Immigration and Teaching in NSW

All public school teachers are required to be Australian citizens or residents, or possess a relevant work permit that allows employment in Australia. Prospective UK trained teachers interested in immigrating to Australia should first approach the nearest Australian embassy, high commission or consulate to obtain information in regards to immigration criteria, qualification assessments and procedural requirements. Further Information about Australian immigration and visa requirements can be obtained by visiting the Department of Immigration & Multicultural & Indigenous Affairs website.

The NSW Department of Education and Training has an agreement with the Commonwealth Government of Australia to sponsor overseas trained teachers for permanent teaching positions in identified areas of staffing need. Currently the areas of greatest need in NSW public schools are mathematics, science, technological and applied studies and the specialist areas of school counselling, special education and English as a second Language.

Generally, teachers in NSW public schools are required to have the equivalent of 3 or 4 years of tertiary training including a teaching qualification recognised by the NSW Department of Education and Training.

For a formal evaluation of teaching and other qualifications to be undertaken, applicants are required to submit an application for employment as a teacher. Your application needs to include certified true copies of your teaching qualifications, suitable identification and your entry visa to Australia to indicate that you are permitted to work.

Application packages are available to download through this website. Your completed application and required documents should be posted to teach.NSW at the address shown on the form. As a UK trained teacher the processing of your application involves:

- a formal assessment of your academic qualifications;
- a criminal record check; and
- upon your arrival in Australia, an interview to assess your personal suitability as a teacher.

Once you have received your teaching approval, and depending on your visa status, a number of options are available to you.

Casual and temporary teaching is available throughout all areas of New South Wales and offers you a flexible and rewarding career working with different schools, staff and students. Casual teachers are employed to cover the short-term absences of permanent staff on a day to day basis. Temporary teachers are employed for a longer fixed term period in unfilled vacant positions or to cover long term leave absences.

Permanent teachers are needed most in western Sydney and non-coastal rural areas. Most permanent teaching positions are full-time.