



Department  
for Education

# **Induction for early career teachers (England)**

**Statutory guidance for appropriate  
bodies, headteachers, school staff and  
governing bodies**

**Revised April 2023**

**To come into force on 1 September 2023**

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## About this guidance

This is statutory guidance from the Department for Education. This means that those involved in managing statutory induction arrangements must have regard to it when carrying out their relevant duties. The guidance covers those settings which are both required to or choose to offer induction to their early career teachers (ECTs). The term 'early career teacher' refers to a newly qualified teacher in their first or second year of induction.

## Expiry or review date

This guidance updates and replaces the previous statutory guidance version published in 2021 which accompanied the Education (Induction Arrangements for School Teachers) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). This guidance will be kept under review and updated when necessary.

## What legislation does this guidance refer to?

- Sections 135A, 135B and 141C(1)(b), of the Education Act 2002 and The Education (Induction Arrangements for School Teachers) (England) Regulations 2012 as amended.

## Who is this guidance for?

This guidance is for:

- appropriate bodies – teaching school hubs; local authorities (subject to para 2.24); and other organisations determined by the Secretary of State who can act in this role;
- headteachers/principals, teachers and governing bodies in all maintained schools, independent schools, academies<sup>1</sup> and free schools; and
- staff in other settings in which induction can be served – further education (FE) colleges; sixth-form colleges; British schools overseas (BSOs); nursery schools; and pupil referral units (PRUs).

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<sup>1</sup> Throughout this document 'academies' includes 16–19 and alternative provision academies.

## Key points

- All qualified teachers who are employed in a relevant school<sup>2</sup> in England must, by law, have completed an induction period satisfactorily, subject to specified exemptions (see Annex A).
- Statutory induction is not a legal requirement to teach in FE or the independent sector, academies, free schools and BSOs, but may be served in these settings.
- Early Career Framework (ECF) based training is expected to be embedded as a central aspect of induction; it is not an additional training programme.
- An appropriate body has the main quality assurance role within the induction process. The appropriate body is responsible for checking that headteachers/principals have put in place an induction programme for the ECT and ensuring that this programme of support is clearly based on the ECF.
- Monitoring and support throughout induction should be sufficient so that an ECT's progress against the Teachers' Standards is not unexpected when an ECT reaches a formal assessment point.

## Summary of 2021 ECF reforms

This guidance was significantly updated in March 2021 to reflect reforms introducing an ECF-based induction. The following key changes were made:

- The term early career teacher (ECT) replaced the term newly qualified teacher (NQT).
- The standard length of induction increased from one school year to two school years (see para 2.30).
- In addition to the 10% timetable reduction that ECTs receive in their first year of induction, ECTs also receive a 5% timetable reduction in their second year of induction (see para 2.20).

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<sup>2</sup> See para 2.1 for a list of relevant schools.

- Schools are expected to deliver an induction period that is underpinned by the ECF (see para 2.40). Appropriate bodies have a role in checking that an ECF-based induction is in place (see para 5.11).
- The role of the mentor was introduced (see para 2.43). The mentor has a key role in supporting the ECT during induction and is separate to the role of the induction tutor (see para 2.45).
- There are two formal assessment points, one midway through induction, and one at the end of the induction period (see para 2.55). These are supported by regular progress reviews to monitor progress, to take place in each term where a formal assessment is not scheduled (see para 2.48).
- ECTs working part-time may, on completion of a minimum period covering but not equivalent to two full years, be able to have their induction period reduced. It is for the appropriate body to consider whether to grant a reduction and bring forward the final assessment point. This decision is only to be made in agreement with the ECT and on the basis that the ECT has met the Teachers' Standards (see para 3.5).
- The number of ad-hoc absences permitted was extended, in line with the extended length of induction (see para 3.6).

## What's new from April 2023

This guidance has been updated since the previous version (issued March 2021). The following key changes have been made:

- There will be changes to those organisations that can operate as an appropriate body.
  - From 1 September 2023, only teaching school hubs and other organisations determined by the Secretary of State will be listed as being able to act as appropriate bodies.
  - During a transitional period from 1 September 2023 until 31 August 2024, local authorities can only continue to act as appropriate bodies in a limited capacity where the local authority was acting as an appropriate body for an institution immediately before 1 September 2023 for an ECT who was

serving an induction period in that same institution immediately before 1 September 2023 (see para 2.24).

- The exemptions to a qualified teacher having satisfactorily completed an induction period to be able to be employed in a relevant school in England have been updated to reflect the changes brought about by the introduction of a new approach to recognising overseas teaching qualifications. Under this new approach, teachers from outside the United Kingdom who are awarded QTS, having made an application to do so after 1 February 2023, are required to complete induction if they have less than two years' full-time experience when they are awarded QTS. We have also updated the exemptions for teachers who complete an induction or probation period in the other parts of the United Kingdom and certain overseas territories and Crown Dependencies (see Annex A).
- Schools are expected to provide appropriate bodies with copies of all progress reviews (see paras 2.54 and 5.3).
- Where necessary the appropriate body is expected to ensure that the headteacher/principal has contacted the ECT's previous appropriate body and has obtained the necessary reports to ensure induction can be continued effectively. Where agreed with the headteacher/principal the appropriate body may contact the ECT's previous appropriate body to obtain the necessary reports (see paras 2.75 and 5.11-5.12).

In addition, the following clarifications to existing guidance have been made:

- Pre-September 2021 cohort ECTs (see paras 1.4-1.5) that on 1 September 2023 are serving an extension of their induction period decided by the appropriate body, will only need to complete the agreed extension period (see para 1.6). This will only apply to pre-September 2021 cohort ECTs who completed their three term induction before 1 September 2023, and where following their final formal assessment the appropriate body decides that an extension period is required in order to evidence meeting the Teachers' Standards (see paras 3.8-3.10).
- ECT and mentor sessions are expected to be timetabled during teaching hours. In exceptional circumstances however where schools require flexibility due to timetabling constraints, mentoring may take place outside of teaching hours but should always be scheduled within contracted time (see para 2.44).



- When scheduling or requesting progress reviews, induction tutors and appropriate bodies are expected to consider when in the term an ECT started their induction, if there are overlaps with a formal assessment for part-time ECTs and if an ECT is absent at the point of a progress review (see paras 2.48 and 2.49).
- In exceptional circumstances where an interim assessment cannot be completed before the ECT leaves post (for example in situations where an absent ECT subsequently leaves their post without returning) the induction tutor or headteacher/principal is still expected to complete an interim assessment report and provide a copy to the ECT and appropriate body (see para 2.63).
- Where the appropriate body chooses to work with partners, the appropriate body itself must retain full responsibility for regulatory duties and powers including; overseeing induction; making direct decisions in every case concerning the suitability of post and institutions, taking appropriate action where schools are not complying with requirements or actions taken to support the ECT's progress and; maintaining oversight of and accountability for all activities undertaken by third parties (see para 5.9).

## Section 1: Introduction

### Purpose of induction

- 1.1. Statutory induction is the bridge between initial teacher training and a career in teaching. It combines a structured programme of development, support and professional dialogue, underpinned by the Early Career Framework, with monitoring and an assessment of performance against the Teachers' Standards (see para 1.9). The programme should support the early career teacher and provide them with the necessary training to ensure that they can demonstrate that their performance against the Teachers' Standards is satisfactory by the end of the period. Induction should provide a foundation for ECTs and equip them with the tools to be an effective and successful teacher.

### The statutory framework

- 1.2. The statutory provisions which underpin this guidance are sections 135A-C and 141C(1)(b) of the Education Act 2002, and the Education (Induction Arrangements for School Teachers) (England) Regulations 2012, as amended, (hereafter referred to as 'the Regulations').
- 1.3. This guidance explains the provisions and helps individuals to comply with the 2012 Regulations, which came into effect on 1 September 2012, and which have been amended on a number of occasions since. The guidance is not a complete and authoritative statement of the law, but anyone exercising any function under the Regulations must have regard to the guidance.

### Transitional arrangements

- 1.4. The Education (Induction Arrangements for School Teachers) (England) Regulations 2012, as amended with effect from 1 September 2021, extend induction from one year to two years. This will apply to ECTs who start their induction on or after 1 September 2021.

- 1.5. ECTs who, on 1 September 2021, had started but not completed their induction, hereafter referred to as ‘the pre-September 2021 cohort’ have until 1 September 2023 to complete induction within three terms<sup>3</sup>.
- 1.6. If an ECT in the pre-September 2021 cohort has concluded their three-term induction before 1 September 2023 but the appropriate body decides that an extension period is required in order to evidence meeting the Teachers’ Standards which takes the ECT past 1 September 2023, they will only need to complete the agreed period of extension (see paras 3.8 - 3.10).
- 1.7. Where possible, schools should have regard to this amended statutory guidance in relation to ECTs who began their statutory induction before 1 September 2021. For example, where possible these ECTs should have an ECF-based induction and a mentor for the remainder of their one-year induction. This is to be decided by the headteacher and appropriate body given what is most appropriate in the circumstances and considering what proportion of the induction period remains to be served.
- 1.8. After 1 September 2023, when the transition period ends, all ECTs (with the exception of those in the pre-September 2021 cohort who have already concluded their three-term induction, as set out in para 1.6) will be required to complete a two-year induction period. These ECTs should not restart induction, but rather complete the remaining period of a two-year induction. It is expected that they will be able to access ECF support and entitlements for the remainder of their induction.

