

# National Modern Languages



SCHOOL CENTRED INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING

## Train to teach languages



## National Modern Languages SCITT

[www.nationalmodernlanguages.com](http://www.nationalmodernlanguages.com)

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EXCELLENCE IN SUBJECT-SPECIFIC TEACHER TRAINING

## Who we are

### Train, learn and teach with the National Specialist SCITTs

National Modern Languages SCITT is part of the National Specialist SCITTs, home of subject-specific school-centred initial teacher training created and developed by Chorus Education Trust.

The National Specialist SCITTs provides unique teacher training programmes with a strong focus on subject-specific training. Throughout the course, trainees learn directly from experts and professionals within their chosen subject area.

Our programmes combine academic learning with practical experience in schools, along with specialist training from subject experts. This ensures you develop a strong understanding of teaching, are ready for classroom life, and become part of a community of subject-specific teaching community.

The National Modern Languages SCITT has been training outstanding language teachers since 2016, earning a strong reputation for developing skilled and confident languages teachers. As the only national teacher training programme in England dedicated exclusively to modern foreign languages, we offer unmatched expertise for those aspiring to inspire the next generation of linguists.

Our unique programme, designed by experienced modern foreign languages educators, was born from a deep passion for languages and language learning. The programme blends extensive school-based, in-classroom practical experience with outstanding training.

### We train you to teach:

Arabic *	Japanese *
French	Mandarin *
German	Russian *
Italian *	Spanish

\*Places for these courses are limited and are not available in every hub. You will also need French, German or Spanish as a second language.



# Who we are looking for



**We are looking for passionate linguists with sound subject knowledge who have the potential to become outstanding modern foreign languages teachers.**

## Resilient, reflective, adaptable

We welcome applicants with an understanding of the educational context in England but will offer support for those trainees who need to gain this experience.

We are looking for applicants who can demonstrate good written English, personal resilience, enthusiasm, confidence, emotional intelligence and the ability to be reflective.

## You don't need a degree in languages to train with us!

Whilst many of our trainees have language degrees, some are fluent in a modern language but have studied other subjects – ranging from academic subjects such as history or science, all the way through to more vocational subjects such as finance or marketing.

Some of our trainees are foreign nationals, fluent in their native language and with a good understanding of English.

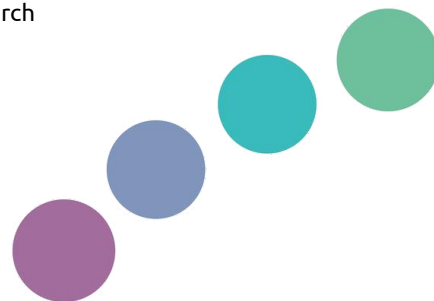
Others join us from a well-established career and are at a point in their life when they are looking for a new challenge and want to make a difference to the lives of young people.

## Changing careers?

Making the switch to teaching is often much easier than people realise. Teaching is an exciting and rewarding career. As long as you have a passion for languages and think that you can motivate and inspire young people then our course will teach you the rest and our team will support you all the way.

Many of our alumni have entered the teaching profession from a range of careers including:

- Translation
- Foreign language assistants (FLAs) in European schools
- Teaching assistants with language skills
- Journalism
- International aid/development
- Logistics and distribution.
- Marketing and public relations
- Travel and tourism
- Academic research





*"I chose NML SCITT because the programme allowed me to teach both Mandarin and Spanish, and I wanted a training experience that offered more opportunities to work in schools. Additionally, I felt that the chance to work in both state and independent schools would provide me with a well-rounded training experience."*



**"My mentors have been incredibly helpful, generously volunteering their time to provide valuable feedback after lessons. They pointed out areas for improvement and encouraged me to consider alternative approaches. They then offered advice and guidance on my suggestions."**







# Why choose us?

We are the only national teacher training provider focused solely on modern languages. This makes us uniquely different from other routes into teaching.

## A choice of languages

You can train to teach in:

- Arabic\*
- French
- German
- Italian\*
- Japanese\*
- Mandarin\*
- Russian\*
- Spanish

## A course designed by linguists, for linguists

Our course has been designed by modern languages experts. Some of these professionals are also actively involved in the delivery of the course and run training sessions throughout your training year.

