



**The Black
Pear Trust**

THE BLACK PEAR TRUST

EARLY CAREER TEACHER POLICY 2026-27

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Statement of intent

The Black Pear Trust schools recognise that the successful appointment and induction of an early career teacher (ECT) strongly contributes to the development of The Black Pear Trust schools and the ECT. ECTs bring new ideas and fresh approaches to teaching. In turn, The Black Pear Trust schools endeavour to develop and nurture a promising career.

The induction period for ECTs will:

- Enable ECTs to build upon existing knowledge, skills and understanding through their Early Career Teacher Entitlement (ECTE) 2-year programme.
- Assist ECTs in becoming full members of the teaching profession and provide a foundation for CPD.
- Enable ECTs to meet identified goals and complete their induction period to the required standard.
- Be systematic, fair and rigorous in the assessment of ECTs' professional practice.
- Provide support to ECTs failing to make satisfactory progress.

This policy has been established to ensure that the requirements listed above are met, that all parties benefit from arrangements, and that all staff members know their roles, responsibilities and expected practice.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2024) 'Induction for early career teachers (England)' (June 2026 update)
- DfE (2025) 'Early career teacher entitlement'
- DfE (2025) 'Appropriate bodies guidance: induction and the early career framework'
- DfE (2025) 'Initial Teacher Training Early Career Framework' (ITTECF)
- DfE (2011) (latest terminology update December 2021) 'Teachers' Standards'
- Education Act 2002
- The Education (Induction Arrangements for School Teachers) (England) Regulations 2012 as amended
- DfE (2025) 'School teachers' pay and conditions document 2025 and guidance on school teachers' pay and conditions'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Grievance Policy
- Records Management Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Behaviour and Relationships Policies (individual schools will have own titles for this document)
- Disciplinary Policy and Procedure

- Teachers' Pay Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Safer Recruitment Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

ECTs are responsible for:

- Providing evidence that they have a recommendation for QTS
- QTS and are eligible to start their inductions.
- Meeting with their mentor/induction tutor to agree on priorities for their programme and review these at regular intervals.
- Discussing and agreeing with their mentor on how best to use their reduced timetable allowance to guarantee engagement with the ECT induction.
- Participating fully in the agreed monitoring and development programmes.
- Providing evidence of their progress against the 'Teachers' Standards'.
- Raising any concerns that they have with their induction tutor as soon as practicable.
- Consulting their appropriate body named contact at an early stage if there are difficulties with resolving issues with the mentor, induction tutor or school.
- Keeping track of and participating in the scheduled classroom observations, progress reviews and formal assessment meetings.
- Agreeing on the start and end dates of the induction period, including any absences, with their induction tutor.
- Retaining copies of all assessment reports.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Ensuring that the ECT has attained QTS prior to undertaking induction at the school.
- Informing the appropriate body of when an ECT is taking up a post in which they will be undertaking induction.
- Clarifying whether the ECT needs to serve an induction period or is exempt from it.
- Ensuring the requirements of a suitable post for induction are met.
- Agreeing with the Induction Tutor and ECT which body will act as the appropriate body, in advance of the ECT starting the induction programme.
- Making sure that the induction tutor and mentor have received suitable training and have the time to carry out the role effectively.
- 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. (* DFE April 2023)
- Ensuring that Early Career Teacher Entitlement is in place.
- Ensuring that the progress of the ECT is reviewed regularly via termly assessments, observations and feedback of their teaching.
- Making sure that completed reports are sent to the appropriate body for review.
- Retaining accurate records of employment that will count towards the induction period.
- Ensuring that all monitoring and record-keeping regarding induction at the school is completed in a manner that is streamlined and reduces burdens for all involved.

