



INITIAL TEACHER TRAINEES (ITTs) and EARLY CAREER TEACHER (ECT) INDUCTION POLICY

'This policy will be implemented in a way which honours the vision that every FCJ school is a community of persons - students, staff, governors - bound together in mutual respect and ready to rely on each other in fulfilling their privileged task as educators in a Catholic school.'

AIMS

The school aims to:

- Run a ECT induction programme that meets all of the statutory requirements underpinned by the early career framework (ECF)
- Provide ITTs and ECTs with a supportive environment that develops them and equips them with the tools to be effective and successful teachers
- Make sure all staff understand their role in the ITT and ECT induction programme

1. LEGISLATION AND STATUTORY GUIDANCE

This policy is based on:

- Using the initial teacher training and early career framework (Updated 8 May 2025. Applies from September 2025).
- The Department for Education's (DfE's) statutory guidance [Induction for early career teachers \(England\)](#) from 25 March 2021 (last updated 22 April 2025)
- The [Early career framework \(ECF\)](#) (last updated 29 June 2022)
- The Early Career Teacher entitlement (published 22 April 2025)
- Headteacher: responsibilities for early career teacher entitlement (published 22 April 2025)
- Initial Teacher Training and Early Career Framework (published January 2024)
- Induction, training and support for Early Career Teachers (ECTs). (updated 11 May 2023)

The 'relevant standards' referred to below are the [Teachers' Standards](#).

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

2. The ECT induction programme

The induction programme will be underpinned by the ECF, enabling ECTs to understand and apply the knowledge and skills set out in the ECF. From September 2025, the ECF will be replaced by the Initial Teacher Training and Early Career Framework (ITTECF), which combines the ECF with the Core Content Framework used in initial teacher training. The ITTECF is a framework for professional development and support. It outlines the knowledge, skills and behaviours expected of new teachers, it is not used to assess their performance. The induction period and ITTECF is designed to be a CPD and supportive and developmental program, with opportunities for feedback and support from subject mentors and induction mentors too.

ITTs typically serve one placement at Upton, which varies in length and is supported by both a subject mentor and professional mentor. Different universities use different terminology for both ITTs and mentors. As for ECTs, prior to the ECT serving their induction, the headteacher and appropriate body must agree that the post is suitable. For a full-time ECT, the induction period will typically last for 2 academic years. Part-time ECTs will serve a full-time equivalent. Up to one term of continuous employment may count towards completion of the induction period.

Following the DfE reforms of the 'Appropriate Body' provision, all new ECTs from September 2023 are required to be registered with a 'Teaching School Hub' rather than the Local Authority who has performed the role historically, for statutory induction.

ECTs at Upton Hall be following a programme delivered by the Inspire Teaching School Hub using the approved materials from University College London (UCL). The programme is quality assured by the DfE as the 'appropriate body'. This model is where a training provider and a delivery partner provide a structured program of professional development directly with the ECTs to help them meet the DfE's teacher standards. They also train mentors on how to support ECTs. This option is fully funded by the DfE, so there are no costs for Upton Hall or any other eligible school.

3.1 Posts for induction

Each ITT and ECT will:

- Be provided with the necessary employment tasks, experience and support to enable them to demonstrate satisfactory performance against the relevant standards throughout, and by the end of, the induction period
- Have an appointed subject induction tutor, who will have qualified teacher status (QTS)
- Have an appointed subject induction mentor, who will have QTS
- Have a reduced timetable to allow them to undertake activities in their induction programme; in their first year, this will be no more than 90% of the timetable of our existing teachers on the main pay range, and in their second year, this will be no more than 95% of the timetable of our existing teachers on the main pay range
- Regularly teach the same class or classes
- Take part in similar planning, teaching and assessment processes to other teachers working in similar posts
- Not be given additional non-teaching responsibilities without appropriate preparation and support
- Not have unreasonable demands made upon them
- Not normally teach outside the age range and/or subjects they have been employed to teach
- Not be presented with unreasonably demanding pupil discipline problems on a day-to-day basis

3.2 Support

We support ITTs and ECTs with:

- Their designated subject induction tutor, who will provide day-to-day monitoring and support, and co-ordinate their assessments
- Their designated subject induction mentor, who will provide regular structured mentoring sessions and targeted feedback
- Observations of their teaching at regular intervals, and follow-up discussions with prompt and constructive feedback
- Regular professional reviews of their progress, to take place termly (except in terms where formal assessment is held), at which their induction tutor will review objectives and revise them in relation to the relevant standards and their current needs and strengths
- Chances to observe experienced teachers, either within the school or at another school with effective practice
- The Induction Mentor will provide a induction program which the ECTs should attend as part of their professional development. Should there be clash of date with the ECF, the ECF CPD session would take precedent.