## Great combination of theory and hands-on classroom experience

Our School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) provides a mix of academic research, specialist training from modern languages experts and practical experience through school placements. You will spend time in the classroom by undertaking two placements in different schools. This helps you decide what kind of school you want to work in and equips you with the practical skills and insight needed for your new career as a teacher of languages.

**100%**  
of trainees are  
confident the training  
programme will make  
them a good or  
better teacher.\*\*

## Part of a wider professional community

We are plugged in to the teaching and language teaching communities, which means you can be too! This provides you with access to a wealth of resources and expertise. Colleagues within our communities are always ready to help and support. It's a vibrant, exciting world, where your love for languages and commitment to education can push your professional career to the next level.



## A choice of training locations across England

Through our collaborative and supportive network of hubs across England, you can choose to train somewhere that is convenient for you. Our hubs are partnered with a range of excellent schools giving you access to a variety of educational settings from both the state and independent sector.

Find out more about our hubs at:  
[www.nationalmodernlanguages.com/locations](http://www.nationalmodernlanguages.com/locations)

## Our academic partner

We are proud to work with our excellent academic partner, [Sheffield Hallam University](http://Sheffield Hallam University), which provides the teaching, support and assessment for the PGCE qualification.

**Sheffield  
Hallam  
University**  
Knowledge Applied

\*Places for these courses are limited and are not available in every hub. You will also need French, German or Spanish as a second language.

\*\*The National Modern Languages SCITT Ofsted trainee online questionnaire 2024.



# Career opportunities

## It's not just 'teaching' – it's a career with many different facets!

The teaching profession offers a huge variety of career opportunities. These include:

- Head of a language department where you can lead and manage teaching and learning of modern languages within a school.
- Lead practitioner – providing support across more than one school in modern languages.
- A pastoral role, such as head of year or key stage.
- Senior leadership roles such as assistant head, deputy head or headteacher, shaping the strategic direction of a school.
- Working as a mentor, coach, trainer or facilitator.

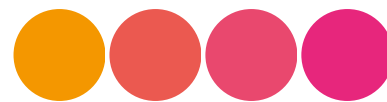
As well as excellent career opportunities, teaching offers a competitive salary, job security and job satisfaction. By becoming a teacher, you will provide opportunities for the future generation, helping young people to:

- Become fluent in another language, improve their communication skills and learn about other cultures.
- Have a competitive edge if they decide to apply to university.
- Prepare for their future career and acquire the knowledge to compete in a global job market.
- Succeed in life by providing them with a solid platform from which they can flourish.



*"I would highly recommend the National Modern Languages SCITT. I loved my training and am truly grateful for everything I learned. Our cohort got on really well, and I made friends for life - one of whom I now work with in my current role. After completing my training, I secured a job at my placement school and am now Head of Modern Foreign Languages at a new school."*

# How we will support you



From the start of your course through to applying for your first job, and beyond, we are here to support your teacher training journey. Training with other linguists, you develop your very own support network built on your love for languages.

## Support before you apply

Our dedicated and experienced team will:

- Guide you through the necessary paperwork.
- Check your qualifications.
- Provide advice on fees and funding.
- Arrange for you to attend a taster day in your chosen hub.
- Explain the interview process.
- Help to arrange school experience.
- Support you every step of the way.

## Support before you start the course

Before you start your training with us, you will take part in a comprehensive pre-course programme (March to July) that provides an introduction to the course and prepares you for the start of your training.

Just before you start your training you will be invited to attend our familiarisation week which takes place in Sheffield in August.

During familiarisation, you will take part in a comprehensive programme of training where you will meet our experienced staff, start forming relationships with your fellow trainees, and gain advice, tips and techniques to help you throughout your first weeks of training. To provide you with a language learning experience from the perspective of a learner, you will be taught Serbian.

For further information about the support you will receive before you start the course, please visit: [www.nationalmodernlanguages.com/why-choose-us](http://www.nationalmodernlanguages.com/why-choose-us)

## Support during the course

Training with your peers will provide you with your very own support network. You will get to meet other trainees at the local training sessions in your hub as well as central training days held in Sheffield and online. This is a great opportunity to share experiences of teacher training with your peers – people who really understand the rewards and challenges of language teacher training.

You will also receive support throughout your course from the NML SCITT central and local teams who will guide you, review your progress and ensure you are supported throughout your training year.