- Informing the governing board about the arrangements which have been put in place to support ECTs who are undergoing induction.
- Making a recommendation to the appropriate body on whether the ECT's performance against the 'Teachers' Standards' is satisfactory or requires an extension.
- Participating in the appropriate body's quality assurance process.
- Ensuring the school retains all relevant documentation and evidence on file for six years.
- Ensuring that a teacher who does not satisfactorily complete an induction period is eligible to carry out short-term supply work.
- Ensuring that the ECT is provided with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, Behavioural Policy and the Staff Code of Conduct.
- Ensuring the ECT knows the identity and role of the DSL and any deputies.
- Ensuring the ECT knows the school's response to children who go missing from education.
- Ensuring that, under certain circumstances, the following steps are undertaken:
 - Obtaining interim assessments from the ECT's previous post
 - Acting early to alert the appropriate body when an ECT may not be completing induction satisfactorily
- Ensuring that an ECT who may not be performing against the 'Teachers' Standards' is observed by a third party
- Notifying the appropriate body if an ECT is absent for a total of 30 days or more
- Regularly informing the governing board about the school's induction procedures
- Discussing with the appropriate body in exceptional cases where it may be appropriate to reduce the length of the ECT's induction period, e.g. where it is deemed the induction period has been satisfactorily completed
- Providing interim assessment reports for staff moving in between formal assessment periods
- Informing the appropriate body when an ECT serving induction leaves the school
- Ensuring the ECT's post and responsibilities comply with the school's specific requirements for ECT induction.

Induction tutors are responsible for:

- Coordinating, guiding and supporting ECTs' professional development.
- Monitoring, supporting and assessing the ECT throughout their induction in conjunction with the Head Teacher and appropriate body.
- Reviewing ECTs' progress regularly during the induction period.
- Undertaking two formal assessment meetings over the induction period.
- Coordinating input from other staff if required.
- Carrying out progress reviews in terms where a formal assessment does not occur.
- Informing ECTs following progress reviews of the determination of their progress against the 'Teachers' Standards'.
- Sharing progress review records with ECTs, the headteacher and the appropriate body.
- Informing ECTs of the judgements to be recorded in the formal assessment record and inviting ECTs to give their comments.
- Observing the teaching of ECTs and providing feedback.

- Letting ECTs know how they may raise concerns about their induction programme and personal progress both inside and outside the school.
- Taking prompt, appropriate action if ECTs are facing difficulties.
- Ensuring all monitoring and record-keeping is completed in a manner which is streamlined and reduces burdens, including ensuring all evidence requested from ECTs draws on existing or working documents.

Mentors are responsible for:

- Regularly meeting with the ECT for structured sessions to provide effective, targeted feedback.
- Fully engaging with the mentor training that is provided by the Lead Provider/Delivery Partner and the Black Pear Trust.
- Working in collaboration with the ECT and other staff members involved in the ECT's induction to help ensure the ECT receives a high-quality induction programme based on the ITTECF.
- Providing or coordinating effective support for the ECT, including phase- or subject-specific mentoring.
- Taking prompt, appropriate action (inform Head Teacher and Induction Tutor) if the ECT is facing difficulties.

Appropriate bodies have a quality assurance role and are responsible for:

- Ensuring the headteacher and governing board are aware of their responsibilities and are capable of meeting these responsibilities regarding monitoring support and assessment. This includes making sure that each ECT receives Early Career Teacher Entitlement, a personalised induction programme, designated tutor support and a reduced timetable.
- Ensuring procedures in place with regard to support, monitoring, assessment and guidance are fair and appropriate.
- Maintaining full responsibility for their regulatory duties, and not delegating these.
- Consulting with the headteacher on the nature and extent of the quality assurance procedures in the school.
- Ensuring the headteacher has implemented a programme which is clearly based on the ITTECF.
- Taking action to address areas that require further development and support, where an ECT is facing difficulties.
- Ensuring induction tutors have the ability and time to carry out their role effectively.
- Contacting a school when the school's responsibilities are not being fulfilled.
- Ensuring that the headteacher has confirmed that attained QTS status has been achieved.
- Ensuring the school is providing a reduced timetable in addition to planning, preparation and assessment (PPA) time.
- Ensuring ECTs are provided with a named contact within the appropriate body to raise concerns if they have any.
- Ensuring records and assessment reports of ECTs are maintained.
- Ensuring an agreement is reached with the headteacher and the ECT to determine where a reduced induction period may be appropriate.
- Ensuring a final decision is made on whether the ECT's performance is satisfactory against the 'Teachers' Standards'.