## **The relevant standards**

- 1.9. The Teachers’ Standards will be used to assess an ECT’s performance at the end of their induction period. The decision about whether an ECT’s performance against the relevant standards is satisfactory upon completion of induction should take into account the ECT’s work context and must be made on the basis of what can be reasonably expected of an ECT by the end of their induction period within

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<sup>3</sup> The pre-September 2021 cohort should continue to have regard to previous statutory guidance, last revised in April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/induction-for-newly-qualified-teachers-nqts>

the context of the standards. Judgements should reflect the expectation that ECTs have effectively consolidated their initial teacher training (ITT) and demonstrated their ability to meet the Teachers' Standards consistently over a sustained period in their practice. The ECF is not and should not be used as an assessment tool.

## **Requirement to complete an induction period**

- 1.10. Subject to the exemptions listed in Annex A (see Schedule 1 of the Regulations), a qualified teacher cannot be employed as a teacher in a relevant school in England unless they have satisfactorily completed an induction period in accordance with the Regulations and this guidance. While ECTs are encouraged to start their induction as soon as possible after gaining qualified teacher status (QTS), there is no set time limit for starting or completing an induction period. An ECT's QTS cannot be lost or affected by the length of time it takes them to complete induction.
- 1.11. There is no legal requirement to satisfactorily complete an induction period if an ECT intends to work solely in the independent sector, an academy, a free school, a BSO, an independent nursery school or an FE institution. However, it may be possible for an ECT to serve a statutory induction period in such settings as set out in this guidance.

## **Exemptions to the requirement to serve an induction period**

- 1.12. Annex A provides information on those categories of qualified teachers who are exempt from the requirement to satisfactorily complete a statutory induction period in order to be employed as a teacher in a relevant school.

## **Early career teachers may only serve one induction period**

- 1.13. An ECT has only one chance to complete statutory induction. An ECT who has completed induction and is judged to have failed to meet the Teachers' Standards at the end of their induction period, is not permitted to repeat induction (although they may appeal against the decision: see paras 4.9–4.10). While such an ECT does not lose their QTS, they cannot be employed lawfully as a teacher in a relevant school, including any post where they would carry out specified work.

Their name is included on the list of persons, held by the Teaching Regulation Agency, who have failed to satisfactorily complete an induction period.

## Section 2: The induction process

### Institutions in which induction may be served

2.1. The Regulations specify that induction can be served in the following institutions:

- a relevant school in England – this includes: a maintained school; a non-maintained special school; a maintained nursery school; a nursery school that forms part of a maintained school; a local authority maintained children’s centre; and a pupil referral unit (PRU)
- a non-maintained nursery school
- an independent school in England; academies; free schools; 16–19 academies; alternative provision academies; and city technology colleges or an independent nursery school subject to the circumstances set out in para 2.4<sup>4</sup>
- a further education (FE) institution, including a sixth-form college, in the circumstances set out in para 2.3
- an independent school overseas which:
  - has been inspected by a DfE-accredited inspectorate within the last six years against the Standards for Inspection of British Schools Overseas; and
  - has satisfactorily met all of those standards/categories; and
  - is a member of an organisation which the DfE has determined may represent such schools
- a school or FE institution in Wales in which an induction period may be served under Welsh regulations

### Induction in a maintained, non-maintained or independent nursery school, or maintained children’s centre

2.2. ECTs employed and completing a period or part-period of statutory induction in these settings must have a headteacher/principal who can make the

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<sup>4</sup> Independent schools, academies, free schools, and British schools overseas are not required to offer statutory induction to their ECTs, but if they choose to do so must adhere to the regulations and have regard to the statutory guidance.

recommendation against the Teachers' Standards and should teach classes of pupils predominantly aged three and over. The headteacher/principal should ensure that the ECT's post is suitable for induction (see paras 2.18–2.19).

## **Induction in further education institutions (including sixth-form colleges and 16-19 academies)**

2.3. An FE institution, sixth-form college or 16–19 academy wishing to offer an ECT a post in which to serve a statutory induction period is expected to:

- ensure that normally no more than 10% of the ECT's teaching in the FE institution is devoted to teaching classes predominantly consisting of pupils aged 19 and over;
- enable the ECT to develop a sound knowledge and understanding of day-to-day practices and the role of a teacher in a school; ECTs should spend the equivalent of at least ten days teaching children of compulsory school age in a school during their induction; and
- make every effort to provide the ECT with up to a further 15 days' experience in a school setting.

## **Institutions where induction cannot be served**

2.4. Workplaces which cannot offer statutory induction are:

- a secure training centre
- a secure children's home
- a school requiring special measures (i.e. one which is eligible for intervention under section 62 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006), except in cases where Ofsted have judged a school, or part of a school, to be suitable to host induction (see paras 2.5–2.6)
- an FE institution where, following an Ofsted inspection, it is reported that the overall effectiveness of the institution, or part of its education or training, has been judged to be inadequate (category 4) except in cases where Ofsted has judged the institution or part of the institution to be suitable to host induction (see para 2.7)

## **Where induction may be served or continued in a maintained school in special measures or an FE institution which has been judged inadequate**

- 2.5. Relevant schools and academies can continue to host induction where a teacher was employed on an employment-based initial teacher training scheme in the school prior to gaining QTS, or had already started an induction period in the setting, before it entered special measures.
- 2.6. Generally, once a setting has entered special measures it is not permitted to recruit any new ECTs. However, an Ofsted Inspector may make a judgement on whether the setting is suitable for the purposes of induction. In some cases, particularly with larger schools, Ofsted may give permission for ECT appointments within specific departments or subject departments of the school.
- 2.7. ECTs already serving induction in an FE institution where the overall effectiveness of the institution, or part of its education and training, have been judged to be inadequate (category 4) at the time of inspection, can continue to serve induction. FE institutions judged as inadequate, or where leadership and management is judged inadequate, should have a certification in writing from the Chief Inspector that the institution, or the part of such an institution in which the person in question teaches, is fit for the purpose of providing supervision and training during an induction period.
- 2.8. In all cases, the appropriate body should be satisfied that such circumstances will not unfairly compromise the ECT's ability to complete induction successfully.

## **Checking a teacher is eligible to start an induction period**

- 2.9. Before the ECT takes up post the headteacher/principal must undertake pre-employment checks, which must be verified by the appropriate body upon registration (see para 2.10).

## **Qualified teacher status**

- 2.10. An ECT cannot undertake statutory induction (or a period of employment counting towards induction) unless they have been awarded QTS. Headteachers/principals



and appropriate bodies must check with the Teaching Regulation Agency that the individual holds QTS.

## **Start date for induction**

- 2.11. The ECT must be registered with an appropriate body before the start of the induction (see para 2.27).
- 2.12. The start date for induction will be determined by the appropriate body and should be agreed in advance with the headteacher/principal and ECT.
- 2.13. The start date for induction should be the date when the ECT's induction programme formally commences. This may be a different date from when the ECT's contract starts.

## **Eligibility to carry out short-term (less than one term) supply teaching**

- 2.14. A qualified teacher who gained QTS and who has not completed an induction period, can undertake short-term supply work of less than one term in a relevant school for a maximum period of 5 years from the point of award of QTS. This is a fixed time limit with no discretion to extend. Short-term supply placements of less than one term, or equivalent, cannot count towards induction, as such posts will not provide an ECT with the breadth of experience, support, and assessment necessary to enable them to demonstrate that their performance against the Teachers' Standards is satisfactory (see paras 1.9 and 2.18–2.19).
- 2.15. The headteacher/principal or supply agency is responsible for ensuring that a teacher who has not satisfactorily completed an induction period is eligible to carry out short-term supply work.
- 2.16. It is not possible to backdate the start of an induction period if a short-term supply contract is extended so that it lasts for one term or longer. However, an induction programme must be put in place immediately if it becomes clear that the extended contract will continue for at least a term.
- 2.17. An ECT can work part-time as a short-term supply teacher, while concurrently serving induction in another part-time post after the five-year limit has expired. However, the short-term supply post will not count towards induction.

