Initial Teacher Education EYFS & Primary Newsletter: Summer 2022

Dear ITE Partner,

Welcome to our summer 2022 update.

First of all- Thank you for your ongoing support of our ITE Partnership. Secondly- We hope that you are looking forward to a well-deserved summer break.

As we finalise the end of another very busy year in teacher training provision, we felt it right to provide some feedback from our student teachers about their experiences and outstanding levels of support that you as partners and mentors offer as part of their ITT curriculum input (placements); coupled with the headlines of work that has forged ahead this year and will continue to improve our combined offer into the next academic year (2022/23).

Teacher apprenticeships:

We are seeking partners to help us redesign our validated teacher apprenticeship route to ensure it meets the needs of the sector. If you would like to work with us on this, please contact <u>Jan.Ashbridge@Cumbria.ac.uk</u> Head of Student Recruitment and Portfolio Development.

ITT Curriculum breadth and depth:

Those already engaging with University of Cumbria teacher training programmes this year will have noted the focus on helping student teachers remember more of their ITT curriculum and helping them put this into practice in the classroom; They have learnt and learnt how to and then need to enact it effectively to impact on pupil progress.

The Institute of Education has enhanced the guidance given to school-based mentors relating to the ITT curriculum; so that they can further help a student build on their prior learning.

This granularity / 'component' knowledge will help both the mentor and student teacher be clearer about how they are progressing through their curriculum.

There is a strong focus on Subject Knowledge development alongside the more composite pedagogical approaches. University of Cumbria ITT student's progress is shown through their weekly reflections / professional dialogue and SMART target achievements.

*We have created both video briefings and virtual training sessions to show mentors how to access the ITT curriculum breadth and depth- depending on which programme of study a student teacher is following.

Training to support ITT curriculum led targets will be circulated in the autumn term. (See mentor training section below)

Understanding how to access the breadth and depth of our ITT curriculum:

Remembering that:

- Student teachers (trainees) are on a journey in their learning to become a teacher
- The staged expectations act as progress way markers towards the 'end point assessment'
- The staged expectations are derived from the ITT curricula; i.e., the things they cover before each phase of placement.
- The breadth of the ITT curriculum is outlined at a top level in our assessment grids (the modules and subjects coveredwith composite knowledge outlined)- Column 3.
- Student teachers have 2 types of learning- (knowledge) 'learn that' & (skills) 'learn how to'.
- Progress on placement should be seen through high quality targets (built from the curriculum) and reflective weekly reviews.

In order that our trainees remember more of what they have learnt and that you as expert colleagues (mentors) can best support their journey through effective target setting we have **included depth to the ITT curriculums**. This depth outlines the **'essential' knowledge (components)**.

For simplicity in accessing this information we have created this fully e-linked document; that allows you to work down from the staged expectation breadth and explore the essential knowledge depth (displayed in knowledge organiser formats). Below we show you the full range of ITT curriculum documents available.

The purpose is to outline how a student journey through their curriculum is achieved with taught input and your mentor support along the way.

Institute of Education





Mentor Training:

During 2022/23 we will be offering 2 key types of mentor training

1) Initial & update mentoring skills training:

A cornerstone of the partnership is the professional preparation for roles associated with working in ITE. In the partnership, there are a number of mentor training courses, which aim to provide a range of different professional development opportunities for those with varying levels of experience of working in ITE. All courses are underpinned by the National Mentor Standards (2016) and are based on a set of beliefs and values, which have been developed jointly over a period of time. Importantly mentor training is seen as 'working with colleagues' from school to build on what is, in some cases, substantial experience of working with students in initial teacher education. It is increasingly apparent that mentoring is a core professional characteristic with transferable skills to induction tutoring, performance management and coaching. The focus on mentoring and coaching in the progression of national standards for teachers reinforces this assertion.

No fee is charged for the courses, which are delivered remotely over two twilights via Microsoft Teams. Where an individual school (or group of schools) has 8 or more teachers requiring mentor training the University may be able to deliver the course at a local level. Please contact your Partnership Tutor (UPT) or University Partnership Lead (UPL) for further details.