3.3 Assessments of ECT performance

ECT assessments are a statutory requirement in England. Formal assessment meetings will take place in the Autumn, Spring and summer terms of the ECT's first year and the the three terms of their second year and will be carried out by Subject induction tutor and the Professional Induction mentor.

These meetings will be informed by clear and transparent evidence gathered from progress reviews during the preceding assessment period, and drawn from the ECT's work as a teacher and from their induction programme. Copies of the evidence relied on will be provided to the ECT and the appropriate body.

After each formal assessment meeting, a formal assessment report will be completed that clearly shows how the ECT is performing against the relevant teacher standards. The headteacher will also recommend to the appropriate body via the online portal (Inspire Learning Teaching School Hub) in the final assessment report at the end of the programme as to whether the ECT's performance is satisfactory against the relevant teacher standards.

The ECT will add their own comments, and the formal assessment report will be signed by the headteacher, induction subject tutor, professional induction mentor and the ECT.

A copy of the formal assessment report will then be sent to the appropriate body (submitted via the online portal 'Inspire Learning Teaching School Hub'). The final assessment report will be sent within 10 working days of the meeting, for the appropriate body to make the final decision on whether the ECT has passed their induction period. The two-year statutory induction for ECTs is assessed against the DfE Teachers' Standards.

In the event that the ECT leaves this post after completing one term or more but before the next formal assessment would take place, the induction tutor or headteacher should complete an interim assessment to ensure that the ECT's progress and performance since the last assessment is captured. The Professional Induction Mentor would update the DfE and Inspire Teaching Hub via their hubs with regards to the change in circumstances.

3.4 At-risk procedures

If it becomes clear during a termly progress review or at the first formal assessment point that the ECT is struggling and not making sufficient progress, additional monitoring and support measures will be put in place immediately, meaning:

- Areas in which improvement is needed are identified by the subject mentor and/or lead mentor
- Appropriate objectives are set to guide the ECT towards satisfactory performance against the relevant standards
- An effective support programme is put in place to help the ECT improve their performance

The progress review record or formal assessment report will be shared with the appropriate body, alongside the support plan, for it to review. If there are concerns about the ECT's progress during their subsequent progress reviews or formal assessment, as long as it is not the final formal assessment, the induction tutor or headteacher will discuss this with the ECT, updating objectives as necessary and revising the support plan for the next assessment period.

It is also crucial for ECTs to communicate with their induction mentor and or subject mentor and /or appropriate body if they feel they are facing difficulties and require additional support.

If an ECT in England does not pass their induction period, they will not be able to be employed as a teacher in a maintained school or non-maintained special school in England. The ECT would not lose their QTS so they could still work as a private tutor or teach in an independent school. An ECT who fails induction is not given a second chance to complete it. There is an appeal process through the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA).

Failing induction typically means that the CT did not meet the required Teachers' Standards at the end of the induction period.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The following is based on recommendations from the statutory guidance, linked to above.

4.1 Role of the ECT

The ECT will:

- Provide evidence that they have QTS and are eligible to start induction

- Meet with their induction subject tutor at the start of the programme to discuss and agree priorities, and keep these under review
- Agree with their induction subject tutor how best to use their reduced timetable allowance and guarantee engagement with their ECF-based induction
- Provide evidence of their progress against the relevant standards
- Participate fully in the monitoring and development ECT programme as well as attending other relevant induction sessions organised (where appropriate) organised by the school, Diocese or other appropriate body or organisation.
- Participate in scheduled classroom observations, progress reviews and formal assessment meetings
- Agree with their induction tutor the start and end dates of the induction period, and the dates of any absences from work during the period.
- Keep copies of all assessment reports. These can be accessed and downloaded from the hub's portal.

