

STRATEGIC BOARD FOR TEACHER EDUCATION – UPDATE ON NEW ROUTES INTO TEACHING

Background

1. In November 2016 the Scottish Government announced support for the development of 11 new routes to teaching designed to increase the number of students in Initial Teacher Education (ITE) while diversifying the workforce. This announcement followed considerable work by the universities in conjunction with the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS) in collectively discussing and agreeing a series of new forms of ITE.

2. This paper updates the Board on progress with the development and recruitment to these new routes while acknowledging that further developments in respect of ITE are now underway. For information SG grant funding has been paid to all universities developing new routes.

New routes announced in November 2016

University of Aberdeen

- Expand to all authorities Aberdeen's distance learning programme for local authority staff becoming qualified primary teachers.
- **Course started in August 2017.**
- **Intake 46 primary and 11 secondary DLITE.**

University of Dundee

- Combines post-graduate education with the probation year focusing on STEM graduates.
- Expand Dundee's Learn to Teach programme to more local authorities.
- Accredited on 26 June 2017
- **Both courses are expected to start in January 2018 with an expected intake of 60 into Learn to Teach and 19 in Supported Induction.**

University of Strathclyde

- STEM graduates would complete a PGDE and achieve the Standard for Full Registration alongside a Masters degree.
- Accredited on 21 March 2017
- **Course started in August 2017.**
- **Intake 21**

University of Glasgow

- Qualify teachers to work between P6 and S3 in Mathematics.
- Recognising high level of teacher unemployment in Ireland, recruit recently qualified teachers, such as those with STEM qualifications, to undertake further study while they work in a partner local authority.
- Accredited on 1 June 2017
- **Course started in August 2017.**
- **Intake 20 for P6 to S3 maths and 14 for teachers qualified in Ireland**

University of Stirling

- Adding Technology to the subjects Stirling already works with Heriot Watt to deliver; currently shared concurrent degrees for Physics and Chemistry.
- Qualify more primary teachers with additional subject specialisms including Literacy, Numeracy, Additional Support Needs and STEM subjects.

- Accredited on 30 June 2017.
- **Course started in August 2017.**
- **Intake 52**

University of Edinburgh

- Develop and expand their course that helps prepare qualified teachers who have been out of teaching for a while, or who have never taught in Scotland, for the classroom.
- **Course started in August 2017.**
- **Intake 31**

University of the Highlands and Islands

- New undergraduate degree in Home Economics available through Perth College UHI, supporting non-traditional entrants.
- **Course starts in 2018 – target intake of 20**

University of the West of Scotland

- Extending their concurrent degree programme to include Physics, Chemistry and Maths.
- Accredited on 25 April 2017
- **Courses start in summer 2018.**
- **Target intake t.b.c**

3. Published figures <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/Schools/Teaching/Staffing/TWPAG/TWPAGMinutes/KeyFactsandFigures> indicate that 281 students were recruited from new routes into teaching. Figures in this paper do not match the published total because some new routes do not fall into the general definition of initial teacher education.

Related developments

4. Prior to the November 2016 announcement the Scottish Government had also signalled support for the University of Edinburgh's Transformative Teaching programme which has now started and recruited 31 students. The University of Aberdeen has also been running the PGDE Internship programme for former oil and gas workers in conjunction with Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils and we are currently discussing the possibility of running a second cohort that takes into account lessons learned from the first year of its operation.

5. The tender document for a new route to teaching designed to attract high-quality graduates issued on 3 October. This is designed as a pilot for up to 50 students and the tender period closed on 16 November. SG is also considering support for a small number of other programmes again focused on hard to fill subjects.

6. While not a new route to teaching, on 8 October, DFM announced the creation of a bursary scheme for career changers. There will be 100 bursaries of £20,000 available to career changers with 2:1 degrees or above in maths, physics, tech ed and computing science. We are currently developing criteria and a delivery model and it is expected that bursaries will be available for students entering ITE from August 2018.

7. SG is reviewing the Teach in Scotland website and will aim to ensure these developments are well represented while underlining the point that teaching in Scotland remains a graduate level profession and all ITE courses are accredited by the GTCS.

Recommendation

8. The Board is invited to note the update in respect of new routes into teaching.

**Teacher Education and Leadership Unit
Scottish Government
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