## A suitable post for induction

2.18. In order for the ECT to serve induction the headteacher/principal and appropriate body must first agree that the post is suitable for this purpose. The headteacher/principal of the institution in which an ECT is serving an induction period, and the appropriate body, are jointly responsible for ensuring that the supervision and training of the ECT meets their development needs. The duties assigned to the ECT, and the conditions under which they work, should be such as to facilitate a fair and effective assessment of the ECT's conduct and efficiency as a teacher against the Teachers' Standards. A suitable post is expected to:

- have a headteacher/principal in post who is able to make a recommendation about whether the ECT's performance against the Teachers' Standards is satisfactory;
- have prior agreement with an appropriate body to act in this role to quality assure the induction process;
- provide the ECT with an ECF-based induction programme;
- provide the ECT with the necessary employment tasks and experience of teaching whole classes, as well as with the necessary support to enable them to demonstrate satisfactory performance against the Teachers' Standards throughout and by the end of the induction period;
- include the appointment of an induction tutor who is expected to hold QTS;
- include the appointment of a designated mentor who is expected to hold QTS;
- provide the ECT with a reduced timetable to enable them to undertake activities in their induction programme (see paras 2.20-2.21);
- not make unreasonable demands upon the ECT;
- not normally demand teaching outside the age range and/or subject(s) for which the ECT has been employed to teach;
- not present the ECT, on a day-to-day basis, with discipline problems that are unreasonably demanding for the setting;
- involve the ECT regularly teaching the same class(es);

- involve similar planning, teaching and assessment processes to those in which other teachers working in similar substantive posts in the institution are engaged in; and
- not involve additional non-teaching responsibilities without the provision of appropriate preparation and support (see para 2.39).

2.19. In addition, the governing body must be satisfied that the institution has the capacity to support the ECT and that the headteacher/principal is fulfilling their responsibilities.

## **Ensuring a reduced timetable**

2.20. In a relevant school, the headteacher/principal must ensure that the ECT has a reduced timetable. In the first year (terms 1-3, or equivalent for part-time ECTs) of induction an ECT must not teach more than 90% of the timetable of the school's existing teachers on the main pay range and in the second year (terms 4-6, or equivalent for part-time ECTs) of induction must not teach more than 95%. This time off timetable should be used to specifically enable ECTs to undertake activities in their induction programme.

2.21. This is in addition to the timetable reduction in respect of planning, preparation and assessment time (PPA) that all teachers receive. ECTs in independent schools, academies and free schools, BSOs, independent nursery schools and FE colleges must also have a reduced timetable on a comparable basis.

## **Determining the appropriate body**

2.22. Independent quality assurance of statutory induction, through the role of the appropriate body, is important both for ensuring that schools provide adequate support for their ECTs, and that their assessment is fair and consistent across all institutions.

2.23. An ECT cannot start their induction until their appropriate body has been agreed. In the absence of another body acting as appropriate body for a school, the teaching school hub for the area in which the school is situated should be asked to be the appropriate body for that school.

2.24. The following organisations can act as the appropriate body:

- A teaching school hub (subject to the conditions outlined in para 2.25 below)
- A local authority with which the school reaches agreement (From 1 September 2023 local authorities will no longer be listed as an appropriate body). From 1 September 2023 until 31 August 2024, local authorities can only continue to act as appropriate bodies in a limited capacity where the local authority was acting as an appropriate body for an institution immediately before 1 September 2023 for an ECT who was serving an induction period in that same institution immediately before 1 September 2023.

In addition to the above list, an appropriate body may also be an organisation determined for this purpose by the Secretary of State. These organisations currently are:

- National Teacher Accreditation (NTA) (From 1 September 2024 NTA will no longer operate as an appropriate body)
- The Independent Schools Teacher Induction Panel (ISTIP) (for their members and associate or additional members only)

## **Conditions for teaching school hubs carrying out the appropriate body role**

2.25. Teaching school hubs acting as appropriate bodies are subject to the following conditions:

- A teaching school hub that is an accredited ITT provider cannot be the appropriate body for an ECT for whom it recommended that the award of QTS should be made; and
- A teaching school hub cannot be the appropriate body for an ECT whom it employs, or who has served any part of their induction at that school.

## **Charging by the appropriate body**

2.26. The appropriate body may make reasonable charges (agreed in advance), not exceeding the cost of supplying the service as follows:

- To any maintained school or institution
- To an independent school; an academy; a free school; a city technology college; a BSO; an independent nursery school; or a further education institution to which it is supplying the service

## **Registering the ECT with the appropriate body**

2.27. Once an ECT has been appointed, the headteacher/principal must notify the appropriate body in advance of the ECT taking up post. Failure to do so may delay the start of the induction period.

## **Named contact at the appropriate body**

2.28. At registration, the appropriate body should provide the ECT with a named contact with whom they may raise any concerns about their induction programme that they are unable to resolve. This person should not be directly involved in monitoring or supporting the ECT or in making decisions about satisfactory completion of induction.

## **Informing the Teaching Regulation Agency of ECT appointments**

2.29. Appropriate bodies should inform the Teaching Regulation Agency of any ECTs who start an induction period or who have taken up a post in which to continue their induction.

## **Determining the length of the induction period**

2.30. The length of the induction period an ECT is required to serve, whether the teaching post in which they are doing so is part-time or full-time, is the full-time equivalent of two school years. This usually consists of six school terms, divided into two periods each consisting of three school terms (see para 2.36).

2.31. The appropriate body makes the final decision about the equivalence to two school years in cases where the ECT serves induction in more than one setting or in non-standard settings such as those in the FE sector.

2.32. In some exceptional circumstances the length of an induction period may be reduced. For further details see Section 3: Special Circumstances.

## **Minimum period of continuous employment that can count towards induction**

2.33. The minimum period that can be counted towards completion of the induction period (for both full-time and part-time ECTs) is continuous employment equivalent to one term (based on an institution that operates three terms in a school year). This applies to both permanent and long-term supply teaching posts. It also reflects the need for each ECT to work in a stable environment and receive a supported and pre-planned induction programme. In addition, it is important that the ECT is in post long enough to be able to receive sufficient monitoring and feedback and prepare for a fair and reasonable assessment of their performance. It would be very difficult to do this against all of the Teachers' Standards over a period of less than one term.

2.34. For ECTs who are not employed to work within a term structure (for example those teaching certain apprenticeship courses in an FE institution) the appropriate body should decide the minimum period of employment that can count towards induction, taking into account para 2.33 above.

2.35. Any periods of induction served under the Welsh induction regulations in Wales can count towards induction in England.

## **Length of the induction period for an ECT who works part-time**

2.36. ECTs serving induction on a part-time basis at any point will need to serve the full-time equivalent (FTE) of two full school years (based on a school year of three terms). Therefore, an ECT working part-time as a 0.5 FTE will need to serve induction for four school years.

2.37. It is for the headteacher/principal and appropriate body to decide in each individual case the length of the induction period required which is fair and takes full account of the ECT's working pattern.

2.38. In cases where part-time ECTs have completed a period covering but not equivalent to a minimum of two full school years and can demonstrate that they meet the Teachers' Standards they may, taking into account para 2.37 above, be able to have their induction period reduced (see para 3.5 on reductions).

## **Monitoring, support and assessment during induction**

2.39. A suitable monitoring and support programme must be put in place for the ECT, structured to meet their professional development needs (including the development needs of part-time ECTs). This is expected to include:

- a programme of training that supports the ECT to understand and apply the knowledge and skills set out in the Early Career Framework's evidence ('learn that') statements and practice ('learn how to') statements;
- regular one to one mentoring sessions from a designated mentor who is expected to hold QTS and has the time and ability to carry out the role effectively;
- support and guidance from a designated induction tutor who is expected to hold QTS and has the time and ability to carry out the role effectively;
- observation of the ECT's teaching with written feedback provided;
- professional reviews of progress conducted by the induction tutor to set and review development targets against the Teachers' Standards; and
- ECT's observation of experienced teachers either in the ECT's own institution or in another institution where effective practice has been identified.

## **Early Career Framework<sup>5</sup> based training**

2.40. The headteacher is expected to ensure that ECTs receive a programme of training that enables the ECT to understand and apply the knowledge and skills set out in each of the ECF evidence ('learn that') statements and practice ('learn how to')

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<sup>5</sup> Early Career Framework available at : <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-career-framework>

statements. Early Career Framework-based training is expected to be embedded as a central aspect of induction; it is not an additional training programme.

2.41. There are three approaches schools can choose from to enable the delivery of an ECF based induction. It is up to the headteacher to choose the approach that best suits the needs of their ECTs and mentors. The three approaches are:

- **A funded provider-led programme** - Schools can choose to work with providers accredited by the Department for Education who will design and deliver a programme of face-to-face and online training to ECTs and their mentors. This programme is funded by the Department for Education.
- **Schools deliver their own training using DfE accredited materials and resources** - Schools use freely available DfE accredited materials<sup>6</sup>, which includes ready to use materials and resources for new teachers and mentors, to deliver their own ECT and mentor support. These materials have been accredited by the Department for Education and quality assured by the Education Endowment Foundation.
- **Schools design and deliver their own two-year induction programme for ECTs based on the ECF.**

## Appointment of an Induction Tutor

2.42. The headteacher/principal should identify a person to act as the ECT's induction tutor, to provide regular monitoring and support, and coordination of assessment. The induction tutor is expected to hold QTS and have the necessary skills and knowledge to work successfully in this role and be able to assess the ECT's progress against the Teachers' Standards. This is a very important element of the induction process and the induction tutor must be given sufficient time to carry out the role effectively and to meet the needs of the ECT. The induction tutor will need to be able to make rigorous and fair judgements about the ECT's progress in relation to the Teachers' Standards. They will need to be able to recognise when early action is needed in the case of an ECT who is experiencing difficulties. It may, in some circumstances, be appropriate for the headteacher/principal to be

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<sup>6</sup> Materials available at: <https://support-for-early-career-teachers.education.gov.uk/>



the induction tutor. The induction tutor is a separate role to that of mentor (see para 2.45).

