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System Leaders Newsletter February 2019



**February 2019**

## Piloting a new approach to the teaching schools programme

Teaching schools have been a successful initiative, which the DfE has sponsored since 2011. The Department recognises that larger collaborations of teaching school alliances and MATs have developed to cover wider areas than a traditional alliance.

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The Department is considering piloting a new approach to grant-aid high-performing schools in a limited number of areas to provide improvement services to a wider range of local schools in effective school-to-school support, for those at risk of failure, and showcasing and spreading best practice, as trailed in the [recruitment and retention of teachers](#). We anticipate that the pilot will run in up to 7 areas of the country, covering 6 RSC regions.

Today we have published a [prior information notice](#) (PIN) informing the market of our intention to pilot a new approach to the teaching schools programme, and our plans for market warming.

The Department will be running early engagement events week commencing 4 March where schools can find out more about the pilot. Schools will need to register for an event on Contracts Finder by following this link <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TSHubs/>. Please note spaces are limited (250 per session) and due to this only 1 attendee per school can register. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

As this is a commercial process, we are unable to share any further information about the pilot until the early engagement events. For any other queries, please email [systemleader.applications@education.gov.uk](mailto:systemleader.applications@education.gov.uk).

## DfE publishes Teacher Recruitment and Retention Strategy

On Monday 28 January 2019, the Department for Education launched the [Teacher Recruitment and Retention Strategy](#) setting out how they will go about attracting and keeping more great teachers in the profession. Developed in collaboration with teachers, school leaders, education experts and ITT providers, the strategy outlines four key areas for reform and investment:

1. Creating the right climate for leaders to establish supportive school cultures
2. Transforming support for early career teachers
3. Building a career offer that remains attractive to teachers as their careers and lives develop
4. Making it easier for great people to become teachers

We are looking forward to working with you to deliver on the ambition set out in this strategy. To that end we are holding a number of workshops across the country: sign up via the attached link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/teacher-recruitment-and-retention-strategy-regional-roadshows-on-teacher-recruitment-and-retention-tickets-55958906596>.

## Appropriate Bodies for Newly Qualified Teachers

Teaching schools are eligible to register with the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) as an Appropriate Body (AB) for the statutory induction of newly qualified teachers (NQTs). The AB has the main quality assurance role within the induction process.

There is no additional application process to become an AB. However, if you are considering registering as an AB, please read the [Statutory Guidance on Induction For Newly Qualified Teachers \(England\)](#), which sets out framework for the induction process and the role and responsibilities of an AB to ensure that you are able to meet the requirements. If you are still interested in registering, please contact the Teacher Induction Helpdesk at [teacher.induction@education.gov.uk](mailto:teacher.induction@education.gov.uk) for further information.

## Reminder to update NLG deployment portal by 25<sup>th</sup> February

Further to the email sent to NLGs last week, please could you update the deployment portal **by 5pm on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February**. After this time, the portal will be closed as part of our transition to a new online data system.

If you have any queries regarding deployments, or the online portal, please send to [governors.mailbox@education.gov.uk](mailto:governors.mailbox@education.gov.uk).

## Governance leadership development for MAT boards

We are encouraging all MAT boards to take advantage of DfE-funded governance leadership development worth £2000.

This is a comprehensive programme of activity designed to build the capacity of MAT boards, and support them to improve their effectiveness.

The development is provided by four organisations:

- Confederation of School Trusts
- Entrust
- Govern Ed
- National Governance Association

For further details boards should go to [www.gov.uk/guidance/school-governors-professional-development](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/school-governors-professional-development) to help them choose which offer best suits their needs, and for information about the wider offer available to governance leaders and clerks.

## Other news

### Advice to schools and ITT providers recruiting non-EEA nationals

The Government has recently announced changes to the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS).

The Immigration Health Surcharge is a surcharge that some visa applicants must pay as part of their immigration application; whether they need to pay depends on the immigration status for which they are applying. An overview of the surcharge and detailed information about who needs to pay is available on [gov.uk](http://gov.uk).

The Government has recently increased the Immigration Health Surcharge, which is now:

- £300 per year for a student or Tier 5 (Youth Mobility Scheme) visa, for example £600 for a 2-year visa
- £400 per year for all other visa and immigration applications, for example £2,000 for a 5-year visa

Full details about the amounts that must be paid are available on [gov.uk](http://gov.uk).

### Accelerated leadership development programme

The High Potential Middle Leaders programme, also known as [Teaching Leaders](#), is a two-year programme supporting middle leaders to improve pupil outcomes by transforming the quality of teaching.

It includes:

- a residential event at the start of each year of the programme
- access to the latest practice-informed research
- individual, virtual coaching sessions for personalised support
- optional National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership accreditation

The High Potential Senior Leaders programme, also known as [Future Leaders](#), is a two-year leadership development programme for ambitious senior leaders with the potential to lead a school in the next three years. It is suitable for both individuals looking to develop their own skills and school leaders looking to develop

their best staff.

It includes:

- ongoing mentoring and coaching from experienced headteachers and executive coaches
- visit to exemplary schools to see great leadership in practice
- membership of a national network of exceptional school leaders

Find out more about both programmes [here](#).

To nominate your middle and senior leaders, email [info@ambitionschoolleadership.org.uk](mailto:info@ambitionschoolleadership.org.uk)

### **Teacher Subject Specialism Training**

Does your school have non-specialists teaching secondary maths, physics or MFL?

If so then a Teacher Subject Specialism Training course could help to increase your teacher's subject knowledge and confidence. Courses are free and flexible with many held at weekends and during twilight hours.

The purpose of TSST is to improve the subject knowledge of non-specialist teachers and returning teachers in secondary mathematics, core maths, physics and modern foreign languages, and to increase the number of hours taught. This helps build capacity for schools to manage workforce challenges in these subjects.

All course details for 2018/19 are available at [teacher subject specialism training courses](#)

### **Spain's Visiting Teachers Programme**

Recruit a Spanish language teacher – no recruitment costs to the school

Are you considering your school staffing needs for the next academic year? If so, please consider recruiting a Spanish teacher to teach Modern Foreign Languages.

The DfE has a pool of qualified teachers from Spain, who are ready for interviews now. All teachers have been rigorously assessed and interviewed by English senior leaders and have Qualified Teacher Status. More teachers will become available at the end of March.

The DfE funds the recruitment cost, so you don't have to.

Teachers recruited through Spain's Visiting Teachers programme receive an acclimatisation support package to assist with the transition to living and teaching in England.

For further information, please [register](#).

### **Becoming a Teacher digital services - get involved**

The teacher recruitment and retention strategy announced that we would make it easier for great people to become teachers. We will be introducing new digital systems that will be easier to use and designed to better meet the needs of potential trainees.

The first of our services, Find Postgraduate Teacher Training, launched in October 2018. This enables applicants to search for ITT courses that are right for them through, for example, filtering courses by proximity to their home address or by the financial support available.

Now, we are pleased to be starting development of a new application service for ITT. We will work closely with candidates, teacher training providers and UCAS to carefully introduce this new service. We would very much appreciate your input throughout its development.

Providers who wish to get involved, please email [becomingateacher@digital.education.gov.uk](mailto:becomingateacher@digital.education.gov.uk). Updates will be provided via our regular communication channels and a range of engagement meetings.

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