During your placements in schools you will be supported by a school-based mentor who is an experienced teacher of languages and will meet with you formally once a week as well as support you throughout your time in school.

When it comes to applying for your first teaching job, we will give you all the support you need with applications and interview techniques to help you secure your employment within the modern languages teaching sector. We use our vast network of schools in England to help secure your first teaching post and have an excellent track record of helping our trainees secure employment after completing their training.

## Support after the course

The support doesn't stop when you finish the course. Our former trainees are now teachers and some are even mentoring new trainees! There is a whole network of National Modern Languages SCITT alumni who are supporting one another throughout their careers. In addition, our friendly central team are here to help and provide support when needed.

## Training with disabilities

We are committed to supporting applicants and trainees who are neurodivergent, have a long-term physical or mental health condition, or have any other accessibility needs. Please do reach out if you require support with your application and regarding reasonable adjustments for interviews. During your interview process you will also have the opportunity to discuss support you may require during the pre-course programme and throughout the training year.

# 100%

of trainees are confident that the NML SCITT training programme is well led and managed.\*

\*The National Modern Languages SCITT Ofsted trainee online questionnaire 2024.





# Our course

## What qualifications will I achieve?

After successful completion of the course, you will achieve:

- A PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate in Education).
- QTS (Qualified Teacher Status).
- 60 credits towards a master's degree.

## What languages can I train to teach?

- Arabic\*
- French
- German
- Italian\*
- Japanese\*
- Mandarin\*
- Russian\*
- Spanish

## How long is the course?

One year

## When does the course start?

August

## Where will I train?

You will complete most of your training through training events and school placements at your chosen geographical training hub. You will also be required to attend a number of central training events that will take place either in Sheffield or online.

***"I find the central and hub training days incredibly valuable. They provide a great opportunity for everyone to come together, allowing us to model and practice what we've learned in training. Seeing examples of activities in action and understanding how to implement them in our own teaching makes a real difference. This kind of hands-on learning is only truly effective when done in a group setting. Additionally, the chance to share and hear experiences from others on the same course has been extremely insightful and helpful."***



## What is included in the course?

The programme is designed to provide a personalised approach as you train to teach and will include:

- A training programme tailored to you.
- An extensive pre-course programme of events.
- A personal portfolio to record your progress and experiences.
- Local and national training days.
- A series of structured tasks and sessions to deepen your insight into language pedagogy.
- Independent learning.
- Online modules.
- A dedicated mentor to guide and support you throughout your training.
- A minimum of 120 days spent on placement in two schools.
- Ongoing school-based support.
- Languages-specific documentation.
- Progress documentation.
- Lead teacher visits and mentoring.
- Online and face-to-face support.
- Final assessment.

Find out more about the course outline at:  
[nationalmodernlanguages.com/courses](https://nationalmodernlanguages.com/courses)



\*Places for these courses are limited and are not available in every hub. You will also need French, German or Spanish as a second language.

# Fees and funding



There are various funding sources to support you through your teacher training programme. It's not guaranteed, but there are different options you can consider.

**2026/27 tuition fees**  
£9,535 full-time  
Duration: one year

## Disclosure Barring Service (DBS)

In addition, we charge an administration fee to cover your UK-enhanced DBS check, health check and pre-course programme. Anyone who has already paid for a previous UK-enhanced DBS disclosure and signed up to the update service will pay a reduced fee.

We will send you further details about the administration fee once you have accepted our offer via DfE apply (the government's service for applications for teacher training courses: [www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training](http://www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training)).

## Bursary and scholarship

You may be eligible for a bursary or scholarship to help fund your training. These are tax-free amounts of money you receive and you do not need to pay them back.

Funding available	Amount
Bursary - all languages	£20,000
Scholarship (French, German and Spanish only)	£22,000



## Eligibility

For the bursary, you'll need at least one of the following to be eligible: a bachelor's degree class 2:2 (honours) or higher, a master's degree, or a PhD.

We will assess your eligibility and will apply for the bursary on your behalf. The scholarship for languages is offered by the British Council. They set their own eligibility criteria and you will need to apply to them directly.

## Tuition fees and maintenance loans

You may be eligible for further financial support via a tuition fee loan to help cover the cost of the fees and/or a maintenance loan to help with living costs. You can still apply for a tuition fee and a maintenance loan regardless of whether you get a teaching bursary or scholarship.

