



Wessex
Learning Trust
We Learn Together!

Wessex Training Hub

A family of schools in the Cheddar Valley

Lead School: Axbridge Academy

We

Learn

Together

Wessex Family of Schools

<i>Axbridge C of E First School Academy</i>	<i>Kings of Wessex Academy</i>
<i>Weare C of E First School Academy</i>	<i>Wedmore First School Academy</i>
<i>Lympsham C of E First School Academy</i>	<i>East Brent First School Academy</i>
<i>Mark First and Pre- school CE School Academy</i>	<i>Cheddar First School</i>
<i>Shipham C of E First School</i>	<i>Draycott VA First School</i>
<i>Brent Knoll Primary School</i>	<i>Fairlands Middle School</i>
<i>Hugh Sexeys Middle School</i>	

We Learn Together!

Thinking about a career in TEACHING?

We can offer you a place to undertake your teacher training, within our Wessex family of schools. We work in conjunction with Somerset SCITT, and your qualification will be accredited by Worcester University. Therefore, if you are considering applying for a School Direct placement for 2020/21, we would strongly recommend you look at what we can offer.

Why train with the Wessex Hub

We are a family of 13 schools, in close proximity across the Cheddar Valley area, with children at the heart of our school system. Our closeness in locality and partnership working will offer effective and supportive placements for you as a student.

The Cheddar Valley is a three tier system, from 2-18 years. As such, we plan opportunities for you to be exposed to year groups beyond your PGCE that would further enhance your qualification and experience, building an excellent foundation to begin your teaching career. Joint training opportunities are also planned throughout the year through INSET days and networking opportunities.

Each placement would offer you high quality, school-based experience and training in partnership with Somerset SCITT (School Centred Initial Teacher Training) supported by a proven track record of excellent ITT provision. The Lead School, Axbridge Academy, has been identified as an Outstanding ITT School.

Our professional tutors and teachers are excellent practitioners who are eager to share their knowledge skills and effective practice with the next generation of teachers.

The course will provide QTS (Qualified Teacher Status) as well as a PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate in Education). The Wessex Hub aims to create a pathway of the highest quality training and possible succession opportunities for trainees in its partner schools. We would aim to offer an interview to our School Direct trainees, should a vacancy arise within the family of schools.

The Wessex Hub Family of Schools

The Wessex Hub is led by Axbridge First School Academy, in partnership with:

- Lympsham First School Academy,
- Weare First School Academy,
- Wedmore First School Academy,
- East Brent First School Academy,
- Mark First School Academy,
- Cheddar First School,
- Shipham First School,
- Draycott First School,
- Brent Knoll Primary School,
- Fairlands Middle School
- Hugh Sexeys Middle School and
- Kings of Wessex Upper School.

All schools are judged as Good or Outstanding in their recent Ofsted inspections and have a strong record of working with ITT providers. There is a vast array of expertise in the group of schools. Somerset SCITT are our accredited ITT partner, and judged as Outstanding by Ofsted in 2017. The University of Worcester provide the necessary accreditation for your qualification.

Entry requirements and desirable trainees

The Schools Direct training programme is for high quality graduates who want to train as part of a school team. We offer placements across Early Years and the Primary phase.

We are looking for enthusiastic, committed and passionate trainee teachers to join our schools. We are seeking trainees who have a natural rapport with children and adults, an innate passion for teaching and learning and who strive to make a positive difference to children's lives.

We expect trainees to have a degree (2:2 or higher), preferably with a relevance to the primary or early curriculum, as well as strong English, Maths, Science and Computing skills. (GCSE Grades C or above).

Note: The Wessex Hub does not offer salaried placements. Bursaries are available from the National College for Teaching and Leadership (NCTL).

Training Programme

You will be trained in highly aspirational and supportive environments to enable the delivery of creative, purposeful and challenging teaching and learning. You will develop the rigour, professional knowledge, understanding and skills necessary to deliver excellent provision for young people.

Training will be delivered by expert teachers in the partnership schools enhanced by full access to the SCITT training and support programmes. You will be assigned to one of the schools in the partnership in which you will do teaching placements in the Autumn and Summer terms. Part of the Spring term will be a teaching placement in a contrasting school and Key stage within the Wessex Hub of schools. You will be treated like a member of staff and will attend staff meetings and professional development days in the main placement school with additional opportunities to attend training across the wider hub where appropriate.

