

Droylsden Academy is a good school

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL ACTION

The National Education Union (NEU) is taking industrial action in schools in England and Wales on **Tuesday 28th February** (in the North West of England) and on **Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March**.

Arrangements for Tuesday 28th February

Please note, all plans are subject to change at short-notice because schools do not always know which teachers are in the NEU and which of them are taking strike action on a particular day. The arrangements for Tuesday 28th February are currently as follows:

- 1. Students in Year 11 will be in school as normal.** Pre-Public (Mock) Examinations will be completed by Friday 17th February (the last day before half-term). As teachers are marking papers and then teaching new content and re-teaching any misunderstandings or misconceptions, and with only a few weeks remaining before the summer examination window, it is important that Year 11 students are in school. Students will be taught by their class teacher (if they are in school) and they will access work to prepare them for their final examinations on Google Classroom if their class teacher is not in school. Year 11 should attend school in full-school uniform. They should also bring their PE kit as they will have their usual timetabled PE lesson.
- 2. Year 11 Lesson 7 will be suspended on this day.** This means that Year 11 will leave the building at 2.35pm.
- 3. Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will work from home** (see below).
- 4. Some students from Year 7 to 10 whom we consider 'vulnerable'** will be invited to attend as normal. Parents and Carers of these students will be contacted directly by our pastoral team. We may have capacity to accommodate some children of 'critical' workers on this day, but places will be very limited.
- 5. Online learning will be set for students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 who are working from home.** Full details of the work set will be posted on the school website.

Meals will be provided at lunchtime as normal for those students attending school. If your child will be at home on the day, and is eligible for a free school meal, then a packed lunch can be collected

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

from reception. Mr Wakefield (Student Services Manager) will be emailing eligible families to ask them if they wish to order a packed lunch for their child. A packed lunch will only be prepared and available for collection if parents/carers have replied to the email and ordered one for their child.

Details will be sent in advance outlining the arrangements for the remaining national/regional strike days scheduled on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March.

Thank you for your understanding. Please do not hesitate to contact school should you have any questions or concerns.

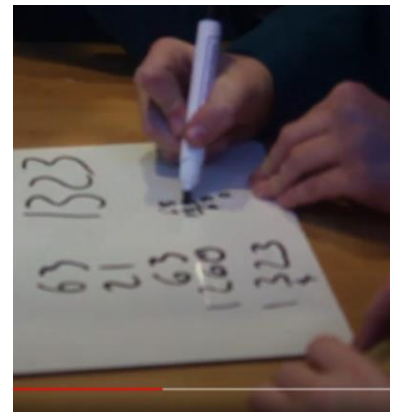
Mr P. Wilson
Headteacher

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Year 8 Maths Battle!

Thank you to the team at Zion Productions for the latest News Report which covers last week's Year 8 Maths Battle! The team for this production, made up of **Liam Tomkinson**, **Geraldine Morton**, **Ruben Mistry**, **Olivia Mansell** and **Izzy Sinclair**, have done an amazing job and produced another entertaining and very professional report. The report can be viewed through the link below:

[\(1\) Droylsden Academy News | #5 - Maths Battle - YouTube](#)



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work



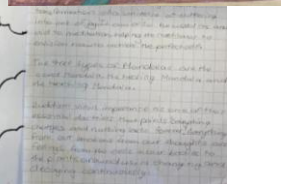
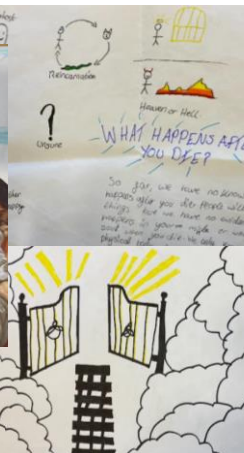
Chess Club

Calling all Grand Masters! The Academy House Chess Tournament will be starting after the Half Term Holiday! The competition is open to all students, not just the regular members of the Thursday night Chess Club, so why not get involved in the competition and earn House Points at the same time!



Religious Studies

Thank you to Mr Clays-Jones for submitting the following pieces of homework completed by **Olivia Deakin, Emmy Ward, Ava Stamper, Olivia Jarvis, Tillie-Summer Knight, Alisha Maryam and Ethan Green** from 8R. The class were tasked with creating a piece of artwork that depicts some of the big questions they might have about life and religion and Mr Clays-Jones was really pleased with their creativity and thought and the pride that the students took in their work.



