



The National Association of
School-Based Teacher Trainers

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New Secretary of State for Education: NASBTT statement

Decision needed quickly on whether fundamental change in the ITT sector, and the likely immediate impact on teacher supply, is really a priority at this time

NASBTT has responded to the announcement that Nadhim Zahawi MP has been appointed Secretary of State for Education in the Cabinet reshuffle.

Executive Director Emma Hollis said: “We welcome the appointment of Nadhim Zahawi MP as Secretary of State for Education. It potentially represents a new chapter for the Department for Education and brings an opportunity to address the most pressing challenges facing the schools’ sector. It is clear that supporting schools and children through a properly funded post-Covid recovery strategy should be top of the list. From the perspective of Initial Teacher Training (ITT), we do, course, face a number of uncertainties over the coming months as a result of the ITT Market Review and we are aware that many voices share our concerns over the future of our sector. Mr Zahawi will need to decide quickly whether fundamental change in the ITT sector, and the likely immediate impact on teacher supply, is really a priority at this time. We also call for transparency of reporting of the ITT Market Review consultation responses: it is imperative that the Minister responds to what the sector has said. We are here to support Mr Zahawi, however we can, in that decision-making process. We would welcome the opportunity to continue working closely with the Department to ensure continued excellence in ITT provision; once confirmed, the same applies to the new Minister of State for Schools. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Gibb for his immense contribution to the sector over the past nine years. We have worked closely together on ITT policy and always found him to be knowledgeable, passionate and willing to listen to ideas. He was also always supportive of NASBTT and the quality of school-based ITT provision. The sentiments being expressed by others in the sector show how highly he was thought of.”

-ENDS-

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 12,000 individual trainees.

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