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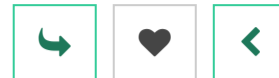
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PE teacher

Also called: Physical education teacher

Physical education (PE) teachers work in secondary schools and colleges, teaching sport and fitness to young people.



What you'll do

You'll work in state or independent schools and colleges, including free schools, academies, sixth forms and the further education sector.

Your day-to-day duties may include:

- preparing lessons and teaching materials
- teaching classes of different ages and abilities, and adapting lessons so everyone can take part
- managing class behaviour
- arranging matches with other schools and colleges
- setting and marking homework and assignments and preparing for exams
- attending meetings and training
- talking to parents and carers about students' progress
- attending general school events like open days and social activities

Record relevant activities you've already done on the [Activities tool](#) >

Working hours and environment

You'll usually teach during school term between 9am and 4pm, but start and finish times can vary. Outside of teaching hours, you'll also be expected to spend time marking, preparing lessons, attending meetings, training, and attending school matches.

Career path and progression

With experience you could become a leading practitioner, supporting other teachers while working with your own classes.

You could also progress to curriculum leader or head of department, then deputy or assistant headteacher or assistant principal.

Skills required

You'll need:

- the ability to develop good working relationships
- the ability to work in a team as well as use your own initiative
- organisation and time-management skills
- the ability to manage classes and deal with challenging behaviour
- excellent communication skills

Got evidence of these skills? Record your examples on the [Skills tool](#) >

Entry requirements

The most common way to become a PE teacher is to do Initial Teacher Education or Training (ITET) and gain qualified teacher status (QTS).

Your ITET route could be one of the following:

- university-led training through an undergraduate degree or postgraduate award
- school-led work-based training

For either route, you'll need:

- GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) in English and maths (and science, if you teach in middle schools)
- passes (before starting ITET) in numeracy and literacy [skills tests](#)
- an [enhanced background check](#) which your employer will arrange for you

You'll also need experience of working with young people through paid work or [volunteering at a school](#), through youth work or on a holiday scheme.

If you're a PE or sports graduate who's gained some experience in secondary schools during your degree, you may be able to get into teaching by working as a sports coach in a school, then moving on to a teacher training programme. You'll need coaching awards, like UK Coaching Certificates (UKCC), in your specialist sports. [Sports Coach UK](#) has more information on coaching.

Related Know-how guides

Explore Know-how guides related to this career:

- [Five top tips to help improve your physical health](#) >

Related university subject profiles

These university subjects are related to this career; check out their profiles on the Subjects library:

- [Education](#) >
- [Sport science](#) >

Related career profiles

You may also be interested in:

- [Group exercise instructor](#) >
- [Sports coach](#) >
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- [Further education lecturer](#) >
- [Primary school teacher](#) >

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Want to see what relevant education and training opportunities are available right now? Search here:

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Labour Market Information (LMI)

Current and predicted figures relating to the PE teacher profession. Median averages are shown, each with the specific career, or group of careers, that they apply to.

● UK USA

Jobs

Teaching professionals

962,059

 8,554 in your local area of Liverpool

Top 5 local areas

1	Kent	26,764
2	Hertfordshire	22,648
3	Essex	22,544
4	Surrey	22,262
5	Hampshire	21,878

Salaries

Secondary education teaching professionals

£42,818

Teaching professionals

£41,800

📍 £40,702 in your region of North West

Top 3 regions

1	London	£47,143
2	Wales	£43,431
3	Scotland	£42,570

Growth

2020-2035

Teaching and other educational professionals

+7.1%

↑ 128,660 jobs

📍 +13.2% in your region of North West, an increase of 26,195 jobs

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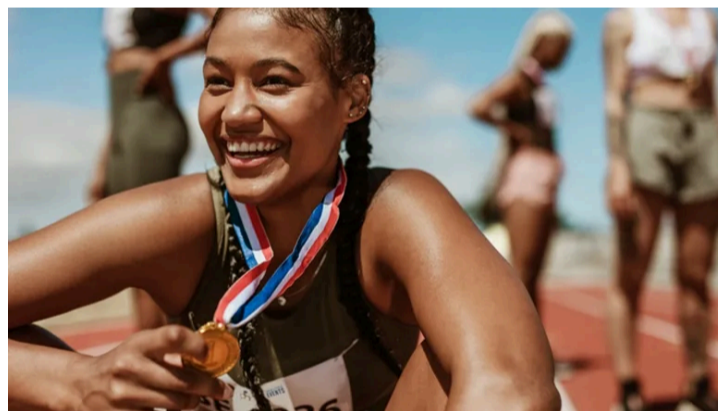


Sports coach



Sports coaches teach sports and help players to reach their full potential.

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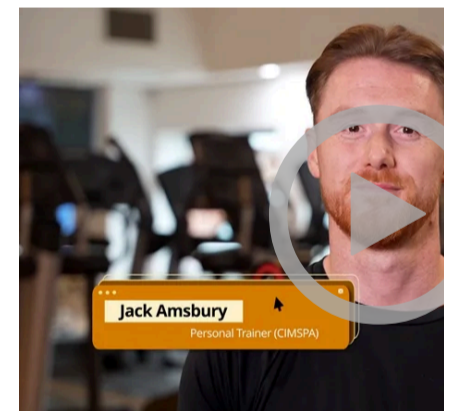


Sports professional



Sports professionals are paid to train and compete in their chosen sport.

[Read the profile >](#)



Personal trainer

Personal trainers help their clients health and fitness goals.

[Read the profile >](#)