



EARLY CAREER TEACHERS POLICY

Headteacher: Mark Jeffries

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This handbook will be reviewed annually.

Version	Date	Updated By
1.0	June 2021	A. Quigley
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Purpose

Our school's statutory induction processes have been developed to ensure our ECTs feel supported and challenged, both professionally and personally, and to enable them to have a positive impact on outcomes for our pupils/students. Statutory induction for ECTs supplements the school's induction process for all new staff and ensures the ECT is provided with appropriate guidance, support, training, development opportunities, monitoring and assessment through a structured but flexible individual programme.

Our induction processes will:

- support each ECT to demonstrate they can meet all the Teachers' Standards, 'consistently over a sustained period'; statutory guidance, paragraph 1.8 and successfully complete their statutory induction period
- ensure each ECT receives their statutory entitlements: trained induction tutor and dedicated ECF mentor with QTS; a reduced timetable for professional development (in addition to PPA time, this is inclusive of 4DWW), observation of experienced teachers; have no unreasonable demands made of them; a pre-planned induction programme; a support plan when necessary; an ECF-based induction programme; formal observation of teaching at least each half-term with verbal and written feedback; regular meetings with the induction tutor and half-termly reviews of progress; fair and rigorous assessment against all of the Teachers' Standards; two formal assessment meetings and reports, and a named contact at the Appropriate Body for Unity TSH Hub. The named contact at Unity TSH is Celia Moore.
- ensure each ECT accesses an ECF-based induction programme with dedicated support from their mentor
- provide appropriate support, advice and guidance to each ECT based on individual talents and needs including lesson observations each half-term
- provide examples of good practice and facilitate each ECT observing effective teaching based on their development needs
- support ECTs to develop positive relationships with all members of the school community for the enhancement of pupil outcomes
- encourage ECTs to become reflective practitioners, supported by ECF resources and personnel to aid personal development
- acknowledge success and celebrate good practice
- provide opportunities for professional development beyond the ECF if required
- support an understanding of the full role and responsibilities of a teacher

This policy is underpinned by a whole school commitment to support teachers new to the profession to develop their skills, pedagogy, and practice.

Roles and responsibilities

Governing Body

The Governing Body has responsibility to ensure the school complies with all aspects of the statutory guidance. Prior to an ECT being employed the Governing Body will carefully consider the school's capacity to fulfil its obligations towards each ECT. The Governing Body will be kept informed of induction arrangements and outcomes of formal reports.

The governor with responsibility for ECTs is Natalie Deen.

Headteacher

The headteacher/principal has a significant role in the statutory induction process and will:

- ensure all ECTs are registered with an Appropriate Body
- work closely with the Appropriate Body throughout the statutory induction period, including quality assurance processes and any necessary fidelity checks
- ensure an appropriate ECF-based induction programme is in place
- appoint an induction tutor who has qualified teacher status, the time, and skills to undertake the role, and is appropriately trained
- appoint a dedicated ECF mentor who has qualified teacher status, the time, and skills to undertake the role, and is appropriately trained
- ensure an appropriate, pre-planned induction programme is drawn up by the induction tutor and ECT
- ensure the ECT is provided with all statutory entitlements
- ensure the ECT has a suitable role to undertake induction as in paragraph 2.17 of the statutory guidance
- ensure assessment and monitoring is carried out and evidence of progress towards meeting the Teachers' Standards is recorded in professional reviews, progress reviews and assessment reports
- ensure the ECT is made aware (in writing), at any point during induction they are deemed 'not on track' to meet all the Teachers' Standards by the end of the statutory induction period
- ensure the Appropriate Body is contacted at any point during induction the ECT is deemed 'not on track' to meet all the Teachers' Standards by the end of the statutory induction period
- ensure a support plan is put in place for any ECT deemed 'not on track' in order to bring them back on track
- ensure the support plan is shared with the Appropriate Body and work with them to bring the ECT back on track
- make a final recommendation to the Appropriate Body as to whether the ECT has satisfactorily met all the Teachers' Standards, 'consistently over a sustained period' statutory guidance paragraph 1.8, and should pass their induction period
- keep the governors informed about induction arrangements for ECTs in the school.

Induction tutor

Many tasks associated with the headteacher/principal may be delegated to the induction tutor or other suitably experienced colleagues.