- Ensuring they provide the DfE with information about ECTs who have started, completed, or left partway through an induction period, or require an extension, as well as details of the type of induction the ECT is undertaking.
- Ensuring they respond to requests from schools and colleges for support and guidance with regard to the ECT's Early Career Teacher Entitlements.
- Responding to requests for assistance and advice with training for induction tutors.
- Providing the headteacher with information on the types of induction available.
- Ensuring all monitoring and record-keeping is completed in a manner which is streamlined and reduces burdens, including ensuring all evidence requested from ECTs draws on existing or working documents.

The Trust board is responsible for:

- Ensuring staff and the school are compliant with this policy and all relevant guidance.
- Ensuring the school has the capacity to support the ECT.
- Ensuring the headteacher is fulfilling their responsibilities.
- Investigating concerns raised by an ECT as part of the school's Grievance Policy.
- Asking for advice from the appropriate body on the school's induction procedures and the responsibilities of staff involved in the process.
- Requesting general reports from the induction tutors on the progress of an ECT.

3. Statutory induction

The statutory induction of an ECT is the bridge between ITT and a career in teaching. The school will support ECTs in demonstrating that their performance against relevant standards is satisfactory and equip them with the tools to be a successful teacher.

The 'Teachers' Standards' will be used to assess an ECT's performance during their induction period. These standards will be considered against what can reasonably be expected of the ECT within their work context. All judgements will reflect the expectation that the ECT has effectively consolidated their ITT and demonstrated their ability to meet the relevant standards consistently over a sustained period. The ITTECF will not be used as an assessment tool.

A qualified teacher will not be employed as a teacher by the school unless they have satisfactorily completed their induction period, or if they meet any of the exemptions listed in Appendix A.

ECTs serving induction on a full-time basis are required to complete an induction period of two academic years, unless they are subject to an official and agreed reduction or extension to this period in some circumstances. ECTs serving induction on a part-time basis are required to serve the full-time equivalent of two full academic years.

Short-term supply teaching of less than one term will not count towards an ECT's induction, as the time frame is too short to enable them to demonstrate performance against relevant standards. If a supply term is extended, the school will not backdate the induction, but will begin the induction upon extension.

Where an ECT is judged to have failed to meet the 'Teachers' Standards' at the end of their induction period, they will not be permitted to repeat induction. They will, however, have the opportunity to appeal against the decision.

The 2-year induction has no adverse impact on ECTs' pay or career progression opportunities. ECTs are still able to progress on the pay scale both during and after induction.

Eligibility

In order to determine eligibility, the headteacher will undertake pre-employment checks on the ECT before the ECT takes up the post – these will be verified by the appropriate body. These pre-employment checks will include determining that the ECT holds QTS. The headteacher and the appropriate body will check with the DfE that the ECT holds QTS prior to the induction beginning.

If an ECT holds QTS but has already completed a period of induction which resulted in a judgement of failing to meet the 'Teachers' Standards', they will not be eligible to undertake statutory induction at the school. The headteacher will confirm whether this is the case by consulting the DfE.

The school will not refuse an induction post to an ECT whose QTS was obtained several years ago; although ECTs are encouraged to undertake induction as soon as possible after gaining QTS, there are no barriers to them undertaking induction later.

Teachers who completed their ITT between 1 May 2000 and 30 April 2001 (known as Cohort 1 teachers) are also required to pass the QTS numeracy skills test before completing an induction.

