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National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

Welcome to the February 2017 edition of the Teacher Recruitment Bulletin. This contains vital information which will help to support your initial teacher training (ITT) recruitment.

Please consider whether this bulletin reaches the correct people in your organisation, and cascade as appropriate. Additional contacts can subscribe to the Teacher Recruitment Bulletin by emailing [school.direct@education.gov.uk](mailto:school.direct@education.gov.uk).

## 1. Reminder - maximising recruitment

We communicated in the January edition of the Teacher Recruitment Bulletin that you should update applicants' status on UCAS systems on a regular basis; 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.

The following may help you:

1. If an applicant to whom you have made an offer informs you they want to withdraw their choice, please update their status in UCAS to withdrawn.
2. If an applicant does not meet conditions that are set for them, the status of the application in UCAS should be set to rejected.
3. If you make a conditional offer to an applicant, you may wish to consider making this time-limited so that the condition must be met by a certain date. This must be made clear to the applicant within the offer. For example, you might state 'You must pass skills tests within 12 weeks of accepting the offer'.

Please refer to the [Guide to decision- and offer-making for UCAS Teacher Training providers](#), which is also accessible via your provider login, sections 3.1.2 (Free format offer) and 5.3 (Reject decision).

## 2. UCAS training programme and course updates

Please ensure that your UCAS training programme status is updated on UCAS systems and courses are closed as soon as they are full to avoid applicants wasting their limited application opportunities. Refer to page 53 of the [UCAS Teacher Training Set-up Guide 2017](#).

## 3. UCAS Teacher Training provider satisfaction survey

Don't forget to share your views in the annual [UCAS Teacher Training provider satisfaction survey](#).

UCAS wants to understand your views on their approach to engaging and communicating with you, your experience of their products and services over the last year, and how they can better meet your needs.

The survey should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete. UCAS have extended the closing date of the survey and it is now open until Friday 17 February 2017 at 5pm.

## 4. Chemistry teacher training scholarship

If you need more trainee chemistry teachers, why not use the [Royal Society of Chemistry teacher training scholarships](#) to attract high-quality applicants?

Royal Society of Chemistry scholars get £27,500 funding and a free specialised support package including expert mentoring, networking opportunities, continuing professional development courses, classroom resources and RSC membership.

This is great for trainees but it also means your school could benefit from a more confident, enthusiastic and well-prepared chemistry teacher. Further details on the benefits, eligibility criteria and contact information can be found on the [Royal Society of Chemistry website](#).

## 5. Support for subject knowledge enhancement (SKE) courses

Last year nearly 40% of trainees in priority subjects did SKE before their teacher training. Using SKE will maximise your chances of recruiting to priority subjects. If you have a candidate, whom you think may benefit from SKE, then please speak to a SKE provider about their courses. All SKE courses are fully

funded and candidates can receive a bursary of up to £200 per week. SKE subjects are biology, chemistry, computing, design and technology, geography, modern foreign languages, mathematics and physics.

Courses range in length from an 8-week refresher course to a more intensive course of up to 28 weeks. There is still time for candidates to register on a longer course, which may start between now and April.

For more information about SKE including funding, you can speak to a [SKE provider](#), review the [Subject knowledge enhancement funding manual 2016 to 2017](#) or email [ta.ske@education.gov.uk](mailto:ta.ske@education.gov.uk).

## 6. Your Future | Their Future marketing campaign update

The Your Future, Their Future national marketing campaign continues to drive increased awareness and interest in initial teacher training. Upcoming activity during February includes advertising on TV catch up services such as ITV player and Sky GO and in cinemas across the country; FM and digital radio advertising; ads in national press and consumer magazines, and in online and social media. From 1 March you will also see the next burst of national TV advertising featuring the [‘Making Futures’ advert](#).

The Get Into Teaching team will also be attending graduate fairs and running a series of on-campus events this term in addition to the popular [Train to Teach roadshow](#), which takes place during February and March.

You may wish to consider reviewing your marketing plans to take advantage of the increased levels of interest generated from the national marketing campaign.

## 7. Additional Train to Teach events

Three new Train to Teach events have been added to the spring term schedule:

- Blackpool, Hilton Blackpool – Tuesday 7 March
- Oldham, Victoria Hotel – Tuesday 21 March
- Scarborough, Crown Spa Hotel – Thursday 23 March

Exhibition space is available at the Blackpool event to providers located in the North West, at the Oldham event to providers located in the North West or Yorkshire and the Humber and at the Scarborough event to providers located in Yorkshire and the Humber or North East.

If you would like to exhibit at any of these events and are based in the regions listed above, please email [traintoteach@blackberryproductions.co.uk](mailto:traintoteach@blackberryproductions.co.uk).

## 8. Reminder - National marketing day, Wednesday 1 March, Wigan

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

Spaces are still available at the Wigan event:

Wednesday 1 March, 10.30am to 3.00pm (registration from 10.00am)

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

You can [see further details about the programme and register to secure a place at Wigan here](#).

## 9. Reminder - Spain's Visiting Teacher programme

Registration is now open for schools wishing to recruit Spanish teachers through [Spain's Visiting Teachers programme](#). The deadline for submission is 26 February.

The 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.

## 10. Appointing an external moderator for ITT provision

NCTL is aware that some providers are struggling to appoint suitably qualified individuals to undertake the role of external moderator. If you are looking to appoint an ITT external moderator, the following might help:

- You could enter into a reciprocal arrangement with another ITT provider, independent from your partnership.
- Your local ITT provider network comprises of a cross section of providers at varying stages of delivery and experience. For details contact [itt.allocations@education.gov.uk](mailto:itt.allocations@education.gov.uk).
- School or HEI based associations, such as The National Association of School-Based Teacher Trainers (NASBTT) or the Universities Council for the Education of Teachers (UCET) may also be able to assist you in identifying a suitable individual.

External moderation must be in place to ensure the compliance of your provision [ITT Criterion C3.4](#).

If you have any queries please contact [itt.accreditation@education.gov.uk](mailto:itt.accreditation@education.gov.uk).

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