Each trainee will be assigned a Professional Tutor (PT Mentor) from the school of your main placement and a Tutor Moderator from Somerset SCITT who will make a minimum of two visits per term.

Assessments will be made throughout the year against the Teacher Standards, course work and assignments set by Somerset SCITT. Successful completion of the programme requires passes in both teaching and in all assignments. Termly reports are also written by the PT's in your school and supported by the Headteacher.

Our PT's are outstanding teachers who are experienced in supporting the professional development of new and experienced teachers. They have a range of skills including coaching, effective classroom observation and feedback skills. You are therefore assured of

a high level of personal and professional support in a programme which is well managed at all levels.

The co-ordination of your programme in the Wessex Hub is led by Lorna Richardson, Headteacher at Axbridge Academy and Training Lead in the Wessex Hub.

Selection of trainees

Application

Applications via UCAS for the academic year 2020-21 open in October 2019.

We are registered under Somerset SCITT consortium, as Axbridge c of E First School Academy.

Shortlisting will take place within 14 days of receipt of application.

Candidates will be offered an interview if application is deemed suitable.

Interviews are scheduled throughout the year, however applying at your earliest convenience is advised.

Interview

This is co-ordinated between Somerset SCITT and the Wessex Hub schools and Training Lead.

The interview process will consist of an activity with a group of pupils, a presentation and formal interview.

Visits

Visits are welcome but not part of the selection process.

Please contact the Training Lead if you wish to make one.

Follow the link below to apply:

<https://find-postgraduate-teacher-training.education.gov.uk/results?l=3&query=Axbridge%20C%20of%20E%20First%20School%20Academy&qualifications=QtsOnly,PgdePgceWithQts,Other&fulltime=False&parttime=False&hasvacancies=True&senCourses=False>

We are registered under Somerset SCITT consortium, as Axbridge c of E First School Academy.

Safeguarding

The Wessex Learning Trust recognises that the safety and welfare of children is paramount and that we have a responsibility to protect children in all our Academies' activities. We take all reasonable steps to ensure, through appropriate procedures and training, that all children, irrespective of sex, age, disability, race, religion or belief, sexual identity or social status, are protected from abuse.

All trainees must complete an enhanced clearance from the DBS service regarding their suitability to work with young people and health and medical checks.

Trainees will be required read and sign key policies regarding safeguarding (Code of Conduct, ICT Acceptable user agreement).

Testimonials

I was lucky enough to be given the opportunity to complete my teacher training at Axbridge school. Having worked as a teaching assistant for over 3 years I felt I was ready to embark on the journey to train to become a teacher. I was thrilled when Axbridge offered to support me with this and through SCITT I was able to join the Schools Direct program so that I could learn to teach, based at Axbridge school.

I could not have asked for a better place to train. I was supported throughout by an incredible team and was taught how to become the best that I could be, in order to get the best out of the children. Being surrounded by a team of enthusiastic and knowledgeable teachers meant that I was able to learn in a supported environment. I felt like I was part of the team from day one and was made to feel extremely welcome.

Training at Axbridge meant that I was given the opportunity to teach in a variety of classes and year groups. Each class I taught in, I felt appreciated and was able to learn different techniques to suit different age groups. I was advised and supported but also given the opportunity to learn by doing, and I felt trusted to take responsibility of the class. Thanks to the Axbridge staff I was able to complete my training at an outstanding level. Training at Axbridge has given me the confidence and the ability to embrace my NQT year.

Whilst training was a challenge and at times difficult, being at Axbridge was, without doubt, the best start to my teaching career. It is the most fantastic school to work in and I feel truly blessed to have been given the chance to train in such an amazing place.

I would highly recommend anyone that is interested in becoming a teacher to train at Axbridge, or within the wider Wessex Family of schools. You could not get a more supportive, welcoming and incredible team to work with.

