Your Interview

What we are looking for
You will need to demonstrate that you understand...

- Examples of good and poor teaching
- What challenges today’s teachers face
- What it is like teaching the age group you are interested in
- What strengths or weaknesses you may have as a teacher
What are we looking for?

- Self organisation
- Adaptability
- Knowledge of teaching
- Classroom management
- Emotional resilience
- Enthusiasm for Warwick
- Valuable experience or understanding of teaching
- Commitment to teaching
- Confidence
- Enthusiasm for teaching
- Interpersonal skills
- Decision making
- Critical thinking
- Understanding the role
- Diversity
- Safeguarding
Commitment to Teaching
Show commitment to help us understand your passion and reasons behind wanting to teach:
• Why do you want to be a teacher?
• How do you know teaching is the profession for you?
• What skills or interests could you bring to a school?
• How do you know this is the right age group for you?
• Why do you think you will be a good teacher?

Enthusiasm for Warwick
Showing your enthusiasm towards the University (or School Direct school) helps us choose candidates that will commit to the course:
• Why do you want to do your teacher training with us?
• What type of schools would you like to work in, and why?
• Do you feel you would be able to cope with the demands of a teacher training course, and why?
• Why us and not other providers/schools?
Decision Making

Showing your ability to make decisions demonstrates a confidence and knowledge to your teaching:

• Are you more comfortable working with guidance from others or being left to do things on your own?
• How do you manage to motivate yourself?
• Can you describe a time where you had to make a quick decision? How did it feel?
Enthusiasm for Teaching

Enthusiasm demonstrates your ability to influence and inspire others:

- What are you looking forward to about teaching as a profession?
- Explain why you think it is important to show enthusiasm and interest when working with young people?
- How would you like to be described by the pupils you teach?

Classroom Management

Showing this ability allows us to have confidence in placing you in the school setting:

- What skills do you think you have that make you particularly good at handling people?
- How do your previous studies/experience make you suitable for this course?
- How is good classroom management achieved? How important is this aspect to effective teaching?
Understanding the Role
Demonstrate your research into the various options across teaching:

• What key stage are you interested in and why?
• What qualities make a successful teacher?
• How would you help all pupils achieve their potential?

Knowledge of Teaching
Show your knowledge to help us see your understanding of the wider aspects and issues of education:

• What education issues have interested/concerned you in the news recently and why?
• Do you know about the National Curriculum and Teaching Standards? What improvements could be made to schools/the curriculum?
• What are the challenges and opportunities facing teaching?
Interpersonal Skills

Showing your interaction with others demonstrates your ability to create suitable relationships with colleagues and students:

• How do you try to put your ideas and views across in groups?
• Are you more comfortable working on projects on your own or involving other people? Can you think of an example of a time when you had to work on a project involving lots of interaction with others?
• Can you describe a good working relationship that you have developed with someone at work or during your time as a student? What made it work so well?
Adaptability

This demonstrates your ability think and act on the spot and modify your actions across varying situations:

• How would you approach teaching a difficult concept?
• Describe a situation where you had to use your initiative.
• What would you need to provide to create a stimulating learning environment?
• From your teaching experience – what would you do differently and why?

Knowledge of your Subject

Showing you know your subject demonstrates the ability and opportunity to share this knowledge in new ways:

• Which aspects of your subject are you most passionate about?
• Why did you choose your degree subject and what inspired you?
• How do you feel your degree is relevant to the curriculum?
• Why is subject knowledge so important when teaching pupils?
Safeguarding is protecting children from abuse or neglect and is an important part of a teacher’s role:

- What is a teacher's responsibility in keeping children safe?
- Do you know about safeguarding?
- Have you experienced any safeguarding in action?
Critical Thinking

This shows you can reflect and learn from your actions:

• What skills do you need to work on to improve?
• Who was your favourite teacher and why? How do you view your own school experience?
• What are your concerns about being a teacher?
• What have you learned from observing good teaching?
• What do you think your strengths and weaknesses will be as a teacher and why?

Resilience

This demonstrates an ability to cope with uncommon situations and pressure in a constructive way:

• On the programme you will always be under pressure. How will you organise/cope?
• What experiences have you had to prepare you for this?
• When has something you have implemented not worked and how you moved forward and learned from that?
• What challenges are you likely to encounter as a teacher and how would you deal with them?
• How do you handle pressure and how will you handle times that are stressful?
Confidence
This demonstrates your belief in your knowledge and ability to share it with others:

• Why should we take you rather than the other candidates who have applied?
• Give an example of how you would make the subject you wish to teach interesting to pupils
• What qualities do you have that will make you a good teacher?

Self-Organisation
This demonstrates the ability to handle the preparation and planning that come with teaching:

• How do you approach tasks in which you have very little interest in?
• Are there particular areas of your work where you're more cautious than others?
• How do you do to organise your work and make sure you meet deadlines?
Diversity

This demonstrates cultural knowledge and consideration of others:

• Schools are diverse and you will be in multicultural settings. How have you prepared to teach young people from a range of cultural and other backgrounds?

• How would you deal with discrimination issues? Give an example of when you have done this

• What is a teacher's responsibility in keeping children safe?