



Rt Hon Michael Gove MP
Secretary of State

Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0870 0012345 ministers@education.gsi.gov.uk

Graham Holley
Chief Executive
Training and Development Agency for Schools
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

31st January 2011

Teacher Training Places and Financial Incentive Arrangements – 2011/12

This letter informs you of the decisions I have made with regard to initial teacher training (ITT) places for the year 2011-12, together with notification of the associated funding arrangements for students. Though I intend to work with the TDA over the coming year to reform and improve the teacher recruitment process; this year's figures have been allocated according to the model the department has used for the past 30 years.

As you know, it is crucial that we continue to secure the very best quality of applicants to teacher training. The recent White Paper, 'The Importance of Teaching' highlights the case for investing in a high-quality workforce, as it is the quality of teaching that makes the single biggest difference to pupils. The highest performing education systems, from Finland to South Korea, recruit only the best-qualified graduates.

I have attached at annex 1 the place allocations by phase and subject for 2011/12. These take account of the demographic background – falling secondary rolls meaning we will need fewer secondary teachers – as well as the latest information we have available on teacher turnover and the likely or projected impact of curriculum reforms we have introduced.

In line with my priorities, they provide specific allocations for physics, chemistry and biology / general science teacher trainees – 925, 1,070 and 840 respectively – as opposed to an overall allocation for *science* as has been set in previous years.

It is my expectation that you will distribute these places across providers with a continuing focus on quality; and, in line with the White Paper, I will expect to see an increasing emphasis on school-led training.

The allocations in Annex 1 do not include numbers for Teach First places. In the White Paper we described how we would fund Teach First to double its size by the end of this Parliament, by expanding both geographically and into primary schools. TDA and officials have been talking to Teach First about how far it will expand in 2011/12 and we will confirm numbers and funding for this shortly.

I have also carefully considered the value for money of offering bursaries to support teacher training. I believe it is right – in this time of fiscal restraint – to focus investment very rigorously where it is needed; and it is on that basis that I can confirm that for 2011-12 the following payments will be available:

Subject:	Amount
Physics	£9,000
Chemistry	
Engineering	
Mathematics	
Biology	£6,000
Combined/general science	
Modern foreign languages	

At the same time, I have looked at the value for public money that is obtained by paying Golden Hellos to teachers who take up a teaching job following successful completion of their induction and have decided to focus funding on the continuation of bursaries as I have set out above and to stop paying Golden Hellos. I will expect the Agency, however, to honour the commitment made to those who are already on teacher training courses and become eligible for the scheme as they take up teaching posts over the next few years.

As part of our reforms to teacher training, the Government announced in the White Paper that in order to receive funding from the Department for Education, anyone starting PGCE teacher training from September 2012 will, in general, need to hold at least a second class first degree of a United Kingdom higher education institution or an equivalent qualification. In anticipation of this requirement the Agency should emphasise in its guidance to ITT providers the need to recruit graduates with the best academic qualifications in 2011/12.

Officials of course stand ready to discuss any issues or questions arising from the content of this letter and I look forward to working with you, with providers and with schools to ensure the very best people continue to come into teaching.

Yours,


MICHAEL GOVE

ANNEX 1**INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING PLACES ACADEMIC YEAR 2011/12**

Subject	Allocation of Places
Total Places	34,285
Total Primary	19,730
Total Secondary	14,555
Mathematics	2,635
English and drama	2,100
Total Science	2,835
• Chemistry	1,070
• Physics	925
• Biology and general science	840
Modern and ancient languages	1,490
Total technology	1,880
• Design and technology	840
• Information technology	805
• Business studies	235
History	545
Geography	615
Physical education	890
Art	320
Music	390
Religious education	460
Social studies	185
Other	210

NB - These totals do not take into account Teach First places which are separate and additional.