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Performers of the Month

Congratulations to **Isabella Stanley** and **Grace Charnock-Molloy** from Year 8 and **Scarlett Baker** from Year 9 who have been nominated as Performers of the Month for January by the Performing Arts Faculty!



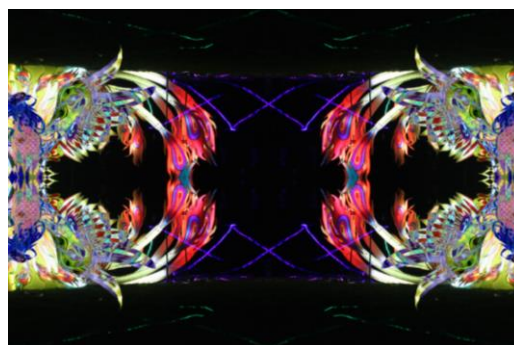
Isabella has been nominated by the Music Department as she is an extremely talented drummer who recently produced an outstanding performance for her ensemble project. Isabella also has excellent theoretical knowledge which is helping to develop her performance skills even further. Well done Isabella, you are set to become an outstanding player with the drive and dedication to become Droylsden's next Rock Star!

Grace has been nominated by the Drama Department as she has worked exceptionally well in lessons this term. Grace has shown a fantastic grasp of techniques whilst studying Brecht and has consistently demonstrated excellent leadership skills when working as a group. She also came up with sophisticated storylines for her recent performances about the dangers of meeting people online and showed excellent use of structure to communicate her ideas effectively. Well done, Grace!

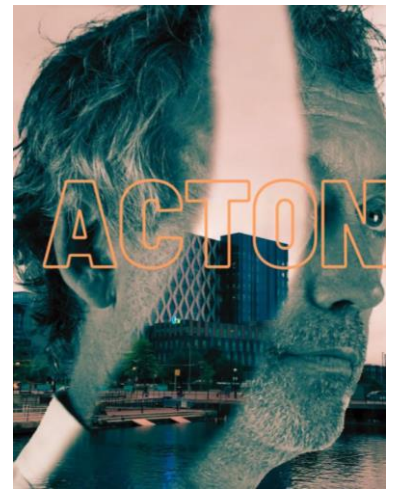
Scarlett has been nominated by the Dance Department as she has excelled this term. She has choreographed in a range of styles and is able to create movement that represents the choreographic intent of her chosen musical. Scarlett is also great team leader and is excellent at supporting others in her group. Moreover, she is always polite and well mannered. Keep up the hard work, Scarlett!

Photography

Thank you to **Elisha Holland**, **Thomas Cronshaw** and **Laura Lilley** for submitting the following edits from their GCSE Portfolios for publication in this week's Newsflash.

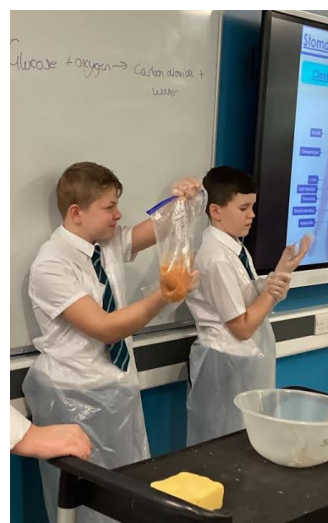


Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work



Meanwhile in Science....

This week, Year 8 really enjoyed simulating the processes of the ingestion, digestion, absorption and egestion of baked beans and chocolate biscuits, their chosen foods, as they pass down through the digestive system from 'gums to bums'! The group learnt about the importance of mechanical and enzymic breakdown to ensure that the valuable nutrients locked in our food can be absorbed into the blood stream through the wall of the small intestine. It was really good fun too!