## **Appointment of a mentor**

- 2.43. The headteacher/principal should identify a person to act as the ECT's mentor, to provide regular mentoring. The mentor is expected to hold QTS and have the necessary skills and knowledge to work successfully in this role. Mentoring is a very important element of the induction process and the mentor is expected to be given adequate time to carry out the role effectively and to meet the needs of the ECT. This includes attending regular mentoring sessions and mentor training where appropriate.
- 2.44. ECT and mentor sessions are expected to be timetabled during teaching hours as schools are funded to cover the time off timetable. The headteacher/principal and appropriate body are expected to ensure that mentors are given sufficient time to carry out the role effectively and meet the needs of their ECTs. In exceptional circumstances where schools require flexibility due to timetabling constraints, mentoring may take place outside of teaching hours but should always be scheduled within contracted time.
- 2.45. The mentor and the induction tutor are two discrete roles with differing responsibilities and it is expected that these roles should be held by different individuals. In exceptional circumstances it may be necessary for the headteacher to designate a single teacher to fulfil both roles, which may be the headteacher/principal themselves. Where this is the case the headteacher should ensure that the induction tutor understands that they are fulfilling two discrete roles and that adequate safeguards are put in place to ensure that the mentoring support offered to the ECT is not conflated with assessment of the ECT against the Teachers' Standards.

## **Observation of the ECT's teaching practice**

- 2.46. An ECT's teaching is expected to be observed at regular intervals throughout their induction period to facilitate a fair and effective assessment of the ECT's teaching practice, conduct and efficiency against the Teachers' Standards. Observations of

the ECT may be undertaken by the induction tutor or another suitable person from inside or outside the institution.

2.47. It is also expected that:

- the observer holds QTS;
- the ECT and the observer meet to review any teaching that has been observed, with arrangements for post-observation review meetings made in advance;
- feedback from the observation is provided in a prompt manner and is constructive, with a brief written record made on each occasion; and
- any written record will indicate where any development needs have been identified.

## **Professional progress reviews of the ECT**

2.48. The induction tutor is expected to review the ECT's progress against the Teachers' Standards throughout the induction period, with progress reviews taking place in each term where a formal assessment (see paras 2.55–2.61) is not scheduled. For ECTs serving induction on a part-time basis this means progress reviews are also expected to take place each term (based on an institution that operates three terms in a school year), regardless of their working patterns. This is to ensure that part time ECTs on low FTE still receive regular reviews of their progress against the standards and that support is put in place early where unsatisfactory progress occurs.

2.49. When scheduling or requesting progress reviews, induction tutors and appropriate bodies are expected to consider:

- When in the term an ECT started their induction. An ECT who joined halfway through term one is expected to have a progress review by halfway through term two (this applies to both full-time and part-time ECTs).
- Where, due to part-time working patterns, a progress review and formal assessment fall within a period of less than one term. In these circumstances the ECT should only be required to do the formal assessment.

- Where an ECT is absent at the point a progress review is scheduled. In these circumstances, any outstanding progress review is expected to be rescheduled when the ECT returns.
- 2.50. Progress reviews are expected to be informed by existing evidence of the ECT's teaching and to be conducted with sufficient detail to ensure that there is nothing unexpected for the ECT when it comes to their formal assessment.
- 2.51. Progress reviews are not formal assessments and there is no requirement for ECTs to create evidence specifically to inform a progress review. ECTs are expected, nonetheless, to engage with the process and provide copies of existing evidence as agreed with the induction tutor.
- 2.52. A written record of each progress review is expected to be retained and provided to the ECT after each meeting, with the record clearly stating whether the ECT is on track to successfully complete induction, briefly summarising evidence collected by the induction tutor and stating the agreed development targets. It is also expected that objectives are reviewed and revised in relation to the Teachers' Standards and the needs and strengths of the individual ECT.
- 2.53. Where the induction tutor is not the headteacher, it is expected that they also update the headteacher on the ECT's progress after each progress review.
- 2.54. It is expected that the induction tutor notifies the appropriate body and ECT after each progress review stating whether the ECT is making satisfactory progress. Where the induction tutor believes the ECT is not making satisfactory progress (see para 4.1) it is expected they outline the plan they have put in place to assist the ECT in getting back on track. It is expected that schools maintain regular contact with the appropriate body throughout induction, keeping them apprised of the ECT's progress and providing them with copies of all progress reviews.

## **Formal assessments**

- 2.55. ECTs should have formal assessments carried out by either the headteacher/principal or the induction tutor. Mentors should not carry out formal assessments unless they are also acting as the induction tutor (see Section 5 for further information about roles and responsibilities). ECTs should receive an assessment in the final term of the first year (term 3 or equivalent for part-time

ECTs) and in the final term of the second year of induction (term 6 or equivalent for part-time ECTs). It is for institutions and ECTs to agree exactly when the assessment dates are set. Evidence used in assessments should be clear and transparent and copies of the assessment reports should be provided to the ECT and appropriate body.

- 2.56. Where an ECT is absent at the point a formal assessment is scheduled, any outstanding formal assessment should not be made until the ECT returns.
- 2.57. Evidence for assessments must be drawn from the ECT's work as a teacher during their induction. To ensure evidence gathering is not burdensome for the ECT, formal assessment meetings should be informed by evidence gathered during progress reviews and assessment periods leading up to the formal assessment. This will consist of existing documents and working documents. There is no need for the ECT to create anything new for the formal assessment, they should draw from their work as a teacher and from their induction programme. Judgements made during the induction period should relate directly to the Teachers' Standards and should not be made against the ECF (see para 1.9).
- 2.58. ECTs should be kept up to date on their progress. **There should be nothing unexpected.**
- 2.59. Formal assessment reports should be completed for both formal assessments. These reports should clearly show assessment of the ECT's performance against the Teachers' Standards at the time of the assessment.
- 2.60. The final assessment meeting is at the end of the induction period, and will form the basis of the headteacher's/principal's recommendation to the appropriate body as to whether, having completed their induction period, the ECT's performance against the Teachers' Standards is satisfactory, unsatisfactory, or whether or not an extension should be considered. This recommendation should be recorded on the final assessment report.
- 2.61. Once assessment reports have been completed, the ECT should add their comments. They should then be signed by the induction tutor, headteacher/principal and the ECT. Once signed, the ECT should be given the original and a copy sent to the appropriate body shortly after each meeting, and

within 10 working days of the final assessment meeting. These may be submitted electronically.

## **Interim assessments**

- 2.62. When an ECT leaves a post after completing one term or more in an institution but before the next formal assessment would take place, the induction tutor or headteacher/principal is expected to complete an interim assessment. This is expected to take place before the ECT leaves their post to ensure that the ECT's progress, performance, the length of induction completed and the number of days absent since the last assessment are captured. This is especially important where concerns about progress may have arisen. The information recorded on the interim assessment report will help to ensure that induction can be continued effectively in any subsequent post. This is also required if the ECT leaves during their final term of induction.
- 2.63. In exceptional circumstances where an interim assessment cannot be completed before the ECT leaves post (for example, in situations where an absent ECT subsequently leaves their post without returning) the induction tutor or headteacher/principal is still expected to complete an interim assessment report and provide a copy to the appropriate body and the ECT.

## **Raising concerns**

- 2.64. An ECT is normally expected to raise any concerns about their induction programme with their induction tutor in the first instance. If the matter is not resolved, the ECT may notify the named contact at the appropriate body (see para 2.28) who should, as soon as possible, investigate the issues raised.

