



Career Seekers Direct
Career Management Services

Career Seekers Direct Focus On The Education Industry

Working in education can be a truly rewarding career, and there are a number of options. To be a teacher in a state school you need to meet certain requirements including having a degree and postgraduate training. Whether you choose to go into primary or secondary school teaching will dictate exactly which postgraduate training course you'll need to take. But there are also other roles within education too, some which are suitable for school leavers. A standard requirement for anyone working with children and young people is Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check of your criminal record history. You'll need to be patient, enthusiastic, dedicated and have excellent communications skills.



What type of jobs are there in education?

A **Primary or Secondary School Teacher** is responsible for the educational, social and emotional development of 5 to 11 year olds (primary) or 16 year olds (secondary), or up to 19 in schools with sixth forms. In this job you would plan and prepare for lessons, set up classrooms, teach classes, manage the work of teaching assistants and learning support, update records, follow strict rules and code of conduct, attend meetings and training, talk to parents. For primary teaching you usually need GCSE maths, English and Science at grade 9 to 4, and a degree, and 5 GSCE's (including maths and English) for secondary school teaching. You might also need to obtain a PGCE (post-graduate certificate in education) depending on the type of degree you have (without QTS), or there are a small number of postgraduate teaching apprenticeships you can do instead of a PGCE. You could also start working as a teaching assistant and do a part-time degree, and then move on to a post grad teaching course to qualify.

If you want to progress further you could become a **leading practitioner**, which involves leading the improvement of teaching skills and supporting your fellow teachers, or you could support pupils with additional needs. There are also opportunities to progress to **management** roles, such as becoming a **head of department** or **headteacher**. Other career opportunities for qualified, experienced teachers include **private tuition** or working for an **exam board** or **local authority**, or as an **education officer** in a gallery or museum.

Teaching Assistant: This role accepts non-graduates and offers the chance to progress to a higher level teaching assistant too. This role involves supporting the teacher and helping to ensure all pupils receive the help and attention they need. Sometimes this role includes helping children with special educational needs too, and you can gain certification in doing so.

Other roles that are suitable for non-graduates are: nursery nurse/manager (workplace training alongside studying a qualification like an NVQ is usually the case), youth worker (organising activities for and supporting young people – apprenticeships or degrees can be taken), and playworker, nanny, breakfast/after school club supervisor.

Management and Admin roles: There are many roles available within education that do not actually involve teaching, such as accounts & finance and administration, and some of these may be available to those who do not have a degree, or even who are school leavers.

Who are the employers in Education?

State schools – you might be employed by the local authority or by another organisation.

Community schools are run by local authority; academies and free schools are funded by central government directly and have more control over pay and curriculum

Private /fee-paying/independent schools – they are often run by a charitable trust. Independent schools are not required to employ qualified teachers, although in practice they often do prefer this

Language Schools – privately owned and run, you can take a specific qualification to teach English as a foreign language, this is called a TEFL course. These courses are usually run by private organisations, and also offer the opportunity to teach abroad.

Colleges and Universities

Special schools catering for those with disabilities and special needs

Young offenders institutions and hospitals

Pupil referral units for children who cannot be educated in mainstream schools for some reason such as exclusion for behavioural issues

How do you know if a job in this industry is right for you? If you are choosing your first career or looking for a career change, our Career Compass Programme can help you see if you are a good 'career fit' for this industry and help you create an action plan to get a role.

Please contact Eva on 07901 517012 or email enquiries@careerseekersdirect.co.uk