When the ECT has any concerns, they will:

- Raise these with their induction subject tutor as soon as they can. In the event that their induction subject mentor is absent, such concerns should be raised with the professional mentor.
- Consult with their contact at the 'appropriate body' (at an early stage) if there are difficulties in resolving issues with their induction tutor or within the school. The email of the appropriate body is as follows:
 - enquiries@inspirelearningtsh.co.uk

4.2 Role of the headteacher

The headteacher will:

- Check that the ECT has been awarded QTS and whether they need to serve an induction period
- Agree, in advance of the ECT starting, who will act as the appropriate body
- Make sure the ECT's post is suitable according to statutory guidance (see section 4.1 above)
- Make sure the induction mentor is appropriately trained and has sufficient time to carry out their role effectively
- Make sure that formal assessments are carried out and reports completed and sent to the appropriate body
- Maintain and keep accurate records of employment that will count towards the induction period. .
- Make sure that all monitoring and record keeping is done in the least burdensome and most streamlined way
- Make the governing board aware of the support arrangements in place for the ECT
- Make a recommendation to the appropriate body on whether the ECT's performance against the relevant standards is satisfactory
- Participate in the appropriate body's quality assurance procedures of the induction programmes
- Keep all relevant documentation, evidence and forms on file for 6 years

4.3 Role of the induction subject tutor

The induction tutor will:

- Provide guidance and effective support to the ITTs and ECT(with the University and/or appropriate body where necessary)
- Carry out regular progress reviews throughout the induction period
- Undertake 2 formal assessment meetings during the induction period, coordinating input from other colleagues as appropriate
- Carry out progress reviews in terms where a formal assessment doesn't occur
- Inform the ECT following progress reviews of their progress against the relevant standards, and share records with the ECT, headteacher and 'appropriate body' (Inspire Learning TSH)
- Inform the ECT during the formal assessment meeting of the judgements to be recorded on their formal assessment record and invite the ECT to add their own comments
- Make sure that the ECT's teaching is observed and feedback is provided

- Make sure the ECT is aware of how they can raise concerns about their induction programme or their personal progress, both within and outside of the school
- Take prompt, appropriate action if the ECT appears to be having difficulties
- Make sure that all monitoring and record keeping is done in the least burdensome way, and that ECTs are not asked for any evidence that requires the creation of new work

4.4 Role of the induction professional mentor

The induction professional mentor will:

- Notify the appropriate body when an ECT is taking up a post and undertaking induction
- Make sure the induction tutor is appropriately trained and has sufficient time to carry out their role effectively
- Make sure an appropriate ITTECF-based induction programme is in place. School based induction will also be available (where applicable) for the ITTS and ECTs to participate in as well.
- Make sure the ECT's progress is reviewed regularly, including through observations and feedback of their teaching
- Meet (where applicable) with the ECT for structured mentor sessions to provide targeted feedback
- Ensure the ECT's teaching is observed and feedback is provided.
- Work with the ECT, and colleagues within the school who are involved in the ECT's induction, to help make sure the ECT receives a high-quality ECF-based programme
- Provide, or arrange, effective support – including subject-specific, phase-specific, coaching and/or mentoring
- Act promptly and appropriately if the ECT appears to be having difficulties.
- Report on the progress of each ECT at the governors' personnel committee.

4.5 Role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body will:

- Make sure the school complies with statutory guidance on ECT induction and the framework for ITTs
- Be satisfied that the school has the capacity to support the ITTs and ECTs
- Make sure the headteacher is fulfilling their responsibility to meet the requirements of a suitable induction post
- Investigate concerns raised by the ITT and/or ECT as part of the school's grievance procedures
- If it has any concerns or questions, seek guidance from the appropriate body on the quality of the induction arrangements and the roles and responsibilities of staff involved in the process
- If it wishes, request general reports on the progress of the ECT on a termly basis.

4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed **annually** by Mr P.A. McAleese, Deputy Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the Full Governing Body.

5. Links with other policies

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

- Appraisal
- Grievance
- Pay