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. (*DFE April 2023)

Suitable posts

The headteacher and appropriate body will first agree on the suitability of a post for induction, guided by the following considerations. The post will:

- Have a headteacher who can make a recommendation about whether the ECT's performance against the 'Teachers' Standards' is satisfactory.
- Have an agreement with an appropriate body to quality-assure the process.
- Provide the ECT with the tasks, experience and support needed to enable them to demonstrate satisfactory performance against the 'Teachers' Standards'.
- Ensure the appointment of an induction tutor who holds QTS, and has relevant knowledge and experience.
- Provide the ECT with a reduced timetable to enable them to undertake the activities involved in their Early Career Teacher Entitlement and induction programme.
- Not make unreasonable demands upon the ECT.
- Not normally demand teaching outside the phase or subject(s) for which the ECT has been employed to teach.
- Not present, on a day-to-day basis, the ECT with unreasonably demanding discipline problems.
- Involve the ECT regularly teaching the same classes.
- Involve planning, teaching and assessment processes similar to those in which other teachers working in similar posts are engaged.
- Not involve non-teaching responsibilities without the provision of appropriate preparation and support.

The governing board will be satisfied that the school has the capacity to support the ECT in the role and that the headteacher is fulfilling their responsibilities.

The school will recognise that if it enters special measures following an Ofsted inspection, it will not be permitted to offer inductions to ECTs, unless it is given specific permission to do so from an Ofsted inspector. The appropriate body will also need to be satisfied that such circumstance would not unfairly compromise the ECT's ability to successfully their induction.

Beginning induction

Once an ECT has been appointed to a suitable post, the headteacher will notify the DfE in advance of the ECT taking up the post. Upon registration, the ECT will be provided with a named contact to which they may raise any concerns about the induction programme.

The start date for the ECT's induction will be determined by the appropriate body, who will agree this date with the headteacher and the ECT in advance. This start date will be the date the ECT's induction programme formally begins, which may be a different date from when the ECT's contract with the school begins.

The length of the induction period will also be determined prior to the induction commencing. ECTs are required to serve (part-time or full-time) the full-time equivalent of two academic years to complete their induction. Where an ECT is completing their induction on a part-time basis, the school and the appropriate body will liaise to decide the length of the induction period required for each individual case – this will be always be fair and consider the ECT's working pattern. Where an ECT is completing their induction across more than one school, the appropriate body will make the final decision about how the ECT will meet the equivalent of two years' work.

The school will not commence the ECT's induction until an appropriate body has been agreed. The headteacher will ensure that the appropriate body with whom an agreement is reached matches the [criteria](#) for organisations that can act as an appropriate body. When forming an agreement with an appropriate body, the appropriate body and the headteacher will agree any reasonable charges the appropriate body may make to the school for its service.

The headteacher will ensure the ECT is provided with a reduced timetable for their course of induction. This will amount to teaching:

- In the first year (terms 1-3), no more than 90 percent of the timetable of the school's existing teachers on the main pay range.
- In the second year (terms 4-6), no more than 95 percent of the timetable of the school's existing teachers on the main pay range.

These reductions will operate in addition to the timetable reduction related to PPA time.

Mentoring and support

ECTs will be provided with a designated mentor to support them through their induction period, usually a relevant member of the school's teaching staff. The individual who becomes the ECT's mentor will be identified by the headteacher. This mentor will hold QTS and have the necessary knowledge, experience and time available to carry out the role effectively.

The role of the mentor will be held by a different individual to the induction tutor where at all possible. Where this is not possible, the headteacher may decide to designate a single individual to hold both roles, which may be the headteacher themselves in exceptional circumstances. Where this is the case, the headteacher will ensure the individual understands that they are fulfilling two discrete roles and will ensure that the mentoring support offered is kept separate to any assessment of the ECT against the 'Teachers' Standards'.

Mentors are provided for ECTs in a supportive and advisory capacity only; mentors will not carry out formal assessments of ECTs (unless the mentor is the same individual as the induction tutor). Mentors will hold regular one-to-one sessions with ECTs to discuss how the ECT's induction is going, including offering advice and providing an opportunity for the ECT to ask questions or raise any issues.

