

Cylchlythyr | Circular

Secondary Initial Teacher Training: Intake targets 2012/13

Date: 27 January 2012
Reference: W12/05HE
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 2012/13 for the three Centres of Teacher Education and the Open University in Wales.

If you require this document in an alternative accessible format, please telephone us on (029) 2068 2225 or email info@hefcw.ac.uk.



Noddir gan
Lywodraeth Cymru
Sponsored by
Welsh Government

Introduction

1. This circular sets out secondary initial teacher training (ITT) intake targets for 2012/13 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 Government for 2012/13 in October 2011 (Circular W11/34HE). The circular included the letter from the Welsh Government setting out the basis for the targets.
3. Primary intake targets for the three Centres of Teacher Education for 2012/13 have been published in Circular W12/04HE.

Secondary intake targets 2011/12

4. For secondary intake targets to providers, the Welsh 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 2012/13 for the three Centres of Teacher Education and the OU in Wales are set out at **Annex A**.

Secondary PGCE targets

5. As noted in Circular W11/34HE, there has been a decrease of 100 intakes overall compared with 2011/12. The Welsh Government's letter indicated that there was likely to be a further reduction of 50 intakes in 2013/14. The total target of 835 for 2012/13 is made up of 285 priority group places and 550 for the other subjects group.
6. In the light of the significant reduction in PGCE secondary numbers, with the agreement of the Welsh Government, we circulated to providers indicative subject targets for the three Centres of Teacher Education so that they might see how the reductions could affect them. We met staff from each Centre to consider the impact of the reductions with them. We also discussed whether they might wish to make any changes to their portfolios but no Centre wished to do this for 2012/13. In providing the indicative targets for 2012/13, we sought to ensure that no subject in any Centre received an intake of less than 10 intakes. This is likely to be harder to ensure in 2013/14 with a further reduction in intakes and there may be issues of overall viability if there are a greater number of cohorts at this minimum level. We will therefore wish to have further discussions with providers about their portfolios during 2012.

7. We emphasised to providers that the indicative targets were subject to change, once we had considered verified recruitment data for 2011/12 which we would receive in January 2012.
8. In determining the distribution of final allocations for 2012/13, we have made adjustments to targets within and between subject areas, taking into account:
 - sector recruitment performance in individual subject areas in 2011/12 and in previous years;
 - individual institutional/Centre recruitment performance against intake targets in 2011/12 and in previous years; and
 - the need to balance subject provision across the sector, and to maintain the viability of provision.
9. The first inspection of a Centre of Teacher Education under Estyn's new Common Inspection Framework is taking place during this academic year. Previous inspections of the providers concerned demonstrated that standards and requirements were being met and there are no outstanding concerns. Therefore evidence from Estyn on the quality of training provided has not influenced our determination of the targets this year.
10. In the event we have made relatively few changes to the indicative targets. However, in addition to the factors in paragraph 8, we would note the following:
 - We gave providers the opportunity to propose to us minor changes to the indicative targets, for example, to strengthen smaller cohorts by transferring targets from larger cohorts. Where such requests were made, we have taken account of these in finalising the targets.
 - All providers have had difficulty recruiting to Modern Foreign Languages in 2011/12 and there are reductions in targets for this subject as a consequence of this. However, recruitment to Modern Foreign Languages remains a priority and the overall reduction is therefore a moderate one. We hope to arrange a meeting between CILT Cymru and ITT providers to discuss issues around ITT recruitment in this subject area.
 - In making our allocations, the Welsh Government asked to bear in mind the Minister's focus on literacy and numeracy in action to raise school standards. Mathematics and Welsh are included in the priority subjects group, where the numbers have been reduced by less than the overall secondary rate of reduction. We protected English numbers to some degree in the indicative targets, although there is a slight reduction in the total in the final targets following our consideration of 2011/12 recruitment.

- In the light of the ITT incentives announced by the Welsh Government for 2012/13 on 22 December 2011, we have given separate targets for Biology and Integrated Science, as these now have different incentive arrangements, with no incentive available for Integrated Science.
11. The Welsh 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.
 12. 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.

Secondary undergraduate targets

13. The total sector target for secondary undergraduate (UG) intakes at 95 is unchanged from 2011/12. We have also kept the allocation of this target between subjects and providers unchanged.

Controls on ITT recruitment

14. In the annual letters we receive from the Welsh Government setting out the intake targets, we are asked to maintain our efforts to ensure that over-recruitment against targets does not occur. This has been particularly the case for primary provision which is traditionally popular amongst applicants. It has been less so for secondary subjects, with under-recruitment being more of an issue for some priority subjects. However, the situation does vary from year to year, with the potential for exceeding the target in secondary subjects where it can be easier to recruit.
15. From 2011/12 a maximum student number, determined annually, applies to HEFCW-fundable home and EU full-time undergraduate (UG) and PGCE new entrant student numbers, with penalty arrangements for over-recruitment against this maximum.
16. We are concerned that, with the introduction of the new tuition fees regime from 2012/13 and the consequent changes to HEFCW's methods for allocating funding, the overall maximum student number may not of itself be a sufficient deterrent against over- or under-recruitment to secondary ITT. For example, the provider might have less concern about under-recruitment to priority subjects, if it felt it could make up numbers either in secondary subjects where recruitment is easier, or in non-ITT subjects. This situation may be further influenced by the nature of any ITT incentives for students which the Welsh Government may make available in future.

