

Developing an understanding of schools in England and the role of a teacher in preparation for your PGCE course

Following your interview and offer of a place on a University of Nottingham PGCE course, we want to support you in deepening your understanding of schools in England and the role of a teacher in advance of your course starting.

Listed below are a set of resources you can engage with to develop your understanding:

TV Documentaries

There are a range of TV documentaries that can give you an insight into UK schools.

As you watch a programme, try to notice:

- the relationship the teacher has with pupils
- the different people within the school and the relationships that exist between them – for example teachers, those in a position of leadership, pupils, parents, support staff
- the activities you see happening in the classroom
- the situations you see happening and how they play out over time

Keep asking yourself:

- What surprises you?
- What interests you?
- What questions do you have?

[Educating Essex](#)

[Educating Yorkshire](#)

[The Great British School Swap](#)

[Britain's Biggest primary School](#)

[Our School](#)

Keeping up with the latest news in education in England

Follow news and stories about education, for example:

[BBC education news](#)

[Guardian education news](#)

[Times Educational Supplement](#)

[Schools Week](#)

Getting some inspiration from other places

Below are some good TED talks about the role of a teacher:

[Rita Pierson: Every kid needs a champion](#)

[Nick Fuhrman: The one thing all great teachers do](#)

[Christopher Emdin: Teach teachers how to create magic](#)

- What do you like about what you hear?
- How do the talks fit with your own thinking about what type of teacher you want to be?