SECTOR BRIEFING

4**4** UR FUTURE



The education and training sector plays an important role in society and the economy. It provides a building block for all other careers, offering people the opportunity to gain the qualifications and essential skills needed for all jobs and careers. Education and training encompass all levels of teaching, from nursery through to primary school, and from post-primary school to further and higher education for adult learners, such as universities, FE colleges, and independent training providers. In addition to the range of direct teaching roles available, the sector includes many vitally important behind-the-scenes jobs that keep the sector running smoothly.



KEY FACTS



- The UK needs almost **50,000** more post-primary school teachers by 2024 to cope with rising pupil numbers.
- In 2018, the Education Authority was Northern Ireland's biggest employer, with over 43,000 staff including 7,700 teachers, 22,500 school-based staff, and 13,000 non-school based staff (including transport staff, youth workers, and office-based support staff).
- In 2022, there were 347,235 pupils registered at schools in Northern Ireland, with 182,142 primary school pupils, 151,901 post-primary school students, 5,795 pupils at nursery schools, and 6,836 young people at other types of schools such as special educational needs schools.



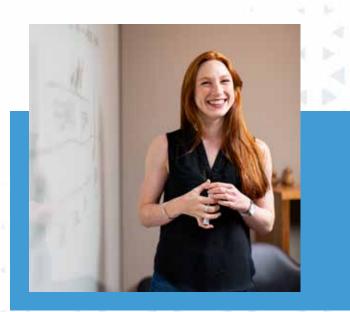
WHY EDUCATION & TRAINING?

If you have a passion for learning, a career in this sector could be perfect for you.

Working in education and training allows individuals to have a direct impact on the lives of students and learners, helping them to learn, achieve, and grow, which can be very rewarding.

Working in the sector can be very challenging and demanding, so patience and resilience are two key traits that would be beneficial for someone considering a role in education and training.





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WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES?





There are a vast and varied number of job roles and types of careers in the education and training sector. Many entry level roles do not require previous experience and have minimum entry qualifications, such as five GCSEs at Grade C or above, including English and Maths.

Just some of the jobs available within this sector include:

- Nursery School Assistant
- OFTED Inspector
- Primary School Teacher
- Special Educational Needs Teacher
- Teaching Assistant
- Principal
- Secondary School teacher

- Education Welfare Officer
- Teaching Lab Technician
- School Librarian
- Lecturer/Professor
- Administrator
- Bursar
- School Nurse

...and more!

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SALARY EXPECTATIONS

Salaries may vary based on the job role, your experience level, and the entry qualifications required. However, the average salary for a graduate-level job in the education and training sector is between £25,000 - £36,000 per year.

For example, here are some average salaries for job roles within the sector:

Nursery School Assistant Average salary	Primary School Teacher Average salary	Bursar Average salary
£21,000 per year	£37,961 per year	£42,427 per year
OFSTED Inspector	Teaching Assistant	School Nurse
Starting salary approx. £46,000 per year	Average salary £25,681 per year	Average salary £36,919 per year
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Education Welfare Officer Average salary £26,283 per year Higher Education Lecturer Average salary £44,191 per year



For further information, click the link highlighted in **blue**





For most careers in education and training, you will need a specific qualification, such as an NVQ Level 3 or higher (Teaching Assistant roles) or a degree (Teaching roles). For many teaching roles, the easiest route of entry is to complete a relevant degree in education (primary level) or a specialist subject degree and post-graduate PGCE qualification (secondary level).

For some roles in Further and Higher Education or Adult Learning, there are a range of other pathways that can be taken, such as becoming an Associate Lecturer or Trainer, which would require different qualifications and experience for entry.



WHAT SKILLS ARE USEFUL?

Beyond the qualifications needed to pursue a career in the Education & Training sector, there are a range of employability skills and personal attributes that are useful to have. These include:

- Confidence
- Organisation and time keeping
- Resilience
- Integrity

If you intend to pursue a career in education, it's a good idea to plan early, as your subject choices for GCSE and A Level may impact your ability to gain entry to relevant courses.

In addition, many of the qualifications will require a level of relevant work experience and/or volunteering to show commitment and dedication to your chosen career, as well as proving that you have relevant experience working with young people.

There are a wide range of supporting roles within the sector, which do not always require specialist qualifications. However, almost all roles will require at least a minimum of five GCSEs at Grade C or higher (or equivalent) including English and Maths.



- Patience
- Creativity
- Enthusiasm
- An interest in young people and their development







WHERE CAN I GO TO FIND OUT MORE?

Department of Education NI

The Department of Education is the government department responsible for all aspects of education in Northern Ireland. They oversee governing bodies within education as well as helping those wishing to start a career in the industry.

Education Authority

The Education Authority is responsible for ensuring that efficient and effective primary and secondary education services are available to meet the needs of children and young people. It also supports the provision of efficient and effective youth services



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