## **Completing the induction period**

- 2.65. An ECT completes their induction period when they have served:
- the full-time equivalent of two standard school years (usually six terms, based on a school year of three terms); or
  - a reduced period of a minimum of one term (as agreed with the appropriate body) based on previous teaching experience (see paras 3.2– 3.4); or

- a reduced period of induction for part time teachers covering but not equivalent to a minimum of two years (as agreed with the appropriate body) (see para 3.5); or
  - an extension to that period, as a consequence of absences occurring during the period.
- 2.66. The appropriate body makes the final decision as to whether an ECT's performance against the Teachers' Standards is satisfactory, drawing on the recommendation of the headteacher/principal.
- 2.67. Within 20 working days of receiving the headteacher's/principal's recommendation, the appropriate body must decide whether the ECT:
- has performed satisfactorily against the Teachers' Standards and thereby satisfactorily completed their induction period;
  - requires an extension of the induction period; or
  - has failed to satisfactorily complete the induction period.
- 2.68. In making this decision the appropriate body must take into account the headteacher's/principal's recommendation and all available evidence including any written representations from the ECT.
- 2.69. The appropriate body must, within three working days of making the decision, make written notification of the decision to: the ECT; the headteacher/principal (in whose institution the ECT was working at the end of their induction); and the employer (if other than the appropriate body itself). They must also notify the Teaching Regulation Agency and should do so within three working days in the case of decisions to fail or extend the ECT's induction, and via the termly return for other notifications.
- 2.70. If the appropriate body decides to extend the period of induction or that the ECT has failed to complete their induction period satisfactorily, they must inform the ECT of their right to appeal against this decision, with the name and address of the Appeals Body (the Teaching Regulation Agency), and the deadline for submitting an appeal. The ECT must notify the Teaching Regulation Agency that they wish to appeal the decision within 20 working days, after which the right of appeal expires except in exceptional circumstances.

- 2.71. Failure to complete the induction period satisfactorily means that the ECT is no longer eligible to be employed as a teacher in a maintained school, a maintained nursery school, a non-maintained special school or a pupil referral unit. However, this does not prevent them from teaching in other settings where statutory induction is not mandatory.
- 2.72. An ECT working in a relevant school who has failed induction must be dismissed within ten working days of them giving notice that they do not intend to exercise their right to appeal, or from when the time limit for making an appeal expires without an appeal being brought. If the ECT's appeal is heard, and they have been judged as having failed induction, the employer should dismiss the ECT within ten working days of being told of the outcome of the hearing.
- 2.73. The Teaching Regulation Agency must ensure that the name of the person who has failed induction is included on the list of persons who have failed to satisfactorily complete an induction period and notify them of their inclusion. This must only be done once the time limit for making an appeal against the decision has expired or following dismissal of such an appeal.

## **Record keeping/retention**

- 2.74. The appropriate body is responsible for keeping a record of each ECT it has registered for induction. It should also monitor the return of progress review outcomes and assessment reports and contact the institution concerned when these documents have not been submitted or signed on time. Records should state the date an ECT starts a period of employment counting towards induction, how much of the period has been completed, changes in working patterns and any absences. These should be noted when submitting progress review records and on assessment reports at the end of each formal assessment period (see paras 2.48-2.61). The headteacher/principal should notify the appropriate body if an ECT leaves the institution before completing the period. The appropriate body will then notify the Teaching Regulation Agency.
- 2.75. Where an ECT has already completed part of their induction period in another institution, the headteacher/principal should contact the ECT's previous appropriate body to obtain copies of any progress review records or assessment

reports (including any interim assessments). They should establish how much induction time remains to be served and alert the ECT's current appropriate body to any concerns that have been raised about the ECT's progress by previous employers. The current appropriate body is expected to ensure that the headteacher/principal has contacted the ECT's previous appropriate body and has obtained the necessary reports to ensure induction can be continued effectively. Where agreed with the headteacher/principal the current appropriate body may contact the ECT's previous appropriate body to obtain the necessary reports.

- 2.76. The Teaching Regulation Agency keeps records of teachers who have completed or part-completed induction. Details of teachers who have passed or failed induction are available to employers through the [Employer Access Online service](#). As the Appeals Body, the Teaching Regulation Agency also keeps records of all appeals.
- 2.77. It is recommended that assessment reports are retained by both the institution and the appropriate body for a minimum of six years. If there are reasons for the institution and the appropriate body to retain records for longer than six years, they may do so as long as they comply with the Data Protection Act. ECTs are advised to retain the original copies of their own assessment reports.

## **Confidentiality and data protection**

- 2.78. Headteachers/principals, induction tutors, appropriate bodies and the Teaching Regulation Agency should ensure that arrangements are in place to facilitate the effective protection and secure transfer of data.
- 2.79. The induction process and the assessments generated from it should be treated with confidentiality at all times and should not be shared with anyone not directly involved in the induction process. It should be made clear to anyone viewing such documents that they are confidential and ECTs must be made aware of who has been granted access to their assessments.
- 2.80. The governing body can request general reports on the progress of an ECT on a termly basis but are not automatically entitled to have access to an individual's assessment reports. The exception to this would be when an ECT has raised concerns about a particular issue/assessment via the institution's grievance



procedures, which would in many cases require the governing body to investigate the situation. If at any stage the governing body has questions or concerns about the quality of the institution's induction arrangements and the roles and responsibilities of staff involved in the process, they can seek guidance from the appropriate body.

## Section 3: Special circumstances

3.1. This section explains the regulations that apply on a less regular basis. It covers:

- reducing an induction period in recognition of previous teaching experience and exceptional circumstances;
- extending an induction period;
- short-term supply teaching and ECTs;
- ECTs employed simultaneously in two or more institutions;
- determining completion of induction in the event of loss of data/incorrect data; and
- special provisions applying to a qualified teacher who has not passed the numeracy skills test on completion of the induction period (Cohort 1).

### Reducing the induction period

3.2. Even though some teachers already have significant teaching experience when they enter the maintained sector for the first time, they are still required to serve statutory induction. In such cases, appropriate bodies have discretion to reduce the length of the induction period to a minimum of one term (based on a school year of three terms) to recognise this experience.

3.3. In making such a decision they should take account of advice from the headteacher/principal and must gain the agreement of the teacher concerned. If a teacher wishes to serve the full induction period they must be permitted to do so. The appropriate body may wish to consider what evidence of previous experience and performance they require in reaching their decision, including performance management documentation from previous teaching employment. Reductions should only be considered where an ECT has extensive prior experience of teaching whole-classes to the Teachers' Standards. Examples of when this discretion might be considered appropriate include a teacher who has taught in the independent sector or who has gained QTS via the assessment-only route<sup>7</sup>. In

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<sup>7</sup> The assessment-only route to QTS allows an individual with a degree to demonstrate that they already meet all the relevant standards without the need for any further training by presenting detailed evidence to an accredited and approved training provider and by having their teaching assessed in a school.

all cases, if a reduced induction is considered appropriate when determining the length by which the induction is to be reduced appropriate bodies are expected to consider the remaining progress that is to be made against the Teachers' Standards.

- 3.4. Where the length of induction is reduced to one term, only the final assessment meeting and report (see paras 2.60–2.61) will be required with the headteacher's/principal's recommendation on whether the teacher's performance against the Teachers' Standards is satisfactory or if an extension would be appropriate. The appropriate body will then follow the induction process in the normal way (see paras 2.65–2.73).
- 3.5. Separately, ECTs serving induction on a part-time basis may, on completion of a minimum period covering but not equivalent to two full years, be able to have their induction period reduced. After the minimum period, at the point when enough evidence has been gathered that the ECT's performance against the Teachers' Standards is satisfactory the headteacher/principal may consult with the appropriate body on whether a reduced induction is appropriate. It is for the appropriate body to consider whether to grant a reduction and bring forward the final assessment point. When considering whether to reduce a part-time ECT's induction, the appropriate body is expected to consult the headteacher/principal and must gain the agreement of the teacher concerned. A reduction, in these circumstances, should only be made on the basis that the ECT has met the Teachers' Standards.

### **Extending the induction period prior to completion to account for ad hoc absences**

- 3.6. The induction period is automatically extended prior to completion when an ECT's absences per year of induction (or equivalent for part-time teachers) total 30 days or more (with the exception of statutory maternity leave, statutory paternity leave, shared parental leave, statutory adoption leave, or parental bereavement leave (see para 3.7). In these circumstances the relevant year of induction must be extended by the aggregate total of days absent. If the ECT is unable to serve the extension in the same school/institution, the minimum period of employment of one term or equivalent must be served in a new school/institution.

## **Extension of the induction period prior to completion due to statutory maternity, paternity, adoption, shared parental, or parental bereavement leave**

3.7. ECTs who take statutory maternity leave, statutory paternity leave, statutory adoption leave, shared parental leave, or parental bereavement leave while serving their induction period or an extension to their induction period may decide whether their induction should be extended (or further extended) to reflect the number of days absent for this purpose. Any outstanding assessments should not be made until the ECT returns to work and has had the opportunity to decide whether to extend (or further extend) induction, and any such request must be granted. If an ECT chooses not to extend (or further extend) the induction period, their performance will still be assessed against the Teachers' Standards. It is, therefore, recommended that an individual in this situation seeks advice before making such a decision.

## **Extension of the induction period after induction has concluded**

3.8. The appropriate body has the option, when making its decision at the end of the induction period (see paras 2.66–2.70), to extend the period where this can be justified. It determines the length of the extension, the procedure for assessments during it, and the recommendation at its end. The appropriate body may decide to extend where there is insufficient evidence on which a decision can be based or where it would be unreasonable to expect the ECT to have demonstrated satisfactory performance against the Teachers' Standards for other reasons.

