies?

You can apply to suspend your studies. Your personal academic tutor (PAT) will support you through that process.

12. What does it cost and how can I pay?

For those beginning the programme in 2018 – 19 the first three 20 credit modules cost £560 each. The final module is for 60 credits and costs £1620. As a registered student with Perth College UHI you can agree an individual payment structure with the college.

13. How do I apply?

You follow the instructions on the University website. Scroll down the page and click apply for 2018/ 19:

<https://www.uhi.ac.uk/en/courses/pgdip-teaching-qualification-practitioner-route/#tab-summary>

14. How are people selected for the programme?

Each application is read by the Programme Leader, who checks qualifications and that you hold a letter of support from your school. Places are limited and offered on a 'first come first served' basis.

15. How many places are available?

There are a maximum of 20 places available on each cohort.

16. What are the programme dates for 2018 – 19?

Saturday 27th September – Induction for new students and those starting the second module.

Semester 1 (September to December 2018)

Cohort 1 – Curriculum and Pedagogy

Cohort 2 - Teacher Professionalism

Saturday 26th January 2019 – Induction for new students and those starting the second and third modules.

Semester 2 (February to June 2019)

Cohort 1 – Policy into Practice

Cohort 2 – Curriculum and Pedagogy

Cohort 3 - Teacher Professionalism

17. How long will the programme be available for?

UHI intends to offer the programme for six years, to match with the time-frame that teachers in the independent sector have to gain registration with the GTCS. Cohort 1 began in February 2018 and will move onto the second and third modules in the programme in 2018 – 19. We will recruit two cohorts one to start in September 2018 and one in January 2019.