You can find our Mentor Training dates for 2022/23 on our <u>Working in Partnership</u> webpage in the Placement Offers and Mentor Training section or in section below.

For mentor training only please direct any enquiries to, Linda Muir, University of Cumbria, Placement Unit, Bowerham Road, Lancaster, LA1 3JD. **Email**: <u>educationplacements@cumbria.ac.uk</u> / <u>Linda.Muir@cumbria.ac.uk</u>

Mentor Training Application: Please click here to access our 2022/23 Mentor Training Application.

Further details on the University of Cumbria's Mentor training programmes, including the Cumbria Mentor Qualifications can be obtained by contacting Linda Muir

2) ITT Curriculum led target setting

A 1.5 hr interactive session focussed on accessing and utilising the breadth and depths of our ITT programme curriculum to set weekly targets with trainee teachers.

This **essential training** will be available prior to each placement that you support; giving you opportunity to explore the ITT curriculum that your upcoming student teacher has covered (learnt that & learnt how to); using a variety of scenarios, you will be able to unpick what they should remember and how to support them to enact their new knowledge within your school/ setting context.

Students starting in the autumn term:

- Weds 28 Sept 22
- Thurs 6 Oct 22

Or for students starting in the early spring term:

- Thurs 24 Nov 22
- Weds 30 Nov 22

Please log your preference of date by contacting Linda Muir

Student feedback on 2021/22 provision:

You will have been aware of QA reports that Partnership staff complete with both students and mentors- checking on 'core entitlements' and 'quality of ongoing training/ mentoring provision'. This QA dialogue allows us to explore and offer support during placement activity. As part of our ongoing suite of QA mechanisms, we also ask student teachers to reflect on their placement experiences routinely throughout the academic year.

Question	Beginning placements Autumn term 2021 PGCE	Developing placements 2020/21 (spring term 2022) *data used = PGCE Developing	Developing placements 2020/21 (spring term 2022) UG Developing	Extending Placement survey @ 08/07/22 PGCE	Extending Placement survey @ 08/07/22 UG
The placement school provided good quality training & support which has enabled me	96% Strongly/Agree	97% Strongly/Agree	92% Strongly/Agree	98%	93%

to make progress					
towards the staged					
expectation					
I was able to establish	OF 8% Strongh (Agroo	0.49/ Stronghy/Agroo	92% Strongly/Agree	98%	95%
an effective working	95.8% Strongly/Agree	94% Strongly/Agree	92% Strongly/Agree	98%	95%
relationship with my					
Mentor.					
Your weekly meetings	89.4% Very Good /	94% Very Good / Good	88% Very Good / Good	92%	92%
with your Mentor.	Good	94% very 60007 6000	88% very 6000 / 6000	9270	9270
Verbal and written	91.5% Very Good /	94% Very Good / Good	92% Very Good / Good	98%	94%
feedback on your	Good	94% very 6000 / 6000	32% very 0000 / 0000	5070	5470
teaching	6000				
Your involvement in	95.7% Very Good/Good	97% Very Good/Good	92% Very Good / Good	96%	95%
the "Weekly Review	55.7% very 6000/6000	3776 Very GOOU/GOOU	32% very 0000 / 0000	5076	3376
and target setting					
activities set out in the					
SPAR.					
The extent to which	95.7% Very Good /	90% Very Good/Good	92% Very Good / Good	96%	96%
your mentor and other	Good	3070 Very G000/ G000	5270 Very GOOU / GOOU	5076	5070
staff demonstrated	6000				
and explained					
professional practice					
In D& E phases some		PG	UG	PG	UG
questions dig further		PO	03	PG	00
about the use of					
different teaching /					
reflection experiences:		84% Very Good/Good	92% Very Good / Good	96%	93%
The ways in which you were encouraged to		84% very G000/G000	92% very Good / Good	90%	93%
0					
take professional risks					
to try out ideas of your own					
The extent to which	80% Very Good/Good	84% Very Good/Good	80% Very Good / Good	98%	91%
your mentor was able	80% very 0000/0000	84% very 6000/6000	80% Very 60007 6000	5070	5176
to refer me to my ITT					
curriculum learning					
and the resources					
available through the					
university website					
The observation	98.2% Strongly/Agree	100% Strongly/Agree	92% Strongly/Agree	92%	96%
proformas, weekly	JO.270 Strongly/Agree	100% Strongly/Agree	JZ /0 Sti Uligiy/ Agree	5270	50%
review meetings and					
the running targets					
outlined in our					
assessment guidance					
enabled me to identify					
the progress I had					
made and what I					
needed to do next					

