



Teaching  
Regulation  
Agency

# **Ms Christina Bourne: Professional conduct panel outcome**

**Panel decision and reasons on behalf of the  
Secretary of State for Education**

**December 2025**

## Contents

|                                                          |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Introduction                                             | 3  |
| Allegations                                              | 4  |
| Summary of evidence                                      | 5  |
| Documents                                                | 5  |
| Witnesses                                                | 5  |
| Decision and reasons                                     | 5  |
| Findings of fact                                         | 6  |
| Panel's recommendation to the Secretary of State         | 10 |
| Decision and reasons on behalf of the Secretary of State | 15 |

## **Professional conduct panel decision and recommendations, and decision on behalf of the Secretary of State**

**Teacher:** Ms Christina Bourne

**Teacher ref number:** 333804

**Teacher date of birth:** 01 May 1988

**TRA reference:** 22423

**Date of determination:** 14 November 2025

**Former employer:** Surrey County Council/Surrey Arts

### **Introduction**

A professional conduct panel (“the panel”) of the Teaching Regulation Agency (“the TRA”) convened on 12 to 14 November 2025 by way of a virtual hearing, to consider the case of Ms Christina Bourne.

The panel members were Mr Aidan Jenkins (teacher panellist – in the chair), Ms Mona Sood (lay panellist) and Dr Sian Rees-Evans (lay panellist).

The legal adviser to the panel was Helen Kitchen of Blake Morgan solicitors.

The presenting officer for the TRA was Mr Mark Millin, Solicitor-Advocate of Kingsley Napley LLP.

Ms Christina Bourne was present and was not represented.

The hearing took place in public save that portions of the hearing were heard in private and was recorded.

## Allegations

The panel considered the allegations set out in the notice of hearing dated 24 June 2025 which were amended during the hearing following the panel's agreement to the TRA's application to amend allegation 1.

It was alleged that Ms Christina Bourne was guilty of unacceptable professional conduct and/or conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute, in that whilst working as a music teacher and employed by Surrey County Council:

1. In or around 2012 to 2017, she engaged in a sexual relationship with a former pupil, Pupil A;
2. On or around 22 April 2017 she disclosed private sexual photographs relating to Pupil A to Pupil A's partner with intent to cause distress.
3. On 6 September 2017, she accepted a police caution in relation to her conduct as set out at paragraph 2.
4. Her conduct at paragraph 1 above was of a sexual nature.

In her response to the notice of hearing Ms Bourne denied allegations 1 and 4. She admitted sending the pictures, which was understood to be an admission to allegation 2. It was unclear if she admitted or denied allegation 3.

On the first day of the hearing Ms Bourne clarified that she admitted allegations 1 and 4 but only in relation to the period December 2015 to 2017 and on the basis that this was a consensual relationship. As this admission did not relate to the full period covered by allegations 1 and 4 the panel took this to be a non-admission to the facts as alleged. The panel treated the facts as denied. Ms Bourne admitted allegation 3. She denied allegation 2.

In her response to the notice of hearing Ms Bourne admitted unacceptable professional conduct and/or conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute in relation to sending the pictures. The panel considered this to be an admission in relation to allegation 2. It was unclear if Ms Bourne admitted unacceptable professional conduct and/or conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute in relation to allegation 3 so this was considered as not admitted.

On the first day of the hearing Ms Bourne clarified that she admitted unacceptable professional conduct and/or conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute in relation to allegations 1 and 4 in relation to the period December 2015 to 2017. She also admitted unacceptable professional conduct and/or conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute in relation to allegation 3.

## Summary of evidence

### Documents

In advance of the hearing, the panel received a bundle of documents which included:

Section 1: Chronology, List of key people and Anonymised Pupil List - pages 1 to 6

Section 2: Notice of Hearing and Response to Notice of Hearing - pages 7 to 21

Section 3: Teaching Regulation Agency witness statements - pages 22 to 24

Section 4: Teaching Regulation Agency documents - pages 25 to 93

In addition, the panel agreed to accept the following:

- Updated Anonymised Pupil List - page 1
- Statement from Witness B dated 12 November 2025 - page 1
- Extract from the medical records of Ms Bourne from Feb 2017 to May 2018 – page 1

The panel members confirmed that they had read all of the documents within the bundle, in advance of the hearing and the additional documents that the panel decided to admit.

In the consideration of this case, the panel had regard to the Procedures.

### Witnesses

The panel heard oral evidence from the following witnesses called by the presenting officer:

Pupil A – former pupil at [REDACTED] (the School).