You can find out more about the funding available at [getintoteaching.education.gov.uk](http://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk)

## Important info for non-UK nationals

If you're interested in training to teach in England as an international student, please refer to the guidance at [getintoteaching.education.gov.uk](http://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk).

Please note, we are not a licensed sponsor of student visas, but we can consider applications from non-UK nationals with:

- EU Pre-settled and Settled Status under the [EU Settlement Scheme](#)
- A visa through the [Youth Mobility Scheme](#)
- [A graduate visa](#)
- [High Potential Individual \(HPI\) visa](#)
- A visa through resettlement/refugee schemes
- [A British National \(overseas\) visa](#)
- [A family visa](#)
- [UK ancestry visa](#)

For further information and guidance for international students, visit the the fees and financial support for non-UK trainee teachers page of the [Get into Teaching website](#). To find out more about student visas, visit [www.gov.uk/student-visa](http://www.gov.uk/student-visa). Alternatively, we are happy to talk to you, so please do not hesitate to [contact us](#).



# Entry requirements

We are looking for passionate linguists with sound subject knowledge who have the potential to train to be outstanding teachers of modern foreign languages.

## Entry requirements

- A good honours degree or a recognised equivalent qualification with a high level of fluency in at least one modern language.
- GCSE English and maths grade C/4 or above (or equivalent). Candidates with pending GCSEs will be considered. Equivalency tests will be accepted in maths.
- If English is not your first language, you must have an Academic IELTS score of 7.0 with a minimum of 6.5 in all skills, achieved in the last two years. Equivalent English qualifications for non-native speakers of English at CEFR C1 or above will be considered. For more information visit: [www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org).
- If you are from outside the UK and do not have GCSEs or a UK degree, please be aware that, to comply with the Department for Education guidelines, you will need to prove that you have the equivalent qualifications through a UK ENIC (national information centre for international qualifications and skills) statement of comparability.
- This should include the corresponding transcripts for GCSE qualifications and degrees gained outside the UK. For more information visit: [www.enic.org.uk](http://www.enic.org.uk).
- We will happily check your qualifications and advise you.

***“The extensive time spent in school is incredibly valuable, providing the opportunity to put teaching skills into practice and receive personalised, targeted feedback. This hands-on experience is what truly helps in developing as a teacher, and I’ve found this aspect of the course especially beneficial. Being immersed in the school helps me build relationships, become part of the community, and understand how a school operates.”***

## Get school experience to help with your application

Gaining relevant teaching experience is highly encouraged and can be valuable for your application.

This could be achieved through a school experience placement or voluntary work. While it is not a mandatory requirement, such experience can strengthen your application. If you have not had the chance to gain school experience, do not let that discourage you from applying.

You can explore school experience opportunities before starting your teacher training application and anytime before you start your training through the Department for Education’s Get School Experience programme. This will provide valuable insights and give you helpful examples to include in your application and discuss during interviews; and to prepare you for the start of your training.

Visit: [schoolsexperience.education.gov.uk](http://schoolsexperience.education.gov.uk) for more information.



You can also come along to one of our taster days. These are held at our geographical training hubs around the UK. You will spend time in one of our hub schools where you will get the chance to:

- Observe lessons.
- See how teachers manage a classroom.
- Speak to tutors and current trainees.
- Watch a range of lessons and age groups being taught.
- Learn more about teacher training including the application and interview process.

Visit [www.nationalmodernlanguages.com/events](http://www.nationalmodernlanguages.com/events) for more information. Please do not hesitate to [contact our team](#) if you have any questions.



# How to apply



## Register

First, you need to register on the [DfE apply website](#) and **select National Specialist SCITTs as your training provider.**



## Complete your application online

You can save it as you go, rather than complete it in one sitting. **You will need the following information to complete your form:**

- **Our training provider code: 2F1**
- **Course code:**
  - French, German or Spanish: 342L
  - Arabic with French, German or Spanish\*: U203
  - Italian with French, German or Spanish\*: Y821
  - Japanese with French, German or Spanish\*: Z946
  - Mandarin with French, German or Spanish\*: H035
  - Russian with French, German or Spanish\*: B157
- Please choose the geographical hub where you would like to undertake your training. You can find a full list of our hubs on our website: [www.nationalmodernlanguages.com/locations](http://www.nationalmodernlanguages.com/locations)
- Your qualifications including GCSEs, A-levels, degree and any other relevant qualifications.
- School and work experience: including dates, any periods spent abroad and your current occupation.
- Please ensure any gaps in your education or employment history are fully explained.