The Black Pear Trust offers induction through a provider lead model; Ambition (Lead Provider) with Haybridge (Delivery Partner). The appropriate body for all ECTs is Haybridge Teaching School (in collaboration with SIPS Education). ECT training programmes (delivered by Haybridge) will be based on the initial teacher training and early career framework – an updated framework based on a combination of initial teacher training (ITT), core content framework (CCF) and the ECF.

Changes have been made to the 2025 DfE funded provider-led training programmes: training providers will provide 'diagnostic tools' to help mentors tailor content for their ECTs

- training providers will provide session materials for mentors
- mentor training has been reduced to one year (for new mentors)
- new mentors can reduce their training hours if they've had previous mentor training from ITT programmes
- training programmes will include more content on adaptive teaching and supporting pupils with SEND
- training programme materials will include examples for different phases, settings and subjects

ECTs or mentors who start training before 1 September 2025 should:

- continue to use the same course and materials until August 2027
- move to training based on the initial teacher training and early career framework from 1 September 2027 if they've not completed by 31 August 2027

ECTs and mentors who registered for training before September 2025 but have not yet started may be eligible to undertake a training programme from 2026 onwards, subject to the DfE's transitional arrangements and programme eligibility requirements.

Mentors will receive training (from the Lead Provider, Delivery Partner and The Black Pear Trust) to support them in their role. Mentors will be expected to attend these training sessions to ensure they are successful in their role and to fulfil requirements set out by the DfE.

Monitoring and assessment

ECTs will also be provided with an induction tutor who will provide regular monitoring and support, and coordination of assessment. The induction tutor will be identified by the headteacher. This individual will hold QTS and will have the necessary skills, knowledge and time available to effectively work in this role. The role of the induction tutor will be held by a separate individual to the individual performing the role of the mentor where at all possible, as outlined above. In

exceptional circumstances it may be appropriate for the headteacher themselves to perform the role of induction tutor.

The main responsibilities of the induction tutor will be to make rigorous and fair judgements about the ECT's progress against the 'Teachers' Standards', and to recognise when early action is required to support an ECT who is experiencing difficulties. ECTs will be informed that they should raise any concerns about their induction with their induction tutor in the first instance. If the matter is not resolved, the ECT will be informed that they can notify their named contact at the appropriate body, who will then investigate the issues raised.

At least termly observations of the ECT's lessons will be conducted, by the induction tutor. Post-observation review meetings will be arranged in advance of an observation taking place. Following an observation, the ECT and the observer (induction tutor) will meet to review the teaching observed. All feedback provided by the induction tutor will be prompt and constructive. The induction tutor will make a brief written record of the feedback discussed in a review meeting, which will clearly indicate where any development needs have been identified as a result of the observation.

ECTs will receive progress reviews against the 'Teachers' Standards', conducted by their induction tutors, in each term of their induction where a formal assessment is not scheduled. Progress reviews will not require ECTs to produce any new evidence specifically to inform the review; all progress reviews will draw on existing evidence of ECTs' teaching. ECTs may be asked to provide copies of existing evidence to the induction tutor to help inform the review. A written record of each progress review will be retained by the school and a copy will be provided to the ECT. This record will include:

- Whether the induction tutor believes the ECT is on track to successfully complete their induction.
- A brief summary of the evidence collected by the induction tutor.
- The agreed development targets for the ECT.
- A review of the ECT's objectives in relation to the 'Teachers' Standards' and the ECT's own individual strengths and needs.

The induction tutor will update the headteacher on the ECT's progress after each progress review. The induction tutor will also notify the appropriate body whether the ECT is making satisfactory progress towards successfully completing their induction each term. Where the induction tutor believes the ECT is not making satisfactory progress, the induction will also outline to headteacher and the appropriate body the plan they have put in place to support the ECT.

The ECT will be clearly informed of the outcome of their progress review, to ensure that their formal assessments present no unexpected results to the ECT. The appropriate body will be provided with copies of all termly progress reviews.