The induction tutor will:

- ensure ECT is kept up to date on their progress and there will be nothing unknown, no surprises, at the time of a formal assessment.
- have responsibility for the day-to-day oversight of the pre-planned induction programme
- meet regularly with the ECT, retaining signed and dated meeting notes that are uploaded to ECT Manager to provide transparency and access for ECT, induction tutor, headteacher/principal/induction lead/professional tutor and Suffolk Appropriate Body
- undertake, and/or, arrange lesson observations as necessary, at least each half-term
- provide opportunities for the ECT to observe experienced teachers to support their understanding and professional development
- have oversight of the ECT's use of the timetable reduction for professional development
- arrange support when necessary
- ensure rigorous and fair assessment throughout the induction process including professional reviews, progress reviews and assessment reports
- liaise with the dedicated ECF mentor to ensure pertinent information is considered

- inform the headteacher/principal and the Appropriate Body, at the earliest opportunity, if concerns arise that the ECT is not 'on track' to meet all the Teachers' Standards, 'consistently over a sustained period' by the end of the statutory induction period'
- write a support plan and work with the ECT to bring the ECT back 'on track'
- share the support plan with the ECT, headteacher/principal and Appropriate Body
- seek support, advice, and guidance from the Appropriate Body as necessary
- ensure reviews and assessments are completed on time so that the Appropriate Body can meet its obligations and ensure ECTs are informed of outcomes within the statutory timeframe.

ECT Mentor

The mentor has the main responsibility for working with the ECT and the ECF throughout the statutory induction period.

The induction mentor will:

- work collaboratively with ECT and others in the school to ensure ECT receives a high-quality ECF-based induction programme
- meet regularly with the ECT for structured mentor sessions based on the ECF
- provide targeted feedback and instructional coaching based on ECF training programme and take prompt action if ECT appears to be having difficulties
- provide, or broker, effective support when required, which may be phase or subject specific
- ensure headteacher/principal and ECT are aware if there are any concerns the ECT is not on-track to meet the Teachers' Standards by the end of the statutory induction period
- work with the school and ECT if a support plan is required

ECT

The ECT is expected to participate fully in the induction process, including all ECF activities, and demonstrate their capacity to meet all the Teachers' Standards, 'consistently over a sustained period'; statutory guidance paragraph 1.8.

The ECT will:

- provide evidence of Qualified Teacher Status
- collaborate with the induction tutor to write a pre-planned induction programme
- agree with the induction tutor how the reduced timetable will be used
- provide evidence of how the Teachers' Standards are being met throughout the induction period
- participate fully in the monitoring and development programme
- work closely with the ECT mentor to access all aspects of the ECF to develop skills, pedagogy and practice to impact positively on outcomes for children/pupils/students
- participate effectively in observations, professional reviews, progress reviews and formal assessment meetings
- retain personal copies of both formal assessment reports.

If an ECT has any concerns about induction processes they should be raised within the school in the first instance. Where the school is not able to resolve the concerns the ECT should raise concerns with the Appropriate Body named contact: Celia Moore cmoore@unitysp.co.uk. ECTs will be reminded that their professional association is another source of advice and support.

The Early Career Framework

From 1 September 2021 headteachers/principals are expected to ensure ECTs receive an ECF-based training programme that is embedded into induction practices in the school

The school will follow a provider-led Full Induction Programme with Ambition Institute through Steplab.

The Full Induction Programme Provider is Ambition Institute with Unity Teaching School Hub. The training provider uses materials accredited by the DfE and validated by the Education Endowment Fund to ensure all ECTs receive a high-quality programme of training and development.

The Core-induction Programme resources the school will follow are Ambition Institute. These have been accredited by the DfE and validated by the Education Endowment Fund.

The school will follow a school designed, developed and delivered programme that is closely based on the ECF including 'Learn that ...' and 'Learn how to ...' statements, founded on evidence and with reference to recent research.

As school is following a core induction programme we welcome and will actively participate in the fidelity checks and quality assurance visits undertaken by the Appropriate Body. This will assure our ECTs and school community that the school is demonstrating fidelity to an ECF-based induction and training programme.

Monitoring, assessment, and reporting

The induction tutor and ECT will undertake a professional review of practice by half-term in October 2025, February 2026 and June 2026. These will support ECT and induction tutor to gather evidence related to the Teachers' Standards and will be used to write formal reports. These will be uploaded to ECT Manager.

Progress reviews will be completed via ECT Manager by 10 December 2025 and 1 April 2026 for all ECTs.

The first formal report will be completed by 8 July 2025 for full time ECTs.

Appropriate Body

The Appropriate Body has the main quality assurance role for statutory induction. The school will work with the Appropriate Body by participating in quality assurance visits, phone calls and requests for information as appropriate.

The Appropriate Body is available to the school throughout induction and can be contacted via email, telephone or ECT Manager Helpdesk (at unitytsh.ectmanager.com/). Please contact the ECT Induction Team /Helen Main hmain@unitysp.co.uk phone number: 01440 333400 ext5564