

Cyngor Cyllido Addysg  
Uwch Cymru  
Higher Education Funding  
Council for Wales

Cwrt Linden  
Clos Ilex Llanisien  
Caerdydd CF14 5DZ  
Ffôn 029 2076 1861  
Ffacs 029 2076 3163  
www.hefcw.ac.uk

Linden Court  
Ilex Close Llanishen  
Cardiff CF14 5DZ  
Tel 029 2076 1861  
Fax 029 2076 3163  
www.hefcw.ac.uk

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Circular

## Secondary Initial Teacher Training: Intake targets 2011/12

**Date:** 02 February 2011  
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**To:** Heads of higher education institutions in Wales providing  
initial teacher training courses  
**Response by:** No response required  
**Contact:** Name: Alison Allan  
Telephone: 029 2068 2223  
Email: alison.allan@hefcw.ac.uk

This circular sets out secondary initial teacher training intake targets for 2011/12 for the three Centres of Teacher Education and the Open University in Wales.

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## **Introduction**

- 1 This circular sets out secondary initial teacher training intake targets for 2011/12 for the three Centres of Teacher Education and the Open University (OU) in Wales.

## **Background**

- 2 We informed you of the primary and secondary ITT intake targets which have been set for the sector by the Welsh Assembly Government for 2011/12 in January 2011 (Circular W11/02HE).
- 3 Primary intake targets for the three Centres of Teacher Education for 2011/12 have been published in Circular W11/04HE.

## **Secondary intake targets 2011/12**

- 4 For secondary intake targets to providers, the Welsh Assembly Government asked us to put proposals to them by the end of January for approval. We have now received this approval and the secondary ITT intake targets for 2011/12 for the three Centres of Teacher Education and the OU in Wales are set out at Annex A.
- 5 For the South East Wales Centre, the South West Wales Centre, and the North and Mid Wales Centre, targets are shown for the Centre, not the individual partner institutions.
- 6 As noted in Circular W11/02HE, there has been a decrease of 15 intakes overall compared with 2010/11.

## **Secondary PGCE targets**

- 7 Within the overall target, PGCE secondary numbers have been reduced by 10 compared with 2010/11. Within the PGCE numbers, there has been an increase in intake targets for courses associated with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects, balanced by reductions elsewhere.
- 8 The Welsh Assembly Government has not yet finalised consideration of whether there will be ITT incentives for the 2011/12 academic year – and if so what might be available. It would wish to avoid possible implications that any specific decisions have been made from the grouping of subjects within the allocation table. Therefore the table at Annex A does not include the grouping of subjects which has featured in allocation tables for previous years. Twenty-five intake targets have been allocated to the OU in Wales. If, as a result of decisions about ITT incentives, it becomes

necessary to add an element of ring-fencing to some subjects, then we will notify the OU separately.

- 9 The Welsh Assembly Government has asked us to remind you that chemistry and physics subjects can be linked with wider science content. However, the intake targets for these subjects are specifically for courses where chemistry or physics is the main component. You will need to be certain that you make the specialism and type of course clear to all trainees from the outset.
- 10 While the intake targets do not include separate Welsh medium intake targets, we would encourage you to develop and offer Welsh medium provision wherever possible. This is important to meet the demand for well-trained and qualified Welsh medium teachers in schools.
- 11 In determining the distribution of allocations for 2011/12, we have made adjustments to targets within and between subject areas, taking into account:
  - sector recruitment performance in individual subject areas in 2010/11 and in previous years;
  - individual institutional/Centre recruitment performance against intake targets in 2010/11 and in previous years;
  - the need to balance subject provision across the sector, and to maintain the viability of provision;
  - evidence from Estyn of the quality of training provided.

### **Secondary undergraduate targets**

- 12 The total sector target for secondary undergraduate (UG) intakes is 95. The decrease of 5 places from 2010/11 reflects changes to UG secondary provision in the South-East Wales Centre of Teacher Education, where the portfolio and targets for some of the courses offered have been revised.

### **Recruiting to targets**

- 13 We are aware that the current economic climate may lead to improved recruitment to **secondary** courses. While this is a welcome development for subjects where it has in the past proved difficult to recruit to target, we would ask you to guard against over-recruitment, particularly in subjects which traditionally are more popular. Institutions are reminded that, because of the demand-led nature of the student finance budget, from 2010/11 there will be controls at institutional level on the recruitment of full-time/PGCE students (see Circular W10/33HE). We will monitor recruitment to ITT secondary courses and may consider taking action in future, should over-recruitment become an issue.

- 14 In making intake target allocations, we regard an allocation of ten intakes as the minimum for a viable cohort. There may remain subjects where recruitment still proves difficult, either across the sector or for individual providers, or improvements are not sustained over the longer term. We will continue to monitor recruitment and will discuss with the Centres of Teacher Education and the OU in Wales as appropriate where there appears to be difficulty in recruiting to particular subjects.
- 15 However, if there are more immediate issues, for example, if a provider decides not to recruit to or run a particular secondary course in 2011/12, then the provider should inform us immediately this decision is made. Such a decision may lead to an alteration in the distribution of targets in 2011/12, which we would need to discuss with providers and put to the Welsh Assembly Government for approval.
- 16 More generally, we will keep under review the distribution of secondary ITT targets across the three Centres, particularly in the context of the development of a regional dimension to the planning and delivery of higher education identified in *For our Future*. We will also monitor the numbers of students receiving training to teach through the medium of Welsh as well as English, and the diversity of entrants to ITT and the teaching profession.

### **Released numbers**

- 17 We confirmed in Circular W09/38HE that 2010/11 would be the last year in which any new released numbers would be available from reductions in ITT intake targets. There may be a small amount of continued feed through, however, resulting from earlier portfolio changes.
- 18 Existing ring-fenced released numbers should continue to be used for other HE education-related courses which fit with the proposals in your ITT reconfiguration plans which we have agreed with you. If an institution wishes to change or modify its portfolio of provision using released numbers, please contact Alison Allan to discuss, so that we can assure the Assembly Government that the provision continues to meet its priorities.

### **Further information**

- 19 For further information, contact Dr Alison Allan (tel 029 2068 2223; email [alison.allan@hefcw.ac.uk](mailto:alison.allan@hefcw.ac.uk)).

## ITT Secondary: Intake allocations 2011/12

		North and Mid Wales Centre of Teacher Education	South East Wales Centre of Teacher Education	South West Wales Centre of Teacher Education			
Subject Area		Aberystwyth University and Bangor University	UW Institute, Cardiff and UW Newport	Swansea Metropolitan University and UW Trinity St Davids	Total 2010/11	Open University in Wales	
Undergraduate	Mathematics		21		21		
	Sciences		10		10		
	Design & Technology	15	19		34		
	Welsh		15		15		
	Music		15		15		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>95</b>		
Postgraduate	Mathematics	20	23	41	84		
	Chemistry & Physics	31	23	27	81		
	Welsh	21	18	10	49		
	Design & Technology		43	20	63		
	Information Technology	13	13	22	48		
	Modern Languages	24	40	30	94		
	Music	11	22		33		
	Religious Education	12		29	41		
	English	31	23	43	97		
	Geography	20		22	42		
	Biology and Integrated Science	41	19	25	85		
	Drama	15	10		25		
	Art	12	28	14	54		
	History	15	12	25	52		
	Physical Education	23	45		68		
	Business Studies			14	14		
	Outdoor Activities	5			5		
	<b>Total PG</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>935</b>		<b>25</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>1030</b>		<b>25</b>