ECTs will be formally assessed in the final term of the first year of their induction and again in the final term of the second year of their induction. The exact dates of these assessments will be agreed between the induction tutor, headteacher and the ECT in advance. Formal assessments will be carried out by the induction tutor or the headteacher only.

All evidence used for formal assessments will be drawn from the ECT's teaching work during their induction. In order to reduce the potential burden of evidence collection, the evidence used will

largely come from that collected during progress reviews, and will consist of existing or working documents. ECTs will not be required to create anything new for a formal assessment. Any evidence used during a formal assessment will be clear and transparent; copies of all evidence used will be provided to both the ECT and the appropriate body. As a result, the school aims for all formal assessments to work in combination with the regular progress reviews; where possible, the ECT should not find any unexpected results from a formal assessment.

The individual undertaking a formal assessment will produce a report following the assessment. This report will make clear how the ECT has been assessed against the 'Teachers' Standards'. Once the report has been completed, the induction tutor and head teacher will hold an assessment meeting with the ECT, where the ECT will be able to add their comments to the report. The report will be signed by the induction tutor, headteacher and ECT. The ECT will have access to an electronic report on SIPS and a copy will be sent to the appropriate body (via SIPS). ECTs will need to download their assessments. For the final assessment report, the headteacher will record their recommendation to the appropriate body of whether the ECT's performance throughout their induction has satisfactorily demonstrated their competence against the 'Teachers' Standards'. For the final assessment meeting, the headteacher/induction tutor will ensure a copy of the report is sent to the appropriate body within 10 working days of the final assessment meeting.

Where an ECT decides to leave their post at the school after completing one term or more, but before the next formal assessment would take place, the induction tutor will complete an interim assessment before the ECT leaves the post. In exceptional circumstances where an interim assessment cannot be completed before the ECT leaves their post, the induction tutor will still complete an interim assessment report and provide a copy to the appropriate body and the ECT.

Completing induction

ECTs will have completed their induction period when they have served:

- The full-time equivalent of two standard academic years (usually six terms); or
- A reduced period of a minimum of one term (as agreed with the appropriate body) based on previous teaching experience; or
- A reduced period for part-time ECTs covering but not equivalent to two academic years (as agreed with the appropriate body); or
- An extended period as a result of absences occurring during the period

ECTs who are absent for any of the following reasons will not be subject to an automatic induction period extension and may decide whether their induction period should be extended:

- Statutory maternity, paternity and adoption leave
- Shared parental leave
- Parental bereavement leave
- Carers leave

The appropriate body will decide whether an extension to an ECT's induction period is needed where this can be justified. It will determine the length of any 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.
- 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.

ECTs are still able to progress both their career and pay grade during and after the two-year induction period, and are not adversely impacted by this. The extension to a two-year induction period will not prevent the school from awarding pay progression to ECTs at the end of their first year.

The appropriate body will make the final decision as to whether an ECT's performance against the 'Teachers' Standards' has been satisfactory, taking into account the recommendations of the headteacher. The appropriate body will make a decision within 20 working days of receiving the headteacher's recommendation. They will then send written notification within three working days of reaching the decision to the ECT and the headteacher.

If the decision is taken to extend the period of induction, the ECT will be informed of their right to appeal against this decision and provided with the name and address of the TRA. Any appeal will be notified within 20 working days or the appeal will be deemed to have expired.

Where an ECT fails induction and gives notice that they do not intend to exercise their right to appeal, or when the time limit for an appeal expires, the school will dismiss the ECT within 10 working days.

If the appeal is heard but not upheld, the school will dismiss the ECT within 10 days of receiving the outcome of the hearing. The ECT's name will then be held on the list of persons who have failed to satisfactorily complete an induction period by the TRA.

4. Record-keeping

All records regarding ECTs will be kept in accordance with the school's Records Management Policy.

Assessment forms will be signed by the headteacher and submitted to the appropriate body in a timely manner. Assessment forms will be completed at the end of each formal assessment period, stating the date an ECT's employment began, how much of the period has been completed, and any changes in work patterns and absences. Assessment reports will be retained for six years, as recommended by the DfE. ECTs will be advised by the school to retain their original copies of assessment reports.