## Personal statement

You will have up to 1,000 words to explain why you want to be a teacher and in particular a teacher of languages. It is your chance to talk about your motivation for becoming a teacher, your commitment to educating children and young people and your potential to train with us. You should also inform us of your level of language expertise, what skills and experiences you will bring to your new profession and how you will contribute to your future department and school. This is a crucial part of your application, so take your time and make sure we get a good insight into you as a person and as a professional.

## References

Provide contact details for two referees. They won't be contacted until you accept a place on the course.

- If you are a recent graduate, then you will need an academic reference.
- If you already work in a school, you will need a reference from your headteacher.
- If are looking to change careers, then you will need a reference from your most recent employer.



You can use a character reference, such as from a mentor or someone you know through volunteering, as a second reference. For safeguarding purposes, we require references from verified professional email addresses. Unfortunately, we cannot accept references from personal email accounts.



## Submit application online

We will review your application and if you are successful, you will be invited for an interview.



## Interview

This is our chance to get to know you and hear why you want to become a teacher, as well as discuss your skills and experience.



We understand interviews can be stressful, so we strive to make you feel at ease and can offer preparation advice beforehand.



## Outcome

After the interview, we will inform you of the outcome. If successful, you'll receive a course offer. If not, we'll provide constructive feedback and discuss future options.



## Keep in touch

Once you have been offered a place, we will keep in touch with you throughout the year to update you with key dates, support you in meeting the conditions of our offer and provide information in preparation for the start of your course.



\*Places for these courses are limited and are not available in every hub. You will also need French, German or Spanish as a second language.

# The interview process



**If you are shortlisted you will be invited to an interview with the hub lead staff at your chosen location.**

## Interview process

The interview process will include:

- Written tasks in English and the main language in which you wish to train to teach.
- An interview and spoken language tests.
- A ten-minute teaching task which you will be able to prepare in advance.

We are committed to providing a high-quality experience for prospective trainees and have planned our interview process accordingly.

We will try to contact all successful applicants at the end of the interview day. Similarly, we will provide feedback if we have not made an offer and give you advice on the next steps.

## Safeguarding children and young people

The National Modern Languages SCITT is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

Acceptance on the programme will be subject to the following checks:

- Health.
- Identity.
- Relevant qualifications.
- Right to work and study in the UK.
- UK enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).
- Worldwide criminal record checks (certificates of good conduct).
- References.
- Childcare disqualification and disqualification by association declaration (where applicable).
- An online search for all shortlisted candidates. This is inline with statutory guidance issued by the [Department for Education: Keeping children safe in education](#).

Successful applicants will only be able to commence their training when clearance from all the above checks has been obtained. We will inform you of the relevant documents you will need to provide after you are offered an interview.

We will carry out rigorous and extensive scrutiny to ensure compliance with the Department for Education's Keeping Children Safe in Education legislation.

***"Be yourself, embrace as much as you can, and fill your year with rich and varied experiences. These will not only prepare you for your first teaching role but also put you in a strong position to secure your first job."***

# 100%

of trainees agree their training has enabled them to teach the knowledge specific to their subject or phase.\*



**National  
Specialist  
SCITTs**

EXCELLENCE IN SUBJECT-SPECIFIC TEACHER TRAINING



**Chorus**  
Education Trust

**National  
Modern  
Languages**



SCHOOL CENTRED INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING

## Get in touch with us and let's talk about teaching



**+44 114 235 7980**



**enquiries@nationalmodernlanguages.com**



**www.nationalmodernlanguages.com**



**@NML\_Teach**



**@NationalModernLanguagesSCITT**



**@train\_to\_teach\_languages**



**@national-modern-languages-scitt**

Published in October 2025 by the National Modern Languages SCITT, part of the National Specialists SCITTs c/o Chorus Education Trust at Silverdale School, Bents Crescent, Sheffield S11 9QH.

Information in this brochure was correct at the time of printing and we cannot be held responsible for any changes that occur.