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Circular

Secondary Initial Teacher Training: Intake targets 2009/10

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To: Heads of higher education institutions in Wales providing
initial teacher training courses
Response by: No response required
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This circular sets out institutional secondary initial teacher training intake targets for 2009/10.

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Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
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Introduction

- 1 This circular sets out institutional secondary initial teacher training (ITT) intake targets for 2009/10.

Background

- 3 We informed you of the primary and secondary ITT intake targets which have been set for the sector by the Welsh Assembly Government for 2009/10 in December 2008 (Circular W08/38HE). The circular included the letter from the Welsh Assembly Government setting out the basis for the targets.
- 4 Institutional primary intake targets are published in Circular W09/03HE.

Secondary intake targets 2009/10

- 5 For institutional secondary intake targets, the Assembly Government asked us to put proposals to them by the end of January for approval. We have now received this approval and institutional secondary ITT intake targets for 2009/10 are set out at Annex A. This includes intake targets for the Open University in Wales. The Annex indicates where new Centres of Teacher Education are coming into place in 2009/10.
- 6 Secondary PGCE targets are broken down into Priority Group 1 (Mathematics and Science), Priority Group 2 (Other shortage subjects), and Other subjects.
- 7 The allocation totals for Secondary Undergraduate (UG) and Secondary PGCE provision reflect the decision by University of Wales Institute, Cardiff, as part of the new South East Wales Centre for Teacher Education, to move from UG Drama to PG Drama with a cohort of 15. This change has been agreed by the Welsh Assembly Government as part of ITT reconfiguration. The Assembly Government has issued a revised sector target table (Annex B) to reflect the changed distribution between UG and PGCE numbers. The overall sector secondary target total remains the same.
- 8 In determining institutional allocations for 2009/10, we have made adjustments to targets within and between subject areas, taking into account:
 - sector recruitment performance in individual subject areas in 2008/09 and in previous years;
 - individual institutional recruitment performance against intake targets in 2008/09 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 by institutions.
 - the broad planning assumptions which we gave for three reconfigured ITT “schools” in October 2006.
- 9 We remain committed to working with institutions to meet Assembly secondary intake targets for ITT, particularly in shortage subjects. In making intake target allocations, we regard an allocation of 10 intakes as the minimum for a viable cohort. As the reconfigured Centres for Teacher Education become established, we will discuss with providers future arrangements and actions where there appears to be difficulty in recruiting to particular subjects.
- 10 We intend to commission a small review of undergraduate secondary provision to consider and make recommendations on its future market and viability.

Funded credits released from ITT intake target reductions

- 11 Intake targets for secondary PGCE provision for the Open University in Wales are ring-fenced and are not therefore included within the overall sector reduction in intake targets and the reconfiguration of ITT. The arrangements below on released funded credits do not therefore apply to the Open University.
- 12 We will inform institutions of the released funded credits and associated funding available to them as a result of reductions in primary and secondary ITT intake targets in the recurrent grant circular for 2009/10 which will be published in March.
- 13 We have been asked by the Assembly Government to remind you that released numbers not now being used for ITT courses in 2009/10 should 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

- 14 For further information, contact Alison Allan (tel 029 2068 2223; email alison.allan@hefcw.ac.uk).