

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
CENTRE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING - PGDE

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL CAPACITY TO TEACH

ITT providers have a responsibility to ensure that trainees have the health and physical capacity to teach and will not put young people at risk of harm. The activities that a teacher must be able to perform are set out in the Education (Health Standards) (England) Regulations 2003.

Medical and personal information disclosed during an occupational health assessment will be held “in confidence” by the Occupational Health Department. Specific information about underlying causes will not be disclosed to the Centre for Lifelong Learning. The Centre for Lifelong Learning will be advised of any relevant impairment, its effect on function, and recommended adjustments to allow trainees to fulfil the required competencies for graduation and professional practice.

We wish to ensure reasonable adjustments can be made not only whilst you are in attendance at university but also whilst on professional practice placements.

I confirm that I am physically and mentally fit to carry out activities that a teacher must be able to perform* on placement

If I am currently undergoing treatment of a physical or mental nature, I am happy to discuss this with a University Tutor and Course Leader to ensure that with any reasonable adjustments (as defined in Equality Act 2010) I will be able to undertake the roles and responsibilities expected of me on my placement. I am aware that I must keep the medication in a safe place, out of reach of young people.

I will immediately inform the Course Leader and my Personal Tutor of any changes to this situation.

I do not know of any reason to my being unsuitable to teach.

Signed:

Course:

Print Name:

Date:

Warwick Student Number:

Trainees with disabilities

We are keen to support you to succeed so this question is not intended to discriminate against you.

Would you welcome a meeting with a university tutor to discuss and agree any reasonable adjustments which could be made to support you in placement or at university?

Yes/No

Please return both pages of this form to the address below:

Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL, United Kingdom



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*Health and physical capacity to teach

The activities that a teacher must be able to perform are set out in the Fitness to Teach – Occupational health guidance for the training and employment of teachers (DfE 2000) and Education (Health Standards) (England) Regulations 2003. These activities include:

- The ability to communicate effectively with students, colleagues and students' relatives
- Possession of sound judgement and insight
- The ability to remain alert at all times
- The ability to respond to students' needs rapidly and effectively
- The ability to manage classes
- The trainee must not constitute a risk to the health, safety or wellbeing of young people
- Planning and preparing lessons and courses for young people
- Delivering lessons
- Assessing development, progress and attainment, and
- Reporting on development, progress and attainment of students.

There is no legal requirement for a teacher to be able to lift heavy objects, drive, swim, deal with a young person's everyday physical need or participate in physically demanding activities. Further information on training to teach with a disability is available from the DfE website.

Examples of impairment needing careful assessment to ensure safe teaching practice:

- **Mobility** – must be compatible with outcomes set by the DfE, including responding to students' needs rapidly and effectively
- **Upper Limb function** – all trainees must have manual dexterity sufficient to achieve mandatory outcomes set by the DfE
- **Vision, Hearing and Speech** – must be compatible with the ability to communicate effectively with students, colleagues and students' relatives
- **Freedom of infection** – Trainees have a responsibility to protect students and colleagues from an increased risk of infection. If trainee teacher is aware of that they have a condition which could be transmitted to a student, they must take and follow advice from a consultant in occupational health or from another suitably qualified doctor
- **Interruption of consciousness** – The risk must be low enough to represent minimal risk to students and must be compatible with responding to students' needs rapidly and effectively
- **Concentration, awareness, memory, ability to learn and understand, English and maths** – trainees must be able to meet the competence standards set by the DfE in relation to spoken, written and electronic communication with students, colleagues and students' relatives, as well as sound judgement and insight. Trainees must have full awareness of their own mental health, when to seek help and from whom.