The TRA keeps records of all submitted appeals and will be contacted as needed. The school will consult the Employer Access Online service for records of individuals who have passed or failed their induction.

Where an ECT has already completed part of their period of induction in another school, the headteacher will contact the ECT's previous appropriate body to obtain copies of any progress review records or assessment reports, including any interim reports. The headteacher will therefore

establish how much required induction time remains for the ECT. The headteacher will also alert the ECT's new appropriate body of any concerns that were raised about the ECT's progress by previous employers, as necessary.

5. Confidentiality

The school will work with the appropriate body and the DfE/TRA to ensure that effective arrangements are in place to facilitate the protection and secure transfer of data related to ECT inductions.

The induction process and assessments will not be shared with others involved in the process and will be treated as confidential.

All ECTs will be made aware of who has been granted access to their assessments. The governing board can request termly general reports on the progress of an ECT but cannot automatically have access to this information. The only exception to this is when an ECT has a concern about an assessment, which would require the governing board to access the assessment forms to review the situation.

6. Special circumstances

To recognise the experience of ECTs who already have significant experience teaching whole classes and working to the 'Teachers' Standards', appropriate bodies have discretion to reduce the length of the induction period to a minimum of one term; however, the ECT can still serve a full induction if they wish. The appropriate body also has discretion to reduce the prescribed induction period to a minimum of one term. When considering reducing an induction period, the appropriate body will consider advice from the headteacher and ensure the ECT is in agreement with the decision and consider the remaining progress that is to be made by the ECT against the 'Teachers' Standards'.

If an ECT is absent for a total of 30 days or more, or equivalent for part-time teachers, (with the exception of statutory maternity, paternity, shared parental, statutory adoption or parental bereavement leave), the induction period will be extended by the aggregate of total days absent.

ECTs who take statutory maternity leave, statutory paternity leave, statutory adoption leave, shared parental leave or parental bereavement leave during their induction period may decide whether their induction should be extended accordingly to meet this purpose. Any outstanding assessments will not be made until the ECT returns to work and has had the opportunity to decide whether to extend induction. If an ECT chooses to extend their induction in these circumstances, the request will be granted. If an ECT chooses not to extend the induction period, their performance will still be assessed against the relevant standards.

The appropriate body has the option to extend the period after induction has been completed where it would be unreasonable to expect the ECT to have demonstrated satisfactory performance. Reasons for this may include illness, personal crisis, disability, a lack of support during induction, etc.

In circumstances where records have been lost due to an error or a data loss which is through no fault of the concerned teacher, the appropriate body has the discretion to decide if the ECT can

be exempt from induction. The appropriate body will ensure that every avenue has been explored to recover the missing data or identify an audit trail before making such a decision. In reaching its decision, the appropriate body will consider the strength of evidence that an error has occurred or that records are missing or lost.

The appropriate body will also account for any evidence that the teacher has demonstrated they have performed satisfactorily against the relevant standards on the basis of evidence from the teacher's previous performance management reviews, and where appropriate, the most recent performance management review statements.

For ECTs completing induction in more than one school simultaneously:

- The separate contracts are added together to calculate the number of days of the induction period; each contract must meet the minimum period criteria.
- One headteacher acts as the lead and will fulfil duties and responsibilities as outlined in this policy.
- One appropriate body will also take the lead in making the decision and is also responsible for gathering evidence from other appropriate bodies who are involved in the process.

For ECTs transferring during induction:

- The ECT's progress will be recorded at the point of leaving a post and the remaining period of induction will be calculated.
- Guidance on interim assessments will be followed under the direction of the appropriate body.
- The new school will be made aware of the need to continue induction from the point they reached and whether an interim assessment is needed.

7. Unsatisfactory progress and appeals

Additional monitoring and support measures will be put in place when an ECT is not making satisfactory progress, such as holding meetings between the ECT, induction tutor and the headteacher, organising refresher training, and providing more guided supervision.

