



PCET & Secondary Academic Lead for ITE Partnerships – amanda.brougham@bcu.ac.uk

Issue 5: May 2020

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BCU Partnership Website: <https://www.bcu.ac.uk/education-and-social-work/partnerships-and-collaborations>

Recruitment for new trainees has been sustained through online platforms during this period of social isolation. We are pleased to announce that the number for recruits in 2020 looks very positive and so we are preparing courses accordingly for the new cohort.

In addition, we continue to support the professional development of our current cohort through a sequence of professional development tasks during their final term of the PGCE - and into their NQT year.

Professional Development Tasks – Secondary:

The progress of all trainees has been audited and they have been placed on a trajectory designed to predict their end point outcomes and recommendation for QTS. This trajectory is aligned to our records of likely progress based on each trainee's previous reviews and observed practice during School Experiences.

In order, to sustain all trainees' professional development, they are completing weekly tasks aligned to each area of the Teachers' Standards. Tasks are differentiated to align with each trainee's identified specific development needs: e.g. for TS4 some trainees will reflect on the content within an individual lesson plan within their subject, whereas other will review a mid-term planning sequence. In addition, trainees are sustaining their subject knowledge development through ongoing audits and face to face reviews with their subject tutors.

By the end of this term the cohort will all have a detailed record of their professional strengths and identified needs for further development, and these will be used to identify NQT targets.

Professional Development Tasks- Primary:

Primary PGCE trainees will be completing weekly tasks based on the following areas:-

- Assessment and Reporting
- SEND
- Current Educational Issues
- Foundation (Geography, History, RE)
- Core (Maths, English, Science) and Computing and Foreign Languages
- Foundation (Music, Art and PE)

Each week their Personal Tutor will have an online group tutorial to discuss the work completed. We will be monitoring attendance and engagement at each of these weekly tutorials.

The Personal Tutors will be meeting the trainees individually to complete 'progress meetings' and to monitor the trainees' development against the Teachers' Standards in the following weeks:-

- w.b. 27 April – Progress Meeting 4 – this will be following a self-audit by the trainees and will focus on their own needs and areas for development
- w.b. 18 May – Progress Meeting 5 – this will involve discussion linked to a Learning Event focusing on Standards 2, 5 and 6
- w.b. 22 June – Progress Meeting 6 – the discussion will pull together the trainee's development against all of the Teachers' Standards

First year undergraduate trainees also have a Case Study to complete and discuss in a group tutorial with their PDT and peer group to support their development ready for their second year placement as they are unable to undertake their second block placement in the summer.

Professional Development – PCET:

While some PCET trainees continue to support their students with online delivery and materials, other PCET trainees have been provided with a series of practical scenarios, devised by partners across the BCU delivery team (BCU, South & City College Birmingham, Joseph Chamberlain Sixth Form & Gloucestershire College), in support of their professional development. These are weekly scenarios that support subject and pedagogical development, planning for learning, learner engagement, core skills development, reflective practice and continuing professional development and aligned to the Education and Training Foundation's Professional Standards Framework.

Trainees will be using these scenarios to complement their existing work, building upon the evidence they have already collected through teaching practice and academic study. The aim of completing each scenario provides further evidence to indicate a trainee's ability to meet, or to be on a trajectory to meet, the ETF Professional Standards by the end of their course.



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Enhanced Early Career Framework

Partnership Support Events 2020/21:

In September we will be developing a series of training and discussion events to support NQTs who have had their training year disrupted. These will be a regular series of online seminars in the autumn term, open to all mentors in partnership schools.

We know that NQTs will need additional support in managing workload, planning strategies and subject knowledge as they transition to a substantive teaching role. We are happy to share our experience as trainers in this field to support your new teachers and their mentors.

Partner Information Packs and Placement

Offers Forms:

Information on how school partners can commit to hosting our trainees in the coming year have now been circulated to schools and partner settings.

To start planning for our incoming cohort of trainees we have requested that forms to be returned **by the end of May 2020** using this email address – education.partnerships@bcu.ac.uk.

We are strategically reviewing where and in which subjects we need most placements and may be contacting Professional Mentors shortly to enhance their offers to meet demand – we hope very much that you will respond generously to these requests 😊.

Strategic Partnership Committee Meetings:

The secondary SPC meeting will be held over MS Teams slightly earlier than previously scheduled, **at 4pm on June 9th 2020** – invitations and a brief agenda has been sent to all partner schools and subject mentor representatives.

Payments:

All payments for this term's School Placements are being honoured with no reduction. After May half term you will be informed by our course leads / link tutor (addresses listed in the PIPs on the Partnership Webpages) and will be asked to return verification of trainee attendance in your setting to our placement team at: education.partnerships@bcu.ac.uk.

The partnerships team will issue you with your PO number and invoices can be submitted in the usual way.

If you have any concerns with delayed invoices from previous placements please notify the placements team and your academic lead (addresses above) as soon as you are able and they will pursue this matter for you with The BCU finance team.

Absent Tutors:

Unfortunately, two of our core secondary team are currently on sick leave - therefore we ask that you contact the following deputy subject leads for any subject specific enquiries until further notice:

- Martin Duke for secondary mathematics; matrin.duke2@bcu.ac.uk
- Helen Elliot for secondary History; helen.elliott@bcu.ac.uk

Virtual support for trainees:

Our secondary course leader has continued to run regular live Twitter discussions to support all regional trainees. Topics have been bespoke to the current situation e.g. online interviews and well-being – feel free to join her at @BCUPGCESec each week.

Our Subject Lead for Secondary English recently published advice to support English trainees applying for NQT posts in this new virtual world:

<https://www.nate.org.uk/are-you-preparing-to-start-secondary-english-teacher-training-during-a-pandemic/>

Partnership CPD opportunities:

As previously signposted, our planned series of subject hubs in English, Drama and Art were suspended due to school and university closures. We will look to develop a new plan after the summer.

St John Wall Catholic School have shared with us their offer of a half day **EAL CPD for £50** per attendee. If interested you can get more details from Paulina Kawecka: pkawecka@sjw.bham.sch.uk. We are happy to share other partner training opportunities here!

As some of us prepare to re-open our sites, we hope plans go smoothly and that you all stay safe and well!