During Developing and Extending phase placements we ask trainee teachers to identify how 'what they have learnt' (theory) has helped them enact better teaching & learning outcomes. Mentors have become key in helping students remember some of the input they have received; then contextualising it and talking about how that approach is often used in their school/setting.

It is a clear testament to the amazing skill sets and buy in to teacher training in our partnership that the following outcomes occur!

Here is a small taster of some of those responses:

- Within placement, I have continuously used Schon's reflective practice. Donald Schon defined reflection as a professional's capacity to "consider what they are doing as they are doing it." This is effective within a classroom if you feel that the 'perfect' lesson you created isn't going to plan or the students are not understanding, you have to think while doing it to ensure there is high-quality learning and teaching taking place
- Rosenshein's Principles x 6 responses
- Kolb's learning cycle
- The impact of fine motor skills for children with Down Syndrome
- Pie Corbett
- Carol Dweck Positive Praise

- Rosenshein principles: Revisit prior learning, present new material in small chunks, give clear instruction, ask a large number of questions to assess learning before moving on.
- Systematic Synthetic Phonics, Carol Dweck, Growth Mindset
- When I am trying to adapt lesson plans for the needs of children, I think about Robert Bjork's work on "Desirable Difficulty" and its relationship with John Sweller's work on Cognitive Load and the need to have sufficient challenge for information to be retained but not too many elements to impact the working memory.
- Black and Wiliam, Inside the Black Box. Research that discusses the value of formative assessment including how and when feedback should be given to have the most effective impact on student's learning.
- Maslow's Hierarchy of needs has helped me to understand that children are unable to learn/focus without having specific things such as food, water and sleep or the ability to feel safe. When a child is unable to concentrate, I have been able to refer back to this theorist and can understand more about why the child isn't learning well.
- Cognitive load theory often used to inform lesson planning.
- I have made use of ongoing research into the importance of classroom talk. I regularly make use of talk partners within my lesson and enjoy that this gives a chance for all children to contribute. I believe discussion embeds ideas in children's brains and that going back over that with their peers really supports their long-term memory.
- EEF literacy recommendations

Finally, we would like to share some of the amazing impact you have had on our student teachers- we ask them to pass back feedback of great mentoring / support during placements.

PGCE:

- Mentor demonstrating outstanding methods of sequence teaching in maths, 100% engaged all learners, all learners made progress in each topic of maths, outstanding teaching in English, behaviour management, highly respected member of the school with lead responsibilities in fundraising and professional behaviours.
- XXX has helped me improve my teaching practice, she has given me agency throughout the classroom and support when needed, she has provided me with additional support with job applications and future prospects for my ECT year.
- My mentor was very reflective and always had positives to share about the job and/or lessons I was going to teach. The mentor was also very supportive of my professional development and pushed me further and further.
- My mentor had good expertise in outdoor learning as well as more practical methods of teaching which really helped me to develop my pedagogical approaches.
- Any questions or queries I had, I was able to communicate. I was giving guidance in support in everything I did and there was open communication throughout my whole placement about whether I was coping, needing support, wanting more challenge therefore I feel as though my mentor, tutor and staff at my placement school did an exceptional job.
- Everybody was incredibly supportive and were always happy to give positive and constructive feedback after all of my lessons. All teachers were very happy for me to sit and observe them and answer any questions I had. The school and staff are all wonderful and provided an excellent environment for a trainee teacher!
- My mentor was super helpful and really supported me in being the best teacher that I am. He allowed me to take risks with teaching RE and Geography the way I wanted to as I was in charge of these subjects.