These might include:

- personal crises;
- illness;
- disability;
- issues around the support during induction; or
- where there is insufficient evidence within induction documentation for a decision to be made about whether the ECT's performance against the standards is satisfactory.

- 3.9. An ECT may be unable to, or choose not to, serve an extension in the same school/institution in which they completed their original induction period. They will then need to find another post in which to complete the extension to their induction period. In these circumstances the minimum period of employment, of one term, must still be served as the ECT will be working in a new institution.
- 3.10. If an ECT leaves an institution having started but before completing their extension, the headteacher/principal should complete an interim assessment report and notify the appropriate body.

### **Induction periods extended in Wales (before or after completion)**

- 3.11. When an extension is granted under Welsh regulations and the ECT is subsequently employed at an institution in England, the period is treated as having been extended under English regulations. These ECTs will be expected to complete the remainder of a two-year statutory induction, unless they are eligible under transitional arrangements to complete the remainder of their one-year induction (see paras 1.4–1.8).

### **Data loss/error – determining whether induction has been satisfactorily completed**

- 3.12. In exceptional circumstances, where records have either been lost or are in error through no fault of the teacher concerned, the appropriate body will decide whether the teacher can be deemed to be exempt from induction on the basis that the teachers has met the Teachers' Standards (see para 24 of Schedule 1 of the Regulations). Each case must be considered on its own merits.
- 3.13. The appropriate body will want to ensure that every avenue has been explored to recover the missing data or identify an audit trail before making such a decision. The appropriate body, in reaching its decision, should consider the strength of evidence that an error has occurred or that records are missing or lost. It should also take into account evidence that the teacher has demonstrated they have performed satisfactorily against the Teachers' Standards on the basis of evidence from the teacher's previous performance management reviews, and where

appropriate, the most recent performance management review statements. If in doubt, the appropriate body may wish to consider other options such as a full or reduced period of induction.

## **ECTs completing induction in more than one institution simultaneously**

3.14. In all cases where induction is served in more than one institution simultaneously, one headteacher/principal acts as the lead headteacher/principal. The lead headteacher/principal:

- Is expected to ensure that they are satisfied that all posts are suitable for induction (see paras 2.18–2.19), and provide a fair opportunity for the ECT to demonstrate that they have performed satisfactorily against all of the Teachers' Standards by the end of the induction period;
- is responsible for consulting with and gathering evidence from the other headteachers/principals;
- should also, in the case of unattached teachers<sup>8</sup>, where appropriate, consult the Head of Service<sup>9</sup> from the local authority; and
- having coordinated the evidence, make the recommendation to the appropriate body on whether the ECT has performed satisfactorily against all of the Teachers' Standards. Methods of sharing information and gathering evidence for progress reviews, classroom observation and formal assessments should be clear to all those involved in the process, including the ECT.

3.15. In all cases where induction is served in more than one institution simultaneously, it is essential that one appropriate body takes the lead in making the decision, following the recommendation from the lead headteacher/principal.

3.16. For ECTs serving induction in more than one institution simultaneously, the separate contracts are added together to calculate the number of days in which induction must be served, and recorded by the lead headteacher/principal. Each

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<sup>8</sup> Unattached teacher' means a teacher employed by a local authority who is:  
(a) not attached to a particular school, or  
(b) employed otherwise than at a school.

<sup>9</sup> The Head of Service is the person at the local authority responsible for the line management of the ECT.

separate contract of employment must meet the minimum period criteria (see paras 2.33–2.35).

### **Special provisions applying to teachers who gained QTS between 1 May 2000 and 30 April 2001 (Cohort 1)**

- 3.17. Teachers who gained QTS in England between 1 May 2000 and 30 April 2001 are known as Cohort 1 teachers. Previously these teachers had to additionally pass the numeracy skills test before they could complete induction satisfactorily and be employed as a teacher in a relevant school. This requirement was removed on 25 June 2020.
- 3.18. Cohort 1 teachers who have completed induction but did not pass a numeracy skills test before 25 June 2020 may contact the appropriate body, with any written representations or other evidence, who can decide if they have satisfactorily completed other elements of their induction. If they have not completed all other elements of the induction, they can continue with their induction without the need to pass a numeracy skills test.

## Section 4: Unsatisfactory progress and appeals

### Putting in place additional monitoring and support

- 4.1. Where the induction tutor determines during the progress review that the ECT is not making satisfactory progress against the Teachers' Standards, they should state this clearly within the progress review record and clearly outline the support plan they have put in place to assist the ECT in getting back on track. The induction tutor is expected to notify the appropriate body of this determination and share both the progress review record and support plan for the appropriate body to review.
- 4.2. If it becomes apparent that an ECT is not making satisfactory progress in the first formal assessment, the appropriate body should be informed, and the headteacher/principal should ensure that additional monitoring and support measures are put in place immediately. It is important that the ECT is made aware of where they need to improve their practice and given every opportunity to raise their performance. The headteacher/principal and the appropriate body should be satisfied that:
  - areas in which improvement is needed have been correctly identified;
  - appropriate objectives have been set to guide the ECT towards satisfactory performance against the Teachers' Standards; and
  - an effective support programme is in place to help the ECT improve their performance.
- 4.3. If the ECT's progress is still unsatisfactory in subsequent progress reviews following the first assessment point, induction tutors should continue to deliver progress reviews as set out above, including reviewing and revising the ECT's objectives and support plan, linking these with the Teachers' Standards and sharing with the ECT, headteacher and appropriate body.

### Action if performance is still unsatisfactory

- 4.4. Where there are still concerns about the ECT's progress between formal assessment one and two the induction tutor should explain to the ECT the



consequences of failure to complete the induction period satisfactorily and discuss fully with the ECT:

- the identified weaknesses;
- the agreed objectives previously set in relation to the requirements for the satisfactory completion of induction, updating these as necessary;
- details of additional monitoring and support put in place;
- the evidence used to inform the judgement; and
- details of the improvement plan for the next assessment period.

4.5. As with all progress reviews, the progress review record should capture the ECT's unsatisfactory performance against the Teachers' Standards and be shared with the appropriate body alongside the corresponding support plan.

4.6. The completion of the assessment report will reflect the current rate of progress and brief details of the issues discussed.

### **Action in the event of serious capability problems**

4.7. In a few particularly serious cases it may be necessary to instigate capability procedures at a stage before the end of the induction period, which may lead to dismissal before the end of the induction period. If this is the case, for as long as the ECT remains at the institution the induction process must continue in parallel with the capability procedure. The appropriate body should be informed.

4.8. Dismissal on the grounds of capability before the end of the induction period does not prevent the ECT from completing induction at another institution, as all ECTs must complete a full induction period before they can be judged to have failed induction.

### **Making an appeal against a decision by the appropriate body**

4.9. If an ECT fails induction, or has their induction extended, the appropriate body must advise the ECT of their right to appeal, who to appeal to, and the time limit for doing so. In England, the Appeals Body is the Teaching Regulation Agency,

which acts on behalf of the Secretary of State. For induction completed in Wales, the Appeals Body is the Education Workforce Council.

4.10. Further guidance about the appeals process is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/induction-appeals-procedures>

## Section 5: Roles and responsibilities

5.1. This section summarises the roles and responsibilities of those involved in the induction process.

### The ECT

5.2. The ECT is expected to:

- provide evidence that they have QTS and are eligible to start induction;
- meet with their induction tutor to discuss and agree priorities for their induction programme and keep these under review;
- agree with their induction tutor how best to use their reduced timetable allowance and guarantee engagement with their ECF-based induction programme;
- provide evidence of their progress against the Teachers' Standards (see para 1.9);
- participate fully in the agreed monitoring and development programme;
- raise any concerns with their induction tutor as soon as practicable;
- consult their appropriate body named contact at an early stage if there are, or may be, difficulties in resolving issues with their tutor/within the institution;
- keep track of and participate fully in the scheduled classroom observations, progress reviews and formal assessment meetings;
- agree with their induction tutor the start and end dates of the induction period/part periods and the dates of any absences from work during any period/part period; and
- retain copies of all assessment reports.

### Headteachers and principals

5.3. The headteacher/principal is, along with the appropriate body, jointly responsible for the monitoring, support and assessment of the ECT during induction, and is expected to:

- check that the ECT has been awarded QTS;
- clarify whether the teacher needs to serve an induction period or is exempt;
- agree, in advance of the ECT starting the induction programme, which body will act as the appropriate body;
- notify the appropriate body when an ECT is taking up a post in which they will be undertaking induction;
- ensure that the requirements for a suitable post for induction are met;
- ensure the induction tutor has the ability and sufficient time to carry out their role effectively;
- ensure that the mentor has the ability and sufficient time to carry out their role effectively;
- ensure an appropriate ECF-based induction programme is in place;
- ensure the ECT's progress is reviewed regularly, including through observations of and feedback on their teaching and that progress reviews are sent to the appropriate body;
- ensure that assessments (including any interim assessments) are carried out and reports completed and sent to the appropriate body;
- maintain and retain accurate records of employment that will count towards the induction period;
- ensure that all monitoring and record keeping is done in the most streamlined and least burdensome way;
- make the governing body aware of the arrangements that have been put in place to support ECTs serving induction;
- make a recommendation to the appropriate body on whether the ECT's performance against the Teachers' Standards is satisfactory or requires an extension;
- participate appropriately in the appropriate body's quality assurance procedures; and
- retain all relevant documentation/evidence/forms on file for six years.

