



The National Association of
School-Based Teacher Trainers

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NASBTT responds to updated Covid-19 ITT guidance

The Department for Education (DfE) has published guidance to help Initial Teacher Training (ITT) providers reduce the impact of coronavirus on their ITT provision, released on 6th June 2020: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-initial-teacher-training-itt/coronavirus-covid-19-initial-teacher-training-itt>.

The guidance includes confirmation that trainees who are not on track to achieve Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) by the end of this academic year can resume their training in Autumn 2020, with supporting course extension funding available.

In response, NASBTT Executive Director Emma Hollis said: “We are delighted to receive the announcement from DfE that funding will be made available both to trainee teachers who need additional time to achieve QTS, and for the providers who will be supporting them to do so. This is something that we have been calling for since ITT programmes were disrupted at the beginning of the pandemic and it is testament to ongoing engagement between ITT providers and the DfE that the needs of the sector have been heard.

“I would like to add that the findings of NASBTT member survey (published on 5th June 2020) of school placements is likely to be a challenge for providers from September and securing additional placements for programme extensions forms part of this complex picture. However, it is entirely the right thing to offer additional placements to those trainees who need a little more time and support. The sector has now had reassurances of the flexibilities that will be afforded them in the ITT criteria for the next academic year, which will be helpful in allowing them to think creatively and innovatively about how they meet the needs of all their trainee teachers, and the schools in which they are placed.”

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NASBTT is a registered charity committed to promoting high-quality schools-led programmes of training, education and professional development of teachers. NASBTT represents the interests of schools-led teacher training provision in relation to the development and implementation of national policy developments. Our members include SCITT providers, School Direct Lead Schools, Teaching Schools, HEIs as well as a range of other organisations involved in the education and professional development of teachers. We have over 200 members representing more than 10,000 individual trainees.

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