

Cylchlythyr | Circular

Secondary Initial Teacher Training: Intake targets 2017/18

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To: Heads of regulated institutions in Wales providing initial teacher training courses
Response by: No response required
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This circular sets out secondary initial teacher training intake targets for 2017/18 for the three Centres of Teacher Education.

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Introduction

1. This circular sets out secondary initial teacher education (ITE) intake targets for 2017/18 for the three Centres of Teacher Education.

Background

2. We informed you of the primary and secondary ITE intake targets which have been set for the sector by the Welsh Government for 2017/18 in November 2016 ([circular W16/41HE](#)). 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 2017/18 have been published in circular [W16/45HE](#).

Secondary intake targets 2017/18

4. For secondary intake targets, the Welsh Government asked us to put proposals to them by the end of January for approval. We did this by the early December 2016, and have now received approval. The secondary ITE intake targets for 2017/18 for the three Centres of Teacher Education are set out at **Annex A**. As noted in circular W16/41HE, we have taken account of the quality of training being delivered in allocating numbers.

Secondary PGCE targets

5. As noted in circular W16/41HE, the overall secondary intake targets numbers remain unchanged from 2016/17.
6. Also as in 2016/17, we have shown Information Technology within the priority subject grouping in **Annex A**.
7. In finalising the targets for 2017/18, we have continued our practice of not allocating an intake target of less than 10 to any subject in any Centre. The exception is Outdoor Studies in the North and Mid Wales Centre where a target of five is normally allocated, and for Physics and Chemistry, where we have separated the targets for the two subjects, on the basis of previous HESES data.
8. The reduction in targets over previous years has meant that there are a greater number of cohorts at this minimum level. There may therefore be issues of overall viability, as well as a potential adverse effect on the quality of the student experience where cohorts of less than ten are recruited. We will therefore continue to review whether we should support very small subject cohorts in future or whether there should be some rationalisation of subjects between Centres. The new accreditation process

for ITE, following on from the Furlong review recommendations, may also impact on these issues in the future.

9. In undertaking your recruitment for 2017/18, we draw your attention to the following considerations:
 - Chemistry and Physics subjects can be linked with wider science content, but only courses where chemistry or physics are the main component qualify for inclusion in the 'priority subjects' intake grouping. Centres will need to be certain that they make the specialism and type of course clear to all trainees from the outset.
 - While the intake targets do not include separate Welsh medium intake targets, we encourage you to develop and offer Welsh medium provision where possible, and to consider the viability of Welsh medium provision working with the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol. Work with the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol includes the arrangements for the Welsh medium competency certificate. Our annual letter from the Welsh Government asked that we monitor the Welsh medium intake position accordingly. In the event of any changes to reporting arrangements we will communicate separately with the sector.
 - We particularly draw to your attention the need to protect secondary English numbers in order to support literacy standards.

Secondary undergraduate targets

10. The total sector target for secondary undergraduate (UG) intake remains at 86, as in 2016/17.

Controls on ITE recruitment

11. In the annual letters we receive from the Welsh Government setting out the intake targets, HEFCW is asked 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. However, the situation does vary from year to year, with the potential for exceeding the target in some secondary subjects where it can be easier to recruit. We are asked in particular to monitor the uptake of undergraduate courses at secondary undergraduate level. We also ask you to ensure that every effort is made to recruit high quality candidates to target to those subjects in the STEM priority recruitment category.

Further information

12. For further information, contact Dr Cliona O'Neill (tel 029 2085 9731; email cliona.oneill@hefcw.ac.uk).

ITE Secondary: Intake allocations 2017/18

	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 South Wales	University of Wales Trinity St David	Total 2017/18
Undergraduate Secondary				
Mathematics		22		22
Sciences		11		11
Design & Technology	14	19		33
Welsh		10		10
Music		10		10
Total UG Secondary	14	72		86
PGCE Secondary				
Priority Group				
Mathematics	18	22	37	77
Chemistry & Physics	26	23	25	74
Modern Languages	19	31	24	74
Welsh	17	18	13	48
Information Technology	10	11	19	40
Total Priority Group	90	105	118	313
Other subjects				
Art	10	22	13	45
Biology and Integrated Science	32	16	20	68
Business Studies			13	13
Design & Technology		35	17	52
Drama	10	12		22
English	26	20	35	81
Geography	15		17	32
History	10	12	20	42
Music	10	17		27
Physical Education	15	38		53
Religious Education	10		22	32
Outdoor Activities	5			5
Total Other Subjects	143	172	157	472
Total PGCE Secondary	233	277	275	785
Total Secondary	247	349	275	871