



The National Association of
School-Based Teacher Trainers

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NASBTT Awards 2019: Kim Francis wins Outstanding Contribution to Initial Teacher Training award

An ITT professional who has dedicated over 40 years to supporting the development of trainee teachers and teacher educators has received the Outstanding Contribution to Initial Teacher Training award from the National Association of School-Based Teacher Trainers (NASBTT).

Kim Francis was Programme Lead for the North Lincolnshire Graduate Teacher Programme/ SCITT from 2003-14 as well as the local authority's NQT induction co-ordinator, chairing the Yorkshire and Humber ITT provider network, and serving as a member of the Initial Teacher Training Advisory Group (ITTAG) for eight years. Prior to that, he taught English in secondary schools for 28 years, serving as a subject mentor and ITT co-ordinator for much of that time.

Now a freelance ITT consultant, Kim joined the NASBTT Board of Trustees in 2014 and has co-ordinated a number of projects including the Training and Assessment Toolkit, Management Support Partner programme and Ofsted preparation workshops, including collation of NASBTT's annual inspection analysis reports. He is also an experienced ITT external moderator and formerly a school governor.

In announcing the award, decided by NASBTT, Chair of Trustees Ian Hollingsworth said: "The Outstanding Contribution to Initial Teacher Training award goes to someone who is so humble that we suspect he will be stunned when his name is revealed. This person has dedicated many years of his life to the ITT sector and is a trusted colleague and critical friend to many NASBTT members, as well as to the NASBTT team themselves. His unfailing optimism and wonderful sense of humour make him a pleasure to work with, whilst his in-depth understanding of the sector, coupled with his endless willingness to learn more, mean he is an invaluable source of support and guidance to many of us. His particular penchant for deep dives into every Ofsted ITT report published each year creates a yearly publication for NASBTT which is highly valued by many across the sector."

Upon receiving the award, Kim said: “This is such an unexpected honour. The work I have been pleased to do – to try to help support colleagues leading ITT programmes – has been a pure pleasure. It is especially gratifying when colleagues let me know that my efforts have provided practical help as they strive to develop their provision. I am firmly of the view that being involved in Initial Teacher Education (ITE) is the very best job in education because we are involved in enabling and empowering the next generation of teachers to educate and influence the life chances of the nation’s children and young people. In my case, I feel I was born to contribute to ITE – it has been a privilege. Thank you NASBTT for recognising the small part I have played – it means such a lot.”

The inaugural NASBTT Awards, held at the Union Jack Club in London on 11th July, were launched to celebrate excellence in school-based teacher education and recognise the exceptionally hard-working and talented professionals involved in driving the profession.

Other winners on the evening were:

- Administrator of the Year (sponsored by TeachVac) – Helen Main, Unity Schools Partnership
- Mentor of the Year (sponsored by Outset Teacher Education) – Denise Heath, North West SCITT
- Trainer of the Year (sponsored by Anspear) – Dave Cole and Bob Twells, Surrey South Farnham SCITT
- Partnership Lead of the Year (sponsored by TeachingTimes) – Pauline Treanor, Associated Merseyside Partnership SCITT
- Innovative Practice of the Year (sponsored by Nasen) – Nottinghamshire Torch SCITT
- HEI Partner of the Year (sponsored by UCET) – Liverpool Hope University, nominated by Associated Merseyside Partnership SCITT
- SCITT or School Direct Lead School of the Year (sponsored by Phil Smith Communications) – Devon Primary SCITT

Press releases on all the NASBTT Awards 2019 winners can be found here (insert link to <https://www.nasbtt.org.uk/nasbtt-press-releases/>)

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