

George Spencer Academy SCITT

Special Educational Needs in ITT Enhanced Route

Our vision for training teachers of children with special educational needs and disabilities is the same as for all children and young people – that they achieve well in their early years, at school and in college, and lead happy and fulfilled lives.

With an increasing move towards inclusion, the numbers of SEN students accessing mainstream provision is increasing year on year. It is important that all teachers are able to meet the needs of ALL of their students.

In line with the revised SEN code of practice (2014) we expect our trainees to have high aspirations and expectations for children and young people with SEN, that enables them to make progress so that they:

- Achieve their best
- Become confident individuals living fulfilling lives, and
- Make a successful transition into adulthood, whether into employment, further or higher education or training

To enable this we expect our trainees to:

- use their best endeavours to make sure that a child with SEN gets the support they need – this means doing everything they can to meet children and young people's SEN
- ensure that children and young people with SEN engage in the activities of the school alongside pupils who do not have SEN
- Observe excellent practice in this area

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? Who is the enhanced route for?

There is no set entry criteria however we expect trainees to demonstrate a passion for inclusive education. This route would be suited to trainees with a past of history of working as a Teaching Assistant or with students with SEN. This route is ideal for those who may be interested in becoming a SENCo or working in a school or setting with high incidence SEN. A passion for inclusive education is essential. Trainees on this route would be expected to be at least good across all Teaching Standards by the middle of the spring term.

? What will the enhanced route offer?

Our Enhanced SEN route enables you to develop and hone your skills and knowledge in SEN to enable you to be outstanding in your field and highly sought after as you enter the teaching profession. In addition to the core offer for all trainees, the route will include:

- Development of expertise in an area of need through bespoke training (including professional qualifications where appropriate) e.g. Dyscalculia session for Primary and Secondary Maths trainees.
- Support from an SEN Specialist Leader in Education and experienced SENCo and TA link mentor to provide guidance, support and extended professional knowledge
- PGCE Assignment to focus on SEN.*
- Pupil trail of SEN student.*
- Attachment to form/Class/group/activity e.g. Nurture, Inclusive Sport.*
- Extended experience at Special school/PRU.*
- Understanding of range of specific and effective interventions aimed at closing the gap e.g. Assessment for All, First Class for Number.

**it is envisaged that these will focus on the same area of need to develop a depth of understanding, skills and knowledge in supporting students with their chosen area of need.*

? How will the route be assessed?

In addition to assessment for all trainees on the CORE route there will be:

- Self-study tasks assessed by Viva with SEN Lead
- Assessment against SEN specific teaching standards
- Feedback from Special School placement

? What support will be available?

In addition to the OT, SKM, SM and SBT you will be supported by a Specialist leader of Education in SEN and an experienced LSA throughout the course.

? What are the advantages for trainees on the enhanced route?

- Enhanced SEN knowledge leading to improved outcomes for SEN learners
- Wider understanding of inclusion including Special schools
- Positive and Passionate attitude towards inclusion
- Improved employment prospects
- Rapid career progression to leadership roles including SENCo