- 5.4. There may also be circumstances where the headteacher/principal is expected to:
- obtain interim assessments, any formal assessment and progress reviews from the ECT's previous post;
  - act early, alerting the appropriate body when necessary, in cases where an ECT may be at risk of not completing induction satisfactorily;
  - ensure third-party observation of an ECT who may be at risk of not performing satisfactorily against the Teachers' Standards;
  - notify the appropriate body as soon as absences, within each year of induction, total 30 days or more;
  - periodically inform the governing body about the institution's induction arrangements;
  - advise and agree with the appropriate body where, in exceptional cases, it may be appropriate to reduce the length of the induction period or deem that it has been satisfactorily completed;
  - consult with the appropriate body in cases where a part-time ECT has completed a minimum period covering, but not equivalent to, two school years and has met the necessary requirements, where it may be appropriate to reduce the length of the induction period;
  - provide interim assessment reports for staff moving school in between formal assessment periods; and
  - notify the appropriate body when an ECT serving induction leaves the institution.
- 5.5. In addition to the above, headteachers/principals of FE institutions, independent schools, academies and free schools, BSOs and nursery schools should also ensure the ECT's post and responsibilities comply with the specific requirements for statutory induction in these settings.

## **Induction tutors**

- 5.6. The induction tutor (or the headteacher/principal if carrying out this role) is expected to:

- provide, or coordinate, guidance for the ECT's professional development (with the appropriate body where necessary);
- carry out regular progress reviews throughout the induction period;
- undertake two formal assessment meetings during the total induction period coordinating input from other colleagues as appropriate (normally one at the end of term three and one at the end of term six, or pro rata for part-time staff);
- carry out progress reviews in terms where a formal assessment does not occur;
- inform the ECT following progress review meetings of the determination of their progress against the Teachers' Standards and share progress review records with the ECT, headteacher and appropriate body;
- inform the ECT during the assessment meeting of the judgements to be recorded in the formal assessment record and invite the ECT to add their comments;
- ensure that the ECT's teaching is observed and feedback provided;
- ensure ECTs are aware of how, both within and outside the institution, they can raise any concerns about their induction programme or their personal progress;
- take prompt, appropriate action if an ECT appears to be having difficulties; and
- ensure that all monitoring and record keeping is done in the most streamlined and least burdensome way, and that requests for evidence from ECTs do not require new documentation but draw on existing working documents.

## **Mentors**

5.7. The mentor (or the induction tutor if carrying out this role) is expected to:

- regularly meet with the ECT for structured mentor sessions to provide effective targeted feedback;
- work collaboratively with the ECT and other colleagues involved in the ECT's induction within the same school to help ensure the ECT receives a high-quality ECF-based induction programme;

- provide, or broker, effective support, including phase or subject specific mentoring and coaching; and
- take prompt, appropriate action if an ECT appears to be having difficulties.

## Appropriate bodies

5.8. The appropriate body has the main quality assurance role within the induction process. Through quality assurance, the appropriate body should assure itself that:

- headteachers/principals (and governing bodies where appropriate) are aware of, and are capable of meeting their responsibilities for monitoring support and assessment. This includes checking that an ECT receives an ECF-based induction programme, a designated induction tutor and mentor, and the reduced timetable; and
- the monitoring, support, assessment and guidance procedures in place are fair and appropriate.

5.9. The role of an appropriate body can only be performed by the body specified in regulations and must not be delegated. The appropriate body may work with partners who can support or facilitate the delivery of the roles and responsibilities. Where the appropriate body chooses to work with partners, the appropriate body itself must:

- Retain full responsibility for regulatory duties and powers including overseeing induction and decisions on agreeing reductions, extensions and passing induction.
- Make direct decisions in every case concerning the suitability of posts and institutions, appropriate action where schools are not complying with requirements or actions taken to support ECTs' progress.
- Maintain oversight of and accountability for all activities undertaken by third parties, and ensure services are conducted according to the agreed operating policies and processes of the appropriate body and this statutory guidance.

5.10. The appropriate body should, on a regular basis, consult with headteachers/principals on the nature and extent of the quality assurance

procedures it operates, or wishes to introduce. Institutions are required to work with the appropriate body to enable it to discharge its responsibilities effectively.

5.11. The appropriate body is expected to take steps to ensure that:

- headteachers/principals have put in place an ECF-based induction programme for the ECT and that their programme of support is clearly based on the ECF;
- headteachers/principals (and governing bodies where appropriate) are meeting their responsibilities in respect of providing a suitable post for induction;
- the monitoring, support, assessment and guidance procedures in place are fair and appropriate;
- where an ECT may be experiencing difficulties, action is taken to address areas of performance that require further development and support;
- where an institution is not fulfilling its responsibilities, contact is made with the institution to raise its concerns;
- induction tutors have the ability and sufficient time to carry out their role effectively;
- mentors have the ability and sufficient time to carry out their role effectively;
- headteachers/principals are consulted on the nature and extent of the quality assurance procedures it operates, or wishes to introduce;
- any agreement entered into with either an FE institution or an independent school's governing body is upheld;
- the headteacher/principal has verified that the award of QTS has been made; the school is providing a reduced timetable in addition to PPA time;
- the ECT is provided with a named contact (or contacts) within the appropriate body with whom to raise concerns;
- FE institutions (including sixth-form colleges) are supported in finding schools for ECTs to spend ten days teaching children of compulsory school age in a school;
- ECTs' records, progress reviews and assessment reports are maintained;



- headteachers/principals have obtained or have been provided with interim assessments, any formal assessment and progress reviews from the ECT's previous post;
- the school is submitting progress reviews and assessment reports (including any interim assessments) on time;
- all monitoring and record keeping is done in the most streamlined and least burdensome way and that requests for evidence from ECTs do not require new documentation but draw on existing working documents;
- agreement is reached with the ECT and the headteacher/principal is consulted where a reduced induction period may be appropriate or is deemed to be satisfactorily completed;
- agreement is reached with the ECT and the headteacher/principal is consulted in cases where a part-time ECT has completed a minimum period covering, but not equivalent to, two school years and has met the necessary requirements where a reduced induction period may be appropriate;
- a final decision is made on whether the ECT's performance against the Teachers' Standards is satisfactory or an extension is required and the relevant parties are notified; and
- they provide the Teaching Regulation Agency with details of ECTs who have started; completed (satisfactorily or not); require an extension to; or left school partway through an induction period; together with details of the type of induction an ECT is accessing (see para 2.41).
- retain all relevant documentation/evidence/forms on file for six years.

5.12. The appropriate body should also (as local capacity, resources and agreements allow):

- respond to requests from headteachers/principal to obtain interim assessments, any formal assessment and progress reviews from the ECTs previous post;
- respond to requests from schools and colleges for guidance, support and assistance with ECTs' induction programmes;
- provide information to the headteacher on the types of induction available; and
- respond to requests for assistance and advice with training for induction tutors and mentors.

## The governing body

5.13. The governing body:

- should ensure compliance with the requirement to have regard to this guidance;
- should be satisfied that the institution has the capacity to support the ECT;
- should ensure the headteacher/principal is fulfilling their responsibility to meet the requirements of a suitable post for induction;
- must investigate concerns raised by an individual ECT as part of the institution's agreed grievance procedures;
- can seek guidance from the appropriate body on the quality of the institution's induction arrangements and the roles and responsibilities of staff involved in the process; and
- can request general reports on the progress of an ECT.

## Teaching Regulation Agency

5.14. The Teaching Regulation Agency will carry out specific duties on behalf of the Secretary of State, including:

### Statutory

- hearing appeals; and

- ensuring that the names of ECTs who have failed induction are included on the list of persons who have failed to satisfactorily complete an induction period.

### **Non-statutory**

- recording the progress of ECTs through their induction process and providing details of teachers who have passed or failed induction to employers through the Employer Access Online service.

## Annex A: Exemptions

Where a qualified teacher may be employed in a relevant school in England without having satisfactorily completed an induction period.