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Year 8 Parent Teacher Evening

The Academy would like to thank those parents and carers who attended last week's Year 8 Parent Teacher Evening, we hope that meeting your child's teachers was useful and informative. Thank you also to **Jessica Clarke**, **Desire Okaduwa** and **Gift Otabor** who staffed Reception throughout the evening



We were pleased that, of the parents who filled in an Academy questionnaire during the evening:

- 98% of them agreed that their child was happy at school;
- 100% felt that their child feels safe at school;
- 96% felt that the school ensures student behaviour is good;
- 100% agreed that the Academy had high expectations of their child;
- 100% felt that their child was doing well;
- 98% agreed that the Academy lets them know how their child is doing;
- 100% felt that there was a good range of subjects for their child to study;
- 100% agreed that their child can take part in clubs and activities;
- 100% felt that the Academy supports their child's wider personal development; and
- 98% would recommend the Academy to another parent.

Technology

Meanwhile, in Technology, Year 7 students are in the process of finishing off the bases or stands for the clocks they have designed and made. Photographs of the finished products to follow!



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Sports Personalities of the Month!

Congratulations to **Archie Fisher** from Year 7 and **Caitlin Skelly** from Year 9 who have both received the red carpet (and curtain) treatment on their nominations as Sports Personalities of the Month!



Archie has been nominated as **Player of the Month** for his performances in Basketball where he has demonstrated great sportsmanship as a team leader in encouraging and supporting other students in the group. On the court, Archie has also shown that he can confidently outwit opponents and shoot accurately when under pressure in a game situation. Keep up the great work Archie!

Caitlyn has been nominated as **Leader of the Month** as she is a fantastic help after school with the Girls Football Team. She regularly leads the 'warm up' sessions and attends matches to watch the game and encourage the girls. Caitlin has even coached the Y7 B Team who came 3rd overall in a recent tournament! Well done Caitlin and thank you!

This week's brightest Sparx!

Congratulations to **Yanying Wu**, **Lottie Hayes**, **Macella Mares**, **Jackson Gaskin** and **Emily Burke** who were the brightest Sparx for last week having attempted the most questions on the interactive Maths website.

This week's brightest sparx

Year 7	Yanying Wu	1,836 XP
Year 8	Lottie Hayes	4,994 XP
Year 9	Macella Mares	10,742 XP
Year 10	Jackson Gaskin	2,451 XP
Year 11	Emily Burke	2,774 XP



As Parents and Carers will be aware, Sparx is an online Maths resource which students can log onto at any time to practice and reinforce or develop their understanding of a topic, revise and complete homework tasks. Students are awarded 'XP Points' every time they attempt a question and evidence clearly shows that regular use of Sparx boosts a child's GCSE Grade. Parents and Carers can receive Sparx updates for their child by email and we hope that they will encourage their child to use this brilliant resource regularly at home.

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Food and Nutrition

Year 7 students had a 'fine dining' experience this week while sampling meze and a range of dips! The group also looked at restaurant etiquette and the formalities and expectations of eating out in some of our finest '5 Star' establishments!



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Mohammed Waziri**, **Success Brat Richard** and **Osaid Rajjoub**, all from Year 10, on their nominations as Student of the Week.



Mohammad has been nominated by the Maths Department as he has performed really well since moving up to the top or 'Excel' group. Mohammed is now tackling the higher GCSE content for the first time and has adapted really well to the demands of the course. He works incredibly hard in every lesson and is always keen to volunteer his ideas and answers in class. Well done Mohammed, you have made a great start!

Success has been nominated by the Science Department as she models the Academy's core values of politeness, hard work and honesty in every lesson. She is always focused and positive and consistently puts in the effort and commitment required to succeed in her bi-weekly assessments. Well done Success, you are an asset to the group!

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Osaid has been nominated by the English Department as he has consistently demonstrated a mature and diligent approach to his work all year; he has high expectations of himself and is always keen to push on and improve his work and learning. Osaid contributes well in class and his responses are thoughtful and insightful; his written work is also detailed, well developed and increasingly sophisticated. Mr Mayell, his English teacher, recognises how determined Osaid is to do well and is sure that his commitment and positive attitude will pay off.

GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, there are only 12 school weeks left, just 60 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

Your second set of Pre-Public Examinations will continue on Monday. We hope that the exams have gone well so far and that next week goes well too. Your Pre-Public Examination timetable for your remaining exams can be found below:

Date	Session	Exam
Mon 13 th Feb	am	History
	pm	Design & Technology
		Music
Tues 14 th Feb	am	English Literature Health & Social Care
	pm	Religious Studies
Weds 15 th Feb	am	Triple Science: Chemistry Paper 2 Combined Science: Chemistry Paper 2
	pm	Geography Paper 2
Thurs 16 th Feb	am	Maths Paper 3
	pm	Photography GCSE PE (Practical)
Fri 17 th Feb	am	Computer Science
	pm	GCSE PE (Written)



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

AND NEXT WEEK, WE WILL BE SERVING.....

Our Hot Meals Menu runs on a 3 week cycle. Next week will be the Menu for Week 3 which can be found below:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Meat Option	Chicken Curry & Rice	Sausage Casserole & Potatoes	Roast Dinner & Trimmings	Mac & Cheese	Beefburger in a Bun & Chips
Vegetarian Option	Veggie Chilli & Rice	Cheese Whirl, Potatoes & Beans	Veggie Roast Dinner	Veggie Lasagne & Sweetcorn	Veggie Sausage & Chips
Lighter Bites	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling

We also have a 'Grab & Go' Menu. The Menu for next week is:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Indian Style Flatbread	Crispy Chicken on a Bun	Fishburger on a Bun	Pizza Sub	Giant Sausage Roll

Finally, we also have a Menu for the meals we serve from the Pod. The Menu for next week is:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sweet & Sour Chicken & Rice	Pasta & Meatballs	Cheese & Onion Pasty & Beans	Jerk Chicken, Rice & Peas	BBQ Chicken, Rice & Peas

Last Friday, the Catering Team served up a 'Chinese Banquet' to celebrate the Chinese New Year, the Year of the Rabbit, with a choice of Sweet & Sour Chicken, Veggie Chow Mein, Spring rolls Prawn Crackers and Fortune Cookies. The food was delicious and it was a lovely way to acknowledge and celebrate this important day in the Chinese calendar.



The Catering Team hope everyone has a nice weekend and look forward to feeding you next week!

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Get involved!



**YEAR 8 INDOOR
ATHLETICS TRIALS** 

WHERE? SPORTSHALL

WHEN? MONDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 3.30PM- 4.30PM

BRING YOUR FULL PE KIT

**IF SUCCESSFUL YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPURTUNITY TO
REPRESENT THE ACADEMY AND COMPETE AGAINST OTHER
SCHOOLS IN TAMESIDE!**

PLEASE SPEAK TO MISS STOAKLEY IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS



**DANCE
ACADEMY** 

Try outs for year 7, 8 and 9- Thursday 2nd March 2023

Time- 2.35pm-3.35pm, bring your full PE kit

Everybody is welcome, no previous experience is needed!

Year 10 Dance academy- Friday lunchtimes starting from
Friday 3rd March 2023 1.00pm- 1.30pm

Come and speak to Miss Irlam if you have any questions!

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

British Science Week

British Science Week is a national event which the Science Department will celebrate over the fortnight of 10th to 24th March to allow for the planned two days of industrial action



Students should look out for information on the Academy noticeboards and there will also be special Assemblies to celebrate British Science!



The theme for this year's competition is 'Connections' and there will be a selection of prizes for the winning entries. Information packs are available from Mrs Cairns, the Science Technician, or Mrs Ormrod, our Librarian on 17th February so that students can start preparing their entries over the Half Term Holiday.

Disabled parking

The disabled parking bays at the front of the academy are for blue badge holders only.

Unfortunately, families who need these spaces are not always able to use them as other cars have already parked there. Please respect those families that need to use these parking bays and do not park there.

There is ample parking a very short distance away in the visitor car park and we politely request that you use these parking spaces.



Lost Property

We have a large pile of lost property at Student Services so if your child has lost a coat, bag or their PE Kit, then tell them to check whether it has been handed in or not. Unfortunately, we do not have room to store all of the lost property and anything which has not been claimed by the end of half term will be donated to a charity shop or a charitable organisation.