Becky Booth

2019

Profile of Partnership Schools

School	Axbridge C of E First School Academy
Main contact	Lorna Richardson (Headteacher) lrichardson@wessexlearningtrust.co.uk
Address Tel number	Moorland Street Axbridge Somerset BS26 2BA 01934 732391
NOR	150 + 52 in Nursery
Website	www.axbridgefirstschool.co.uk
Information about the school	<p>As an outstanding school we are proud to be a happy, successful and inclusive setting, welcoming everyone to join our community. Our dedicated and enthusiastic team provide a happy and stimulating environment that enables the children to grow as motivated, respectful, responsible and independent learners.</p> <p>We are situated within the town and as such have access to a rich historical resource within the town, neighbouring stables, fields and allotments of which we utilise. Whilst we are situated in a town we have access to a large school field, have created forest school and gardening areas in the school and have outstanding early year's facilities to provide the very best start at school for our youngest children.</p> <p>Whilst we strive for, and achieve, academic excellence we also value a child's personal development. Whilst at the school the children have the opportunity to access a varied and extensive after school club calendar, sporting festivals, music concerts and school plays, all of which encourage our creative and sporting spirit.</p> <p>We are proud to be a Church school and have very strong links with the local Rector and Diocese. We became a standalone academy in 2012 and then joined the Wessex Learning Trust in 2016.</p> <p>The school was last inspected in 2008 as Outstanding in all areas, supported by an interim inspection in 2011 and an Outstanding SIAMS in 2018.</p>



School	Weare Academy C of E First School
Main contact	Denise Mawdsley (Executive Headteacher) dmawdsley@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Address	Notting Hill Way Weare Somerset BS26 2JS 01934 732270
NOR	128 currently in the main school + our preschool pupils
Website	https://www.weareacademy.co.uk
Information about the school	<p>We are an Ofsted judged 'outstanding' school, set within the beautiful rural setting of Weare village. We pride ourselves on the provision of an excellent education, within a welcoming, supportive and friendly environment for our children, staff and parents.</p> <p>As a Church of England School, our Christian ethos is a like golden thread which links our Christian Values of: Thankfulness, Kindness and Compassion, Respect, Forgiveness and Responsibility. SIAMS report (2018) noted that: "There is a strong commitment to the development of the whole child within the context and environment of an extremely supportive school community".</p> <p>We are proud of our results, which are consistently well above the National average. Our school motto, 'All can Achieve', is born out in the school's commitment to an inclusive education for every child. Throughout the academic year children participate in sporting festivals, music concerts and school plays. We provide a wide range of sporting and creative afterschool and lunchtime clubs which allow our children opportunities explore new skills.</p> <p>Our School Council and newly developed House System ensure that every child has a voice and is a valued member of the Weare School family. As a member of the Wessex Learning Trust, since 2016, we actively share the vision of the provision of educating the children in our community starting at the age of two. Our pre-school, Rainbow Woods, provides a supportive and fantastic start to the youngest members of our school community.</p>

Partnership Schools

School	Wedmore First School Academy
Main contact	Denise Mawdsley (Executive Headteacher) DMawdsley@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Address	Blackford Road Wedmore Somerset BS28 4BS 01934 712643
NOR	173 currently in the main school + our nursery pupils
Website	www.wedmorefirstschool.org.uk
Information about the school	<p>As a school we are committed to working together, valuing each child as a whole and developing their natural curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, in a way that ensures “It’s fun to learn”.</p> <p>We encourage every pupil to develop their confidence and potential while at the same time develop a respect and understanding of others so that all are included and happy.</p> <p>Originally a Victorian school, a new school was built on the edge of the village, opening in 1991, with a further extension added more recently in 2019. We have access to a fantastic environment for learning on site with a large field and garden area with easy access to the excellent community sporting facilities adjoining the school and are close enough to the village to foster strong community links.</p> <p>Our dedicated and skilled team of staff provide an exciting and stimulating curriculum for children throughout the school. We also have a thriving Nursery on site which prepares our youngest children for a seamless transition into the main school.</p> <p>We became a standalone academy in 2011 before joining the Wessex Learning Trust at its inception in 2016. Unlike many of the other schools in the Trust, we are not a Church school. The School was last inspected by Ofsted in 2018 and deemed to be ‘Good’ in all areas. We are proud of all that we and our pupils achieve.</p>