UG:

- Supportive mentor who was approachable and friendly
- My mentor supported me throughout the placement, very positively. She also gave me advice on how to develop my knowledge in different areas and how to become a better trainee teacher for next year's placement.
- Made to feel welcome
- In my weekly meetings, my mentor had a document in which the key elements of our meeting were documented. It also included actions for the following week which really helped me with my organisation and what was expected of me. My mentor and class teacher were also extremely supportive when I was having a wobble. They both made time for me and allowed me to talk through my queries and worries and gave me appropriate support.
- Good communication. -Clear guidance and support throughout my whole placement. -Provided me with lots of resources to help support my lessons further. -Gave me independence to develop my teacher presence more, such as taking over all teacher roles e.g., register, bringing children in from outside. -Provided me with excellent support when applying for jobs and for interviews, I would have not been able to do it without her. -Gave me clear targets and actions to how I can reach these such as one of my targets was to develop my maths subject knowledge so my action was to teach sequences of maths lessons throughout. -Gave me opportunities to develop myself professionally such as she allowed me to observe an EHCP meeting with the child's parent (parent gave permission). -Consistently guided me throughout the whole of the curriculum and allowed me to teach areas where I felt the weakest such as RE and computing. -After my observations she gave me

clear feedback and targets to how I could have improved my lesson more. -Gave me the confidence to take risks in my teaching and make them as practical as possible.

- YYY was very welcoming when coming to XXX school and encouraged me to get involved in as much as possible. He set out
 clear timetables for my teaching as they progressed (higher percentages each week). He allowed me to observe other
 teachers as well as take time I needed to continue my own practice. the weekly meetings were very helpful and allowed me
 to set clear goals and targets each week that benefitted my teaching. He was very supportive and regularly asked about my
 wellbeing and ensuring I had a good work-life balance.
- YYY was proactive in helping me set new targets and helping complete my weekly reviews. She actively assessed me throughout my placement and gave me thorough feedback and asked me questions to help me understand more about my lesson. She was really supportive throughout my placement, and I felt like I could go to her with any queries and run questions and ideas past her. I felt very supported within my planning and whilst teaching within the classroom. Furthermore, YYY maintained a good balance of supporting me to be viewed by the children as their teacher, through letting me become the active teacher and letting me be in charge. This helped to boost my confidence and develop me as a teacher. In addition, whilst applying for jobs, YYY helped me with my letter of application, and helped me with interview preparations. I was also able to access CPD throughout placement, which the school provided, helping develop my understanding of teaching and learning. Overall, I felt very supported by both my mentor and the school in general.
- My mentor worked with me to ensure that all my gaps were met and that everything was covered. She set practical and useful targets with me to help build on my knowledge and practice, which has enabled me to continually improve.
- Understand what I had missed due to Covid-19 and helping me to set targets to cover these gaps and help me develop as a teacher
- My mentor showed excellent practice and played a vital role in my development as a teacher. He was effective at giving
 feedback and allowed me to experiment in the classroom and encouraged creativity. Throughout the placement, he has
 provided me with ample opportunities to learn and develop. My mentor was able to understand me as an individual and
 provided me with the best possible extending placement, which helped me achieved all my pedological targets. My
 mentor and school were extremely important in my development, as they were great professionals with a vast amount of
 experience as well as great people.

THANK YOU!

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your UPT or Pat Freeman as below:

Patrick Freeman Placement liaison manager- Institute of Education Work (Mobile): 07966023153 Patrick.Freeman@cumbria.ac.uk University of Cumbria Fusehill Street Carlisle CA1 2HH

*We look forward to working with you all as we move into the next academic year; with that in mind:

Thank you for working in partnership with the University of Cumbria once again during the course of this academic year. On this page you can access our online offers pack for the academic year 2022/23 for our Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Secondary programmes.

Please click here to make and submit your offers for the academic year.

We hope that you find the system easy to use, and we look forward to your continued partnership in supporting the future generation of primary school teachers.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to discuss these with your University Partnership Tutor (UPT) or by contacting your local Placement Unit on the details below.

Primary: Primary Placement Calendar