

# Inspections of initial teacher education partnerships

A leaflet for initial teacher education (ITE) partnerships

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## Introduction

This leaflet details the judgements inspectors make and outlines the evidence inspectors will look at during an inspection.

Under the framework, inspectors will make the following judgements:

- overall effectiveness
- outcomes for trainees
- quality of training across the partnership
- leadership and management of the partnership.

Inspections take place in two stages.

## Stage one

Inspection planning will take account of:

- the last inspection report
- the outcomes of any risk assessment undertaken by Ofsted
- available regional and national data, including the newly qualified teacher (NQT) survey (where relevant)
- information from the online questionnaire for trainees
- any information available on the ITE partnership's website
- information provided to Ofsted on an annual basis by the ITE partnership
- regional intelligence.

The following may be requested during stage one of the inspection:

- details of current training and assessment programmes offered by the ITE partnership, the number of trainees in

each age phase and their subject(s)/specialisms

- information about the organisation of the ITE partnership, including staff names and responsibilities
- information about specific school, college and/or other setting and centre-based training, recruitment and selection, and other events taking place during the inspection week
- background information on each trainee including qualifications, relevant prior experience and their current level of achievement
- details of trainees' placements or place of work, including addresses and unique reference numbers (URNs) for schools, colleges and/or settings
- a summary self-evaluation, including an analysis of outcomes for trainees
- handbooks and/or materials related to any school, college and/or other setting and centre-based training observed
- evidence of internal and external monitoring and evaluation, including external examiners' reports and how the findings are used to improve outcomes for trainees
- evidence of improvement plans and their impact on provision and outcomes
- evidence of the quality and effectiveness of the recruitment and selection process
- evidence of the involvement of schools, colleges and/or other settings in the leadership of the ITE partnership, the recruitment and selection of trainees, the design and delivery of training and assessment, and the review, evaluation and development of provision
- evidence of involvement in the ITE partnership of schools, colleges and/or

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- other settings in challenging socio-economic circumstances and those judged as requires improvement
- evidence of the experience and expertise of mentors and trainers
  - evidence of the professional development provided for mentors and trainers
  - evidence of the quality and effectiveness of the ITE partnership's work in the areas covered by any annual thematic inspections
  - evidence of how the ITE partnership has improved the quality of teachers' skills in:
    - teaching early reading using systematic synthetic phonics
    - communication and language development
    - mathematics
    - promoting and managing good behaviour
    - and meeting the needs of children/pupils/learners with special educational needs and those with English as an additional language (EAL) as appropriate for the phase/age range they are being trained to teach
  - evidence of how the ITE partnership meets the statutory initial teacher training (ITT) criteria or the early years ITT requirements, and all relevant legislation, including that related to promoting equality and diversity, eliminating discrimination and safeguarding.

## Stage two

Inspectors will ask for information about:

- improvements made since stage one of the inspection process
- destinations of NQTs/former trainees
- the ITE partnership's assessment of each NQT/former trainee at the end of their training
- any targets that the ITE partnership has set for a trainee for their induction.

You should submit this information through the provider portal. Instructions for accessing the portal are provided in the notification of inspection letter.

## Gaining the views of trainees

Trainees will give their views about their ITE partnership using the online questionnaire for trainees, which will be available during the summer term of each academic year when stage one inspections take place.

## Where can further details be found about ITE inspections?

We have published the 'Initial teacher education inspection handbook', which explains how inspections are conducted and the judgements that are made by inspectors:  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-education-inspection-handbook](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-education-inspection-handbook).

It contains the grade descriptors used by inspectors when making their judgements.

## Online inspection survey

Following stage two of your inspection we will invite you to complete an online inspection survey. The survey asks for your views on the inspection process, including the impact that the inspection is likely to have in bringing about improvement.

Ofsted values all survey responses: we use the outcomes to help keep us informed about the quality and impact of inspections, and help guide us in reviewing and improving the inspection process.

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