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

10 WAYS GAMING CAN SUPPORT POSITIVE OUTCOMES in Children and Young People

Gaming, of course, is phenomenally popular with children and young people. In 2021, for instance, more than three-quarters of teenagers played online games, with almost 70% of primary school aged children doing likewise. If enjoyed in moderation and supported by a healthy routine (staying hydrated, good sleep habits, taking breaks and so on), gaming can actually benefit a person's mental health. As long as we stay alert for potential risks, games can be much more than what we see on the surface: they can be a way to socialise, an avenue for creativity and a route to solving problems. Check out our top ten tips on how gaming online can sometimes work to your child's advantage ...

THE FEEL-GOOD FACTOR

Gaming is so popular because at the base level, it's enjoyable for the player. Succeeding in any game or contest releases dopamine in our brains: the 'feel-good' chemical that makes us happy or excited. Those emotions can be incredibly beneficial for mental wellbeing – as long as young players don't become reliant solely on playing video games to make themselves feel happy.

ACHIEVEMENT & PRIDE

A sense of achievement is incredibly important to all of us and can be particularly valuable to someone who's feeling unhappy or distracted. It's easy to get caught up in our thoughts, which can sometimes take a negative turn. So even achieving something small – like finishing a difficult level in a Mario or Sonic game – can feel like conquering Everest and give us renewed optimism.

SOCIAL SALVATION

Gaming can be an incredibly social activity. When playing online with trusted friends, what usually start out as chats specifically about the game can often develop into conversations about school and life. Even if they've had a bad day, simply knowing that a friend is there, on the other end of their headset, can provide young gamers with a sense of security and some welcome laughs.

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

In many online games, teamwork is crucial to winning. Often, people who are struggling with their mood tend to feel like they fail or let others down a lot. Working as a team with trusted friends or family in a game can reinforce a young person's self-importance: striving for a common goal and succeeding together can remind them that they're an integral part of something bigger.

REAL-WORLD RELATABILITY

Because many major releases are shooting or action games, when some people fear "gaming" they think of guns, explosions and violence. What's less recognised is how many titles explore relatable issues such as overcoming anxiety or coping with grief. These games allow young players to understand their emotions more deeply and realise they aren't alone in how they might be feeling.

A DIGITAL COMFORT

Video games can provide a reliable constant. No matter what happens in school or between friends, playing a favourite game is something that youngsters can look forward to all day and can help them de-stress. Let's not forget, games are fun – and, when approached safely, an interactive activity in which the player has a degree of control over what happens next can feel immensely reassuring.

PROBLEM-SOLVING PRACTICE

It can be difficult for young people to handle the feeling that nothing is going right or that their problems are insurmountable. Gaming can help alleviate that by presenting challenges to be overcome, either solo or alongside trusted friends. Defeating a powerful monster or solving a tricky puzzle reminds young gamers that even the most daunting obstacles can be faced and conquered.

THE GREAT ESCAPISM

A certain amount of escapism is fabulous – allowing us to temporarily park some stress while exploring a world other than our own. For children, gaming can be like reading a novel or watching a film: a moment in the day when the fantastical becomes real, firing their imagination and immersing them in a story. Who wouldn't want to venture to the stars? Or battle monsters to save the planet?

TRIED & TRUSTED

There can be reassurance in repeating tasks. It often promotes a controlled outcome, which is ideal when life feels overwhelming or out of control. Replicating an experience, such as playing the same level of a game over and over to perfection, gives the player a sense of control and familiarity: it's like listening to a favourite song that always makes you feel happy or confident.

ENCOURAGING CREATIVITY

Inventiveness is a huge part of many modern games: in Minecraft and Roblox, for example, players regularly dream up amazing structures or new ways to play. Using our imagination to create something (whether digitally or physically) is massively beneficial for the brain; that's why Lego is sometimes used in the medical sector as both a stress reliever and a brain injury rehabilitation tool.

Assistant Cook

Pay Scale: Grade D, Point 7-10 (Actual starting salary of £14,632 at Point 7)
Contract: Term Time Only
Hours: 27.5 hours per week
Closing Date: 27th February 2023

We are looking for a reliable, punctual and hardworking Assistant Cook to join our Catering Team. As a member of the team, you will work to deliver healthy and nutritious food to the Academy, including preparing and selling food to our students and staff.