Thus, if there are Welsh Government incentives available up to the intake target for particular subject groupings and/or categories of students, this would provide controls on the numbers institutions recruit. However, if particular subjects or categories of students are not eligible for incentives, then such control is harder to exercise. There are some indications in recruitment to PGCE Secondary provision in 2011/12 of possible compensation for under-recruitment in priority subjects by greater than usual over-recruitment in other PGCE secondary subjects.

17. At the beginning of January 2012 therefore, we published revised controls to encourage recruitment to initial teacher training (ITT) intake targets and to discourage over-recruitment, to be effective from the 2012/13 academic year (Circular W12/01HE). For secondary ITT, these controls include adjustments to an institution's maximum student number the following year where recruitment in a particular phase or level of ITT exceeds five per cent. We would also require action where we are concerned about the pattern of recruitment across subjects within a provider's portfolio.
18. The controls on secondary ITT recruitment are set out in **Annex B**. The full controls, including primary ITT, can be found in Circular W12/01HE

Further information

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

ITT Secondary: Intake allocations 2012/13

| North & Mid Wales Centre of Teacher Education | South East Wales Centre of Teacher Education | South West Wales Centre of Teacher Education | | |
|---|--|--|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Aberystwyth University and Bangor University | Cardiff Metropolitan University and University of Wales Newport | Swansea Metropolitan University and University of Wales Trinity St David | Total 2012/13 | Open University in Wales |

| Undergraduate Secondary | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|----|--|----|
| Mathematics | | 21 | | 21 |
| Sciences | | 10 | | 10 |
| Design & Technology | 15 | 19 | | 34 |
| Welsh | | 15 | | 15 |
| Music | | 15 | | 15 |
| Total UG Secondary | 15 | 80 | | 95 |

| PGCE Secondary | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <i>Priority Group</i> | | | | |
| Mathematics | 21 | 22 | 39 | 82 |
| Chemistry & Physics | 29 | 23 | 25 | 77 |
| Modern Languages | 20 | 32 | 25 | 77 |
| Welsh | 20 | 17 | 12 | 49 |
| Total Priority Group | 90 | 94 | 101 | 285 |
| <i>Other subjects</i> | | | | |
| Art | 10 | 24 | 13 | 47 |
| Biology | 36 | 17 | 18 | 71 |
| Business Studies | | | 14 | 14 |
| Design & Technology | | 38 | 18 | 56 |
| Drama | 13 | 11 | | 24 |
| English | 27 | 21 | 37 | 85 |
| Geography | 18 | | 19 | 37 |
| History | 13 | 10 | 20 | 43 |
| Information Technology | 11 | 11 | 19 | 41 |
| Integrated Science | | | 4 | 4 |
| Music | 11 | 19 | | 30 |
| Physical Education | 20 | 39 | | 59 |
| Religious Education | 10 | | 24 | 34 |
| Outdoor Activities | 5 | | | 5 |
| Total Other Subjects | 174 | 190 | 186 | 550 |
| Total PGCE Secondary | 264 | 284 | 287 | 835 |
| Total Secondary | 279 | 364 | 287 | 930 |

Controls on secondary ITT recruitment from 2012/13

The new arrangements apply to recruitment against ITT secondary intake targets from the 2012/13 academic year, with any penalties applied to 2013/14 ITT intake targets and maximum student numbers.

- **UG Secondary** Where a provider over-recruits by more than five per cent against its UG Secondary intake target, the number of students recruited over this threshold will be deducted from the institution's maximum student number the following year. This can be done on an institutional basis as there is no overlap of subjects between partners in the Centres.
- **PGCE Secondary** Where a provider over-recruits by more than five per cent against its PGCE Secondary intake target, the number of students recruited over this threshold will be deducted from the institution's maximum student number the following year. There are a few subjects which are offered by both partners in a Centre (North and Mid Wales – Welsh, Chemistry, Physics and Biology; South East Wales – Design and Technology). In these instances, we would calculate what we considered an appropriate proportion from the numbers registered at each HEI and, if this did not concur with how the Centre saw the split of the targets between the partners, the Centre could propose to us that the reduction be applied to one institution only or in a different agreed proportion.
- For both UG and PGCE Secondary, we will monitor recruitment and if we have concerns about the level of under or over-recruitment to a particular subject within the provider's portfolio, we will discuss with the provider and require an action plan to address the situation.