References in Schedule 1 <sup>10</sup>	Exemption	Explanation
Para 1	A person who was already a qualified teacher on 7 May 1999.	A teacher who gained QTS on or before 7 May 1999 (even if they did not take up their first post until after September 1999).
Para 2	A person currently undertaking a period of induction.	A teacher who is serving their induction period in a permitted setting, including periods which have been extended (including those who have completed an induction period in England or Wales and are awaiting the decision of the appropriate body).
Para 3	A person waiting for the outcome of an appeal having not performed satisfactorily against the relevant standards.	A teacher who is waiting for the outcome of an appeal against a decision that they have failed to perform satisfactorily against the relevant standards.
Para 4	A person employed on a short-term supply basis, without undertaking induction.	A teacher who is employed as a short-term supply teacher (working periods of less than one term). This can only be done during the first five years following the award of QTS.
Para 5	A person employed part-time as a supply teacher whilst also undertaking induction.	A teacher who is employed as a short-term supply teacher on a part-time basis but who is concurrently serving induction. Please note that the five-year limit (see above) does not apply to teachers in this situation.
Para 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 20	A person who has satisfactorily completed induction, probation, or the equivalent in certain other countries.	The countries are Wales, Northern Ireland, Gibraltar, Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man, and in Ministry of Defence Schools located outside of the United Kingdom.

<sup>10</sup> The Education (Induction Arrangements for School Teachers) (England) Regulations 2012

Para 7	A person who trained in England, and then subsequently first worked as a teacher in Wales (before 2003).	A teacher who gained QTS in England on or after 7 May 1999 but before 1 April 2003, and who, subsequently, took up their first post in Wales and who has served at least two terms towards their induction.
Para 8	<p>A person who has, or is eligible for, full registration as a teacher with the General Teaching Council for Scotland; and,</p> <p>Unless that person had or was eligible for such registration before 1 February 2023, has successfully completed a probationary period in Scotland.</p>	<p>A person who has full registration as a teacher with the General Teaching Council for Scotland, but who got that registration after 1 February 2023, and has completed a probationary period in Scotland.</p> <p>Teachers who have full registration with the General Teaching Council for Scotland prior to 1 February 2023 are also exempt from induction whether or not they completed a probationary period.</p>
Para 10	<p>A person who is qualified teacher who became so qualified by virtue of regulation 5 of and para 8 or 8A of Schedule 2, to the 2003 Qualifications Regulations –</p> <p>(a) before 1st February 2023 and remains so qualified; or</p> <p>(b) pursuant to—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(i) a decision taken or determination made under the 2007 Regulations in accordance with para 50 or para 51 of Schedule 1 to the 2019 Regulations in respect of a transitional application; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(ii) a decision taken or determination made under the 2015 Regulations in accordance with para 44 of Schedule 1 to the 2019 Regulations in respect of a transitional application.</p>	A teacher qualified in the EEA who was determined to have qualified teacher status as a result of the European Union (Recognition of Professional Qualifications) Regulations 2015 either before 1 February 2023 or on an application made before that date.

<p>Para 17</p>	<p>A person who became a qualified teacher by virtue of regulation 5 of, and para 12 of Schedule 2 to, the 2003 Qualification Regulations, i.e. certain teachers who gained QTS whilst working in an independent school.</p>	<p>A teacher who has been judged by the Teaching Regulation Agency as meeting the specified QTS standards, whilst working in an independent school, where the ECT must have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• been employed by an independent school before 1989; and</li> <li>• gained a specified qualification before 1974 or 1989 (dependent upon the type of qualification); and</li> <li>• been employed in an independent school at the time of recommendation, and the recommendation must have taken place prior to September 2004.</li> </ul>
<p>Para 22</p>	<p>A qualified overseas-trained teacher from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, or the United States of America, who before 1 February 2023 made a request to be granted QTS under para 13A of Schedule 2 Part 1 of the School Teachers' Qualifications Regulations 2003.</p>	<p>Teachers who have successfully completed a programme of professional training for teachers in Australia, Canada, New Zealand or the United States of America and who have successfully completed or satisfied any additional conditions required in order to be employed as a qualified teacher on a permanent basis in government-funded schools in that country; who is not the subject of any decision or pending proceedings that may restrict that person's eligibility to teach in that country; and who requested QTS via <a href="#">Schedule 2, Part 1, para 13A of the School Teachers' Qualifications Regulations 2003</a> before 1 February 2023.</p>
<p>Para 18</p>	<p>A person who –</p> <p>(a) has successfully completed a programme of professional training for teachers in any country outside the United Kingdom and which is recognised as such by the competent authority in that country;</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An overseas-trained teacher with at least two years' teaching experience, who has obtained QTS through an employment based training route and been assessed against the relevant standards for the purposes of induction.</li> <li>2. An overseas-trained teacher with at least two years' teaching experience, who has gained QTS</li> </ol>

	<p>(b) has not less than two years' full-time teaching experience, or its equivalent, in the United Kingdom or elsewhere;</p> <p>(c) is a qualified teacher who became so qualified on or after 26th April 2001 by virtue of regulation 5 of, and para 9 or 10 of Schedule 2 to, the 2003 Qualifications Regulations; and</p> <p>(d) has been assessed by a person approved by the Secretary of State as meeting the standards mentioned in regulation 10(5).</p>	<p>having been granted an authorisation before 2002 and been assessed against the relevant standards for the purposes of induction.</p> <p>This exemption only applies to people who have acquired QTS via schedule 2, para 9 or 10 of the <a href="#">School Teachers' Qualifications Regulations 2003</a>.</p>
Paras 15 and 16	Scottish- or Northern Irish-trained teachers employed in England on or before 7 May 1999.	Teachers who trained in Scotland or Northern Ireland and who were employed as teachers in England or Wales before 7 May 1999.
Para 19	A person who became a qualified teacher virtue of regulation 5 of, and para 13 of Schedule 2 to, the 2003 Qualification Regulations, i.e. certain teachers who gained QTS whilst working in a further education institution or as an instructor in a school.	<p>A teacher who has been judged by the Teaching Regulation Agency, as performing satisfactorily against the relevant standards, whilst working in a further education institution or as an instructor in a school where the ECT must have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• been employed by an FEI/school before 1989; and</li> <li>• gained a specified qualification before 1974 or 1989 (dependent upon the type of qualification); and</li> <li>• been employed in an FEI/school at the time of recommendation, and the recommendation must have taken place prior to September 2004.</li> </ul>
Para 23	<p>A person who has been awarded qualified teacher learning and skills status –</p> <p>(i) on or before 31st October 2014, by the Institute for Learning; or</p>	Teachers who have been awarded Qualified Teacher in Learning and Skills (QTLS) Status by the Society for Education and Training (SET) (formerly the Institute for Learning – IfL) and who hold active membership with the SET.

	(ii) on or after 1st November 2014, by the Education and Training Foundation.	
Para 21	A person who has completed a course of initial teacher training in Wales on or before 1 September 2003.	A teacher who completed a course of initial teacher training in Wales on or before 1 September 2003.
Para 24	A person –  (a) who has been informed in error by the General Teaching Council for England or the Secretary of State that they are exempt from the requirement to complete an induction period; or  (b) who has satisfactorily completed an induction period but is unable to produce verifying data.	A teacher who has been informed in error by the General Teaching Council for England or the Secretary of State that they do not need to complete an induction period; or a teacher who has completed induction but cannot produce the relevant verifying data, and the appropriate body is satisfied that the ECT meets the relevant standards.
Para 25	A person –  (a) who became a qualified teacher virtue of regulation 5 of, and para 8 or 8A (and not qualifying for the transitional arrangements under para 10) or 13E of Schedule 2 to, the 2003 Qualification Regulations on or after 1 February 2023, i.e. certain teachers who gained their qualification to teach outside the United Kingdom; and,  (b) who has no less than two years full-time teaching experience	An overseas-trained teacher with at least two years' experience, who has obtained QTS through recognition of their qualification on or after 1 February 2023. This exemption only applies to people who have acquired QTS via schedule 2, para 8 or 8A or 13E of the <a href="#">School Teachers' Qualifications Regulations 2003</a> – essentially, teachers recognised under the new approach to recognising overseas teaching qualifications introduced on 1 February 2023 with two years teaching experience.



## Further sources of information

### Department for Education

- Information about induction:

[Early Career Framework reforms](#)

[Appropriate Bodies guidance](#)

[Manage training for early career teachers](#)

[Pre 1 September 2021 statutory guidance](#)

- General enquiries:

Tele.: 0370 000 2288

Website: <http://www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus>

### Teaching Regulation Agency

- The Teaching Regulation Agency is an executive agency of the Department for Education and was formerly known as the National College for Teaching and Leadership (NCTL). Part of its role is to recognise teachers who have acquired qualified teacher status (QTS) in England, and to maintain a list of teachers who have begun, but have not satisfactorily completed, an induction period.
- The Agency also acts on behalf of the Secretary of State as the competent authority for teaching in England. This role includes the recognition of the professional status of teachers from outside England. This includes the award of QTS to fully qualified overseas trained teachers and teachers trained within other parts of the United Kingdom who fit the relevant criteria in schedule 2 of the School Teachers' Qualifications Regulations 2003.
- Information on the submission of induction results, induction appeals procedure:

Teacher Qualification Unit  
Teaching Regulation Agency  
Cheylesmore House  
5 Quinton Road Coventry  
CV1 2WT

Tel: 020 7593 5392

Email enquiries: [teacher.induction@education.gov.uk](mailto:teacher.induction@education.gov.uk)

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for Education

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