The working hours for this position are:

Day	Log in	Log Out	Total Hours
Monday	8:30 AM	2:00 PM	5:5
Tuesday	8:30 AM	2:00 PM	5:5
Wednesday	8:30 AM	2:00 PM	5:5
Thursday	8:30 AM	2:00 PM	5:5
Friday	8:30 AM	2:00 PM	5:5
TOTAL			27:5

Cleaner

Pay Scale: Grade A, Point 1-2 (Actual starting salary £7,034 at Point 1)
Contract: Permanent, Full Year
Hours: 12.5 Hours per week
Closing Date: 24th February 2023
Start Date: As soon as possible

We are looking for a reliable, hardworking and dedicated Cleaner to join our team. As a member of the team, you will work to maintain a high standard of cleanliness around the Academy as well as ensuring the safety of the school environment.

Interested applicants in either post should complete a Droylsden Academy Application Form and Equal Opportunities Application Form available at:

<https://www.tret.org.uk/vacancies/droylsden-academy-vacancies/>

Completed applications should be returned to by email to hr@droylsdenacademy.com or by post to Human Resources Department, Droylsden Academy, Manor Road, Droylsden, M43 6QD.

Level 3 Teaching Assistant (Literacy+)

- Pay Scale:** Grade E, Point 11-16 (Actual starting salary at Point 11 of £6,830 for 12 hours and £7,969 for 14 hours)
- Hours:** 12 - 14 hours per week (term time only). There may be an opportunity for some flexibility in the hours of the role
- Contract:** Permanent
- Closing Date:** Monday 27th February 2023 (12 noon)
- Start Date:** As soon as possible

The Governors are seeking to appoint a Level 3 Teaching Assistant to tutor students in Literacy (in class or in small groups) and other lessons, to ensure they make accelerated and sustained progress and are able to access the full curriculum, joining a team in Learning Support and the English Faculty.

Education to degree level in the relevant curriculum area would be an advantage but, not essential. There are teaching assistant training opportunities available for the successful candidate.

The posts carry responsibility for planning, tutoring, marking and assessing the learning and progress of students. The successful candidate will be expected to provide some cover supervision for absent colleagues and to be trained as a school first aider. In addition to this, you will be required to provide amanuensis support during busy exam periods and support your faculty area with ensuring pupil displays are current.

Technology Technician

- Pay Scale:** Grade D, Points 7-10 (Actual starting salary at Point 7 of £4,234.91)
- Hours:** 8 hours per week, worked over 4 days (term time only)
- Contract:** Permanent
- Closing Date:** Monday 27th February 2023 (12 noon) although the school may decide to close the vacancy early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications.
- Start Date:** As soon as possible

We are seeking to appoint a Technology Technician to provide support for students and staff within the Technology Faculty. The successful candidate will be expected to set up materials and equipment for practical lessons, maintain stock control, clean equipment where appropriate and ensure order stock and health and safety procedures are in place. A knowledge of a range of Technology equipment would be advantageous.

Interested applicants in either post should complete an Application Form available on the school website at <https://www.mossleyhollins.com/recruitment/>

Completed applications should be returned by email to hr@mossleyhollins.com or by post to Mossley Hollins High School, Huddersfield Road, Mossley, Greater Manchester, OL5 9DP.



TAME RIVER
EDUCATIONAL TRUST
TEACHING & CURRICULUM
INSTITUTE



If so, why not 'Train to Teach' with us here at **The Tame River Teaching & Curriculum Institute** through School Direct in partnership with the everyonelearning@ Hawthorns Kingfisher , Tame River Teaching and Curriculum Institute.

We are currently recruiting for **Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English, Geography, History, Maths, PE with Ebacc, Art, RE, Computer Science and MFL.**

School Direct allows Trusts and schools to request training places directly, select the ITE (Initial Teacher Education) provider of teacher training they want to work with and agree the content and focus of the training, in line with national standards for teachers.

Our new Trust, Tame River Educational Trust, plays host to training and placements in very strong schools (Mossley Hollins High School, Ofsted Outstanding, and Droylsden Academy, Ofsted Good) and we are working in partnership with other schools in Tameside. Bursaries are available!

For further information please contact e.duggan@tret.org.uk
<https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/explore-my-options>

Apply here <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training> Course Provider Code 2A1