In such cases, the school will seek support from the appropriate body to address specific areas of performance that require further development. The school will work collaboratively with the appropriate body where there are issues surrounding an ECT's performance and appropriate action plans will be put in place.

Together with the school, the appropriate body may:

- Investigate the root cause of the issue.
- Offer additional or more intensive support during quality assurance visits, including joint observations with the induction tutor as appropriate.
- Put in place an appropriate action or support plan.
- Monitor any support plan with regular check-ins.
- Signpost CPD opportunities that may help the ECT.
- Review, with the ECTs, their action or support plan.
- Ensure that ECTs are clear about who to speak to if they need to raise wider issues.

The induction tutor will notify the appropriate body of this determination and will share the support plan to be reviewed.

The appropriate body and the headteacher will be satisfied that:

- Areas of improvement have been correctly identified.
- Appropriate objectives have been set to guide the ECT to perform against the relevant standards.
- An effective support program is in place to help the ECT improve performance.

When there are still concerns about the ECT's progress following intervention, the headteacher will explain to the ECT the consequences of failure to complete the induction period satisfactorily, and discuss the following with them:

- The identified weaknesses
- The agreed objectives set in order to have them satisfactorily complete the induction to the required standards
- Details of additional support put in place
- Evidence used to inform the judgement
- Details of the improvement plan for the next assessment period

If there are serious capability issues, capability procedures may be instigated before the end of the induction, which may lead to dismissal. This does not prevent them from completing their induction at another school.

If the ECT has had their induction extended or has failed it, the appropriate body will inform the ECT of their right to appeal and the time limit for doing so.

Where concerns are raised in relation to capability, misconduct or complaints, the school will not seek advice from the appropriate body but will follow its own internal policies or grievance procedures as appropriate.

8. Monitoring and review

The governing board is responsible for reviewing this policy annually. The next scheduled review of this policy is 9th September 2027.

The effectiveness of this policy will be monitored and evaluated by all members of staff. Any concerns will be reported to the headteacher immediately. Any changes to this policy will be communicated to all relevant stakeholders.

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 ¹⁰	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.

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	A person who has, or is eligible for, full registration as a teacher with the General Teaching Council for Scotland; and, Unless that person had or was eligible for such registration before 1 February 2023, has successfully completed a probationary period in Scotland.	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. 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.
Para 10	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 – (a) before 1st February 2023 and remains so qualified; or (b) pursuant to— (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 (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.	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.

Para 17	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.	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: • been employed by an independent school before 1989; and • gained a specified qualification before 1974 or 1989 (dependent upon the type of qualification); and • been employed in an independent school at the time of recommendation, and the recommendation must have taken place prior to September 2004.
Para 22	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.	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 Schedule 2, Part 1, para 13A of the School Teachers' Qualifications Regulations 2003 before 1 February 2023.
Para 18	A person who – (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;	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. 2. An overseas-trained teacher with at least two years' teaching experience, who has gained QTS

	(b) has not less than two years' full-time teaching experience, or its equivalent, in the United Kingdom or elsewhere; (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 (d) has been assessed by a person approved by the Secretary of State as meeting the standards mentioned in regulation 10(5).	having been granted an authorisation before 2002 and been assessed against the relevant standards for the purposes of induction. This exemption only applies to people who have acquired QTS via schedule 2, para 9 or 10 of the School Teachers' Qualifications Regulations 2003.
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.	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: • been employed by an FEI/school before 1989; and • gained a specified qualification before 1974 or 1989 (dependent upon the type of qualification); and • been employed in an FEI/school at the time of recommendation, and the recommendation must have taken place prior to September 2004.
Para 23	A person who has been awarded qualified teacher learning and skills status – (i) on or before 31st October 2014, by the Institute for Learning; or	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 School Teachers' Qualifications Regulations 2003 – essentially, teachers recognised under the new approach to recognising overseas teaching qualifications introduced on 1 February 2023 with two years teaching experience. .