Partnership Schools

School	Brent Knoll Primary School
Main contact	Chris Burman (Headteacher) cburman@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Address	Brent Street Brent Knoll Highbridge TA9 4EQ
NOR	135
Website	https://www.somerset.org.uk/sites/brentknoll/Pages/Welcome
Information about the school	<p>The school has been on this site in Brent Knoll village since 1861, though has changed a lot since those early days. We currently have 135 children based within five classes. Many of the staff have been here for many years and many are stalwarts of the village as well as the school.</p> <p>In September 2018, the school was inspected by Ofsted and graded as 'Good' in all areas. In that year, we had particularly strong results in Year 6 Maths, with that cohort being in the top 1% of English primaries. In the previous year, the school was graded as Outstanding in its SIAMS inspection.</p> <p>In April 2019, the school became an academy and it is now part of the Wessex Learning Trust. The key benefit of this change is that we now have the support of a new group of schools, led by Mr Gavin Ball of the Kings Academy, Cheddar. We continue to work closely, however, with our community learning partnership schools based in Highbridge and Burnham, ensuring that our children access the best possible transition to The King Alfred's School (TKASA) and staff benefit from training opportunities.</p> <p>Brent Knoll Primary School really is a close community where children and adults know and support each other incredibly well. We are particularly proud of our extensive range of clubs and sporting achievements in area competitions.</p>

Partnership Schools

School	Mark First and Pre-school CE Academy
Main contact	Fiona Robertson (Executive Headteacher) frobertson@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Address	The Causeway Mark Somerset TA94QA 01278641262
NOR	128 currently in the main school + our preschool pupils
Website	https://www.markfirstschool.co.uk
Information about the school	<p>We are fortunate to be situated in the beautiful rural village of Mark. The school site has a large field area and a wonderful established outdoor classroom. There are several other play areas that surround the original Victorian building and classrooms.</p> <p>Throughout the school and pre-school, we try to make use of our fantastic outdoor space and outdoor classroom as much as we can, to support high quality teaching and learning. Our curriculum is rich, creative and engaging and we aim to build a love of learning in our pupils.</p> <p>The school has a very strong commitment to caring for and nurturing every child. In our school every child matters. Children feel safe, cared for, enjoy learning and feel happy.</p> <p>Through our Christian ethos, with our Christian values at the heart of all we do, we seek to INSPIRE – we aim to encourage independence and success and empower all children to grow and achieve. A diverse curriculum is provided with an emphasis on developing the whole child.</p> <p>The school was last inspected in October 2019 and judged to be good in all areas; the inspectors said “Mark First and Pre-school is a warm and welcoming school. Staff are dedicated and want the best for every pupil”. The school was also judged as Outstanding in their SIAMS inspection in 2016.</p>



Partnership Schools

School	Lympsham C of E Academy
Main contact	Fiona Robertson (Executive Headteacher) FRobertson@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Address	Lympsham CofE Academy Rectory Way Lympsham BS24 0EW
NOR	106
Website	www.lympshamcofeacademy.co.uk
Information about the school	<p>Lympsham CofE Academy is "a Christian Community with Children at its Heart" and aims to provide an education of the highest quality where children can flourish within a happy, safe, and healthy environment, becoming respectful and self-assured learners. Set within the centre of an idyllic rural village, our school is a popular choice with families from in and around the local area and neighbouring towns of Burnham-On-Sea and Weston-Super-Mare.</p> <p>Our School prides itself on its inclusive ethos which is underpinned by excellent teaching, care, guidance and support. We are extremely proud of all the children and staff at our Academy and Pre-school, their achievements and the successes of the School. We endeavour to offer a warm and welcoming ethos within our School community and provide children with the skills to achieve well in later life. Our dedication to offering the highest quality provision was highlighted as strength in our recent Ofsted inspection, October 2019.</p> <p><i>'Pupils are proud to attend Lympsham Church of England Academy. Pupils told inspectors that they enjoy learning and that adults take good care of them. Pupils understand the school's high expectations and develop good attitudes to learning. Pupils expect to work hard, and they say their work is challenging'.</i></p> <p>As a result of our recent Ofsted inspection the school retained its overall judgement of 'good', an achievement, which we are all extremely proud of. Shortly after our Ofsted inspection the school was also judged as 'good' with areas of 'excellence' in its SIAMS inspection.</p> <p>In 2016 the school converted to become an Academy and member of the Wessex Learning Trust MAT, linking closely with our partnership First, Middle and Upper schools.</p>



