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National College for
Teaching & Leadership

Welcome to the January 2017 edition of the teacher recruitment bulletin. This contains vital information which will help to support your initial teacher training (ITT) recruitment.

1. Maximising recruitment

Last year there was a significant difference between the number of people recorded by UCAS as having accepted an ITT place at the end of the recruitment cycle and the number who later appeared in the ITT census.

Any person who is not going to enrol should be withdrawn from the UCAS teacher training system and any withdrawn applicant can be replaced/backfilled with another before the end of the cycle.

Schools and providers should keep in contact with accepted applicants to ensure that they are planning to enrol and are likely to meet any specified conditions. We strongly advise that conditional offers are given cut-off dates and that these are clearly communicated to applicants. If the condition remains unmet by the specified cut-off date, the offer should be withdrawn.

Please refer to guidance in the [marketing and recruitment guide](#) to see our practical guidance and tips on how to keep your applicants warm to help minimise withdrawals. For support with managing the UCAS teacher training system please refer to the UCAS set up guide.

2. School experience programme (SEP)

School experience is a vital part of the ITT recruitment process; however, some candidates, particularly career changers, struggle to find enough time for extensive school experience. We would like to re-iterate that there is no minimum requirement for the number of school experience days for an ITT course. By stipulating a minimum number of days you could be excluding good-quality candidates. If appropriate, providers can arrange further school experience prior to a candidate starting their course.

The national school experience portal makes offering school experience easier and gives you national exposure to a large number of keen candidates. You can upload experience days and candidates can book onto the programme on the Get Into Teaching website. The programme allows you to offer experience days in the following subjects:

- Art and design
- Biology
- Business studies
- Chemistry
- Classics
- Computer science
- Design and technology
- English
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Modern foreign languages
- Music
- Physical education
- Physics
- Primary
- Religious education
- Social studies

Schools have used the programme as an effective marketing and recruitment tool by building strong relationships with candidates to promote ITT courses and job opportunities. To participate in the school experience programme and be given access to the online portal, please contact the team on 0800 085

0962 or email schoolexperience@ta-recruit.education.gov.uk.

3. Case study appeal

To support the Get Into Teaching campaign, the National College for Teaching and Leadership (NCTL) is looking for case studies to showcase teaching as a career and the impact teachers have.

We are seeking a mix of people, from recent graduates and career changers, to those who have returned to teaching after a break and who would be willing to share their stories for a variety of media opportunities. We are especially keen to speak to those in priority subjects including mathematics, geography, physics, chemistry, computing, and modern foreign languages.

Favourable media coverage from case studies can benefit the individual, the school and the Get Into Teaching campaign.

If you, or anyone you know, is interested in supporting us, please contact NCTL's PR agency nctl@kindredagency.com with your name, age, contact details, subject/s taught, and school.

Read the full [case study appeal](#) for more information.

4. Subject knowledge enhancement (SKE) in modern foreign languages (MFL)

NCTL will now fund candidates to undertake 2 SKE courses in MFL, so that candidates are equipped to teach 2 languages. This may include a refresher course in their main language. SKE programmes are designed for candidates to gain the depth of knowledge needed to train to teach their chosen subject, including familiarity with the curriculum.

It's for you to decide if a SKE course is needed and the length of term for each candidate but, as a guide, we suggest that candidates doing 2 SKE courses will take a short (usually 8 week) course in their main language and a longer course of up to 28 weeks in the second language. To find out more, contact an [SKE provider](#).

For more information on SKE please see the [SKE operational manual](#) or email ta.ske@education.gov.uk.

5. New Languages Teacher Training Scholarship

If you are recruiting modern foreign language trainees, you may want to promote the new Languages Teacher Training Scholarship to your candidates. Those who are successful in their application to the scheme will receive additional support to enhance their subject knowledge, gain access to high-quality professional development resources, mentoring and a tax-free scholarship of £27,500.

The scheme is aimed at high-quality French, German and Spanish linguists who are passionate about languages. Candidates must have secured a training place by September 2017 and have a 2:1 (or predicted) degree. Candidates with a 2:2 (or predicted) may be considered, if they can demonstrate significant subject knowledge.

Candidates can apply for this prestigious scholarship through the British Council. For more details on the application process see the [British Council website](#) and to promote the scheme, see the flyer, which can be

found in our [marketing toolkit](#).

6. Spain's Visiting Teacher programme

Does your school need a Spanish language teacher?

Spain's Visiting Teachers programme provides opportunities for schools to recruit high-quality teachers from Spain, to not only teach the language but also immerse pupils in cultural aspects.

To register your interest or find out more, please visit [Spain's Visiting Teachers programme](#).

7. National marketing days - 1 February, Birmingham and 1 March, Wigan

These days are designed for all School Direct lead schools and school-centred initial teacher training providers (SCITTs) and will provide advice about how to improve the impact of your marketing activity. They present an invaluable opportunity to help fill your places.

Spaces are still available in Birmingham and Wigan:

Birmingham - Wednesday 1 February - 10.30am to 3.00pm (registration from 10am).

Venue: The Old Library, Custard Factory, Gibb Street, Birmingham, B9 4AA

Find out more about the programme and [register to secure a place at Birmingham](#).

Wigan - Wednesday 1 March - 10.30am to 3.00pm (registration from 10am).

Venue: The Pier Centre, Riveredge, Wigan, WN3 5AB

Find out more about the programme and [register to secure a place at Wigan](#).

8. School-led ITT networks

Many School Direct schools and SCITTs are already engaged in local school-led ITT networks. The networks, which are supported by NCTL, enable collaboration and sharing of best practice to support ITT recruitment and provide valuable feedback to NCTL.

If you are not currently a network member and would like to join, please email school.ittnetworks@education.gov.uk.

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