

Primary School Paid Bursary payments

Why?

There are currently **no government bursaries** in place to support an individual wanting to train to teach in Primary. Trainees may be eligible for student loans to pay their tuition fees (tuition fees maximum £9535) and may be eligible for maintenance loans to help with living costs but in most cases (and especially for individuals who are looking to change career) neither provide sufficient financial incentive to encourage applications to train to teach primary.

What?

Offer talented individuals the opportunity to receive a School Paid Bursary if they train to teach at your school on a fee-funded route.

Comparison of salaried trainee vs fee-funded trainee receiving School Paid Bursary – costs to the school

	Fees	Salary	Placement school payment	School Paid Bursary payment	Total cost
Trainee on a salaried (employment based) route	£4950 – can be paid by the school or trainee	£37,880 (£27,252 * 1.39% for on-costs) Inner London 2024-2025	N/A	N/A	£37,880 - £42,830
Trainee on a fee-funded route.	N/A – trainees pay their fees	No salary payment	£1,000 paid by Teach West London to the placement school	£2,000 - £10,000 Amount is a school decision	£1,000 - 9,000

How?

The process:

- Primary schools willing to offer fee-funded placements with a School Paid Bursary incentive would inform Teach West London of the amount they would be willing to provide as a School Paid Bursary to a trainee.
- There is a joint interview process (Teach West London and the school), and a joint decision is reached.
- If the applicant is successful, the school discuss the school paid bursary payments and put in place a bursary agreement (this is between the school and the trainee).

More information on the School Paid Bursary:

- Payments by the school to the trainee must **not** go through payroll as this makes the trainee ineligible for government loans to cover tuition fees.
- The school paid bursaries are exempt from tax, provided conditions are met. See [here](#) for more information.
- From speaking with other providers, a bursary of £9,000 or more has the greatest impact on application numbers although they have seen an impact of smaller bursary amounts (Typical range £2000 - £10000). The amount can be decided on by the individual school.
- The bursary agreement would outline the payment amounts and frequency of payments. We would recommend schools consider similar arrangements to government [bursaries](#) e.g. in the case of sickness, withdrawals / deferrals and frequency of payments.
- The agreement would outline what expectations would need to be met for bursary payments to be made and could include that a trainee must remain at the school once the course has concluded until the end of the academic year.