Partnership Schools

School	East Brent CofE Academy
Main contact	Fiona Robertson – Executive Headteacher office@eastbrent.somerset.sch.uk
Address	Church Road East Brent Highbridge Somerset TA9 4HZ
NOR	82
Website	www.eastbrentcofeacademy.co.uk
Information about the school	<p>We are a small Church of England first school, set in the heart of the village and idyllically situated next to St Mary's Church with stunning rural views looking up to Brent Knoll.</p> <p>Our ethos of 'Inspiring Learning for Life' is at the heart of everything we do. Our exciting, creative, inspirational and enhanced curriculum strives to ensure all our children flourish and reach their full potential.</p> <p>Our dedicated and experienced staff are passionate about creating wonderful opportunities and experiences for our children and we are extremely proud of everything they do. We take part in many sporting events, have an annual whole school nativity, incredible focus weeks throughout the year and an end of year Y3/Y4 performance to name but a few of the many things that make us so special.</p> <p>We converted to an Academy and joined The Wessex Learning Trust in September 2016, and through this now well-established positive partnership we are committed to offering provision for ages 2-19 where we can develop the whole child, celebrate differences and meet individual needs in safe and secure environments. Although we are the smallest school within the WLT, it doesn't hold us back from aiming high and striving for the very best in all we do.</p> <p>Our last Ofsted was in October 2019, the inspectors noted <i>"Pupils at East Brent love school. They show excitement and enthusiasm for their learning. The experienced, nurturing and caring staff share high aspirations for all pupils. Staff are determined that all pupils reach their full potential"</i>. We are very proud we that we continue to be a 'good' school. Our last SIAMs inspection in 2017 judged as Good in all areas.</p>



School	Draycott and Rodney Stoke VA CofE First School
Main contact	Will Ewans (Headteacher)
Address	School Lane Draycott Cheddar Somerset BS27 3SD 01934 742052
NOR	68 + 13 in pre-school
Website	www.draycottandrodneystokeschool.co.uk
Information about the school	<p>Draycott & Rodney Stoke Church of England First School is a small school of up to 90 children, plus our Pre-Schoolers, ranging in age from 3 to 9 and divided into three classes. The school is a friendly, happy place where everyone is committed to providing children with a stimulating, broad education in a calm, purposeful learning environment.</p> <p>We value and care for each and every child, working closely together with parents and community to help children discover their strengths and develop their skills. As a community we are a TEAM and firmly believe that “Together Everyone Achieves More.” Our overall aim is to create a safe and happy environment where each child can grow academically, socially, spiritually and emotionally.</p> <p>We are pleased that these values are recognised by external partners and agencies. We have recently been inspected both OFSTED (July 2019) where we were judged to be “GOOD” in all areas, as well as SIAMS (April 2019) where we were also judged “GOOD” in all areas.</p> <p>We have been part of the Mendip Edge Federation since its creation in January 2014, where the governors of Fairlands Middle School, Cheddar First School, Draycott & Rodney Stoke C of E VA First School and Shipham C of E First School decided that the learning experience and achievement of children at our schools could be improved through closer collaboration. We are excited to be extending this collaboration more formally by joining the Wessex Learning Trust.</p>

School	Fairlands Middle School
Main contact	Stefan McHale (Headteacher)
Address	Masons Way Cheddar BS27 3PG 01934 743186
NOR	482
Website	www.fairlands.somerset.sch.uk
Information about the school	<p>As a Middle School we strive for the highest possible standards by providing quality specialist teaching throughout our 9-13 age range. We make the most of the opportunity to teach children who are moving towards adolescence and coming to terms with their own growing up. We are immensely proud of the way that we support our pupils at this vulnerable time of their lives by developing their sense of security and belonging to family, school and community as a whole. The school was last inspected by OFSTED in September 2015 where we were once again judged "GOOD" in all areas.</p> <p>The Fairlands curriculum reflects our passion that every child should feel a sense of inclusion whilst in their school and their wider communities. Our pupils should all leave with an awareness of their world around them.</p> <p>Our curriculum aims to inspire pupils through developing the knowledge, understanding the concepts and acquiring the skills that will best equip them in fulfilling their aspirations.</p> <p>Through our broad and balance curriculum offer, pupils will develop the communication skills and self-confidence to manage the challenges that lie ahead of them.</p> <p>We have been part of the Mendip Edge Federation since its creation in January 2014, where the governors of Fairlands Middle School, Cheddar First School, Draycott & Rodney Stoke C of E VA First School and Shipham C of E First School decided that the learning experience and achievement of children at our schools could be improved through closer collaboration. We are excited to be extending this collaboration more formally by joining the Wessex Learning Trust.</p>

