



# Secondary School Teacher

## Why teach in the Isle of Man?

Playing a key role in the lives of young people, a teacher is both facilitator and enabler of so much in a person's lifelong learning journey. Secondary teachers will develop a child's enthusiasm for learning by engaging minds and building positive relationships, whilst ensuring they are ready for future challenges, both in life and the workplace. A Secondary Teacher on the Isle of Man will be part of an innovative approach to learning set out in the Island's Essentials 4 Learning curriculum.

## How do you get into teaching and what do you need?

You will initially need to obtain **GCSE** Grade C or equivalent qualifications in English, Maths & Science and obtain **A Levels** in a minimum of two subjects. To teach in a secondary school, you need to gain **Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)**, this involves studying to at least **undergraduate degree** level and securing a minimum 2:1 outcome. You would then embark on a postgraduate qualification in education, leading to QTS (specific routes shown below).

Whichever route you are applying for, you should try to gain some classroom experience with the age group you wish to teach. Most postgraduate courses now require a minimum of two weeks classroom **experience** before you start your postgraduate training.

Bachelor of Education  
Qualified Teacher Status  
(QTS)  
(3 Years)

Degree Level Qualification in subject you wish to teach  
(3-4 Years)  
Followed by a Post graduate Certificate in Education (QTS  
-1 Year) or CertEd leading to Manx QTLS (2 Years)

BA or BSc with Qualified  
Teacher Status (QTS)  
(3 Years)

## What makes a great Secondary School Teacher?

- Someone who **enjoys** working with **children** and cares for their **mental, physical and emotional** welfare
- A **wide range of interests, abilities and subject knowledge** to bring to the role of subject teacher and form tutor
- Great **communication** and **listening** skills
- A desire to **engage** in continuous professional development
- A **commitment** to educational **inclusion**, and a belief that **every child matters**
- A **creative** and **innovative** approach to learning

## What we can offer you:

As of 2022 salary for a newly qualified teacher starts at £36,557 with potential to increase to £46,716. Salaries can be boosted by performance-related pay and payments for additional responsibilities. With experience, there are good opportunities for promotion, e.g. to senior leader level which would carry considerable responsibility and can receive salaries in excess of £55,000. A large variety of support will be provided to help your development and learning.

# A day in the life of a... Secondary School Teacher

Max Stoke, a **Secondary School Teacher** at Ballakermeen High School tells us about the route he took to get into teaching and what his role as a teacher involves!

As a coach, I developed partnerships with local schools, teaching hundreds of children from different backgrounds. While I really enjoyed coaching. I felt that there wasn't the security and career development I was after. From this point onwards, there was no looking back, and I was prepared to take every route possible in order to become a PE teacher.

There are a variety of routes you can take to become a teacher but one necessity is to complete a degree. I studied at Leeds Beckett University, achieving a first class honours in Sport & Exercise Science. On completion, I returned to the island and achieved Qualified Teacher Status through Cumbria University. Despite it taking over four years to complete my degree and teacher training, it was certainly well worth it. I was now able to teach sport to thousands of children in a bid to help change lives for the better.

Many other teachers that return to the island will do their teacher training off island. I would encourage you to find out what is out there and pick a course that suits you.

I am now in my third year at Ballakermeen, and have recently had a promotion, and am now Deputy Head of Year 8. Having a positive impact and being able to change the school for the better is something that really excites me.

Every day is very different, and this helps keep you on your toes as a teacher. My first and main responsibility is to teach PE to students. I have a mix of practical and theoretical lessons, and also have the opportunity to take charge of many extra-curricular teams. I enjoy this combination, as in school time my job is to educate students to allow them to develop as confident, capable individuals. Extra-curricular training and inter-school competition allow me to improve students' sporting competence and challenge through competition against on-island schools. Now that I have taken on Deputy Head of Year 8, I help take charge of assemblies, and get more of a say in what goes on within the year group. I will assist in creating a positive team spirit and ethos amongst both the students we teach, and staff we work with. Getting up in the morning is easy when you know you have the change to make such a difference within not only a class, but a whole year group!

There are so many positive aspects of being a teacher and I can honestly say there are far too many to go through in this short text. Some of the advantages that may whet your appetite for teaching are: the ability to share your passion with others, a job with security, the opportunity to be in charge of your own team, every day being different and not forgetting the decent holidays! As a teacher my job is to educate, empower and inspire as many children as I can. If that is something that interests you then looking at a teaching career is definitely worthwhile.

