



Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Summary

The Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) programme supports teaching assistants and other school support staff in demonstrating their knowledge and skills. Successful assessment against HLTA standards would lead to gaining HLTA Status.

HLTAs work under the guidance of a teacher within clearly defined roles and responsibilities relevant to their own educational settings. They are experienced practitioners who offer specialist support for learning. A HLTA in a primary school, for example, might give support across the curriculum but with particular expertise to support progress in numeracy, literacy, music or art and design. In secondary schools, HLTAs may be used as specialist assistants for specific subject or department development.

Since HLTAs are highly skilled and have good knowledge of specific aspects of the curriculum, they are able to undertake whole class teaching activities under the guidance of a teacher, with teachers remaining the leaders and experts in the classroom. The particular responsibilities of an individual HLTA is decided by the school management.

Content

The preparation sessions are designed for candidates that already meet the 33 HLTA standards. You will be supported in preparing for your assessment in completing tasks, producing supporting evidence and preparing for an assessor to interview you, your teacher and Headteacher. These preparation sessions are designed to address all HLTA standards in relation to the candidate's work in their educational settings.

You must demonstrate that you meet the standards by writing tasks based on your work in school with: an individual child, a small group, a whole class (without a teacher present) and five other tasks of the candidate's choice.

Assessment

Written tasks are assessed alongside oral and associated documentary evidence. Assessment must normally be undertaken within twelve working weeks of your attendance of the final day of preparation.

Location

Currently sessions are being run online, but may return to venues in Northampton, Leicester, Derby, Lincoln and other areas in the East Midlands, and Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk.

Entry Requirements

You must have the endorsement of your head teacher who will give you the opportunity to take whole classes and advance the learning of pupils without the presence of an assigned teacher. To meet HLTA standard 11, you must have achieved a nationally recognised qualification at level 2 or above in English and Mathematics.

Career Opportunities

Teaching assistants with HLTA status are recognised by colleagues as being able to work at a higher level with increased responsibility. Working towards this goal can be regarded as a natural progression for able and experienced support staff within education. HLTAs may wish to progress onto the Foundation Degree in Teaching and Learning.

Application

Application is direct to the University, please contact hlta@northampton.ac.uk or 01604 893527 for an application pack and further information.

Cost

The cost for **online** HLTA preparation and assessment is currently a total of £785. The preparation for assessment fee is £335. The assessment fee, in line with the HLTA National Assessment Partnership, is £450. Please be aware that payment of the programme fee does not guarantee achievement of the HLTA status.