Ms Bourne also gave evidence to the panel and called the following witness:

Witness B - [REDACTED]

### Decision and reasons

The panel announced its decision and reasons as follows:

The panel carefully considered the case before it and reached a decision.

Between 2007 and 2010 Ms Bourne taught Pupil A [REDACTED] at a primary school, [REDACTED] (the School), at a [REDACTED] through Surrey County Council/Surrey Arts (Surrey Arts).

On 22 April 2017 Pupil A's [REDACTED] received messages from an unknown user on Instagram informing her of Pupil A's relationship with Ms Bourne.

On or around 26 April 2017 Pupil A's [REDACTED] received a WhatsApp message with some more detail relating to Pupil A and including sexual pictures of Pupil A.

On 26 April 2017 Pupil A reported concerns to the police about his relationship with Ms Bourne.

On 27 April 2017 Surrey Arts confirmed to the LADO that Ms Bourne was still employed by them. Ms Bourne subsequently confirmed to the LADO that she was working at two schools through Surrey Arts and also had contracts at 4 other schools. She had 10 private pupils of whom 5 were adults. Ms Bourne was suspended from her school roles whilst investigations were undertaken. She later resigned from them.

On 24 May 2017 an initial "Managing allegations strategy/evaluation meeting" was held by Surrey County Council.

On 30 June 2017 the police prepared a statement for Pupil A based on the information Pupil A had provided to them in telephone conversations.

On 6 September 2017 Ms Bourne accepted a caution for the offence of "disclosing private sexual photographs and films with intent to cause distress" on 26 April 2017, which caution was recorded on the Police National Computer.

On 29 March 2018 the Surrey County Council LADO closed their case.

## **Findings of fact**

The findings of fact were as follows:

### **1. In or around 2012 to 2017, you engaged in a sexual relationship with a former pupil, Pupil A;**

The panel noted that Ms Bourne had admitted the facts of this allegation in relation to the period December 2015 to 2017. She denied the facts in relation to the period 2012 to November 2015.

The panel heard evidence from former pupil, Pupil A.

[REDACTED]

Ms Bourne gave evidence to the panel.

[REDACTED]

The panel found Ms Bourne's evidence in relation to this allegation to be detailed and to be consistent with her earlier account of the events [REDACTED].

The panel heard evidence from Witness B that [REDACTED]. She recalled Pupil A, having apparently seen Ms Bourne's picture on her Facebook page. Pupil A told her that Ms Bourne had been their [REDACTED] and asked for Ms Bourne's personal telephone number as they were interested in resuming [REDACTED]. Witness B spoke to Ms Bourne and, having received her permission to do so, shared Ms Bourne's work email with Pupil A.

[REDACTED] The panel found, on the balance of probabilities, that the sexual relationship between Pupil A and Ms Bourne had taken place in and around late 2015 to 2017.

The panel found allegation 1 proven taking account of Ms Bourne's admission [REDACTED], which it found to be consistent with the evidence before the panel.

**2. On or around 22 April 2017 you disclosed private sexual photographs relating to Pupil A to Pupil A's partner with intent to cause distress.**

**3. On 6 September 2017, you accepted a police caution in relation to your conduct as set out at paragraph 2.**

Ms Bourne admitted allegation 3 but denied allegation 2.

[REDACTED]

Witness B told the panel that she was aware from Ms Bourne of the nature of her relationship with her [REDACTED].

The panel considered all of the evidence before it very carefully. It found the contemporaneous evidence of the circumstances of the offence as formally recorded in their police log to be compelling. [REDACTED]

Taking all of these factors into account, and substantially based on the contemporaneous police interview notes, the panel found allegation 2 proven on the balance of probabilities.

The panel found Ms Bourne's admission to allegation 3 was consistent with the evidence before it and found allegation 3 proven on the basis of that admission.

**4. Your conduct at paragraph 1 above was of a sexual nature.**

The panel had found allegation 1 (Ms Bourne having engaged in a sexual relationship with Pupil A) proven in relation to the period December 2015 to 2017. The panel considered that engaging in a sexual relationship was because of its nature conduct of a sexual nature.

On this basis the panel found allegation 4 proven on the balance of probabilities.

## **Findings as to unacceptable professional conduct and/or conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute**

Having found all of the allegations proved, the panel went on to consider whether the facts of those proved allegations amounted to unacceptable professional conduct and/or conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute.

In doing so, the panel had regard to the document Teacher misconduct: The prohibition of teachers, which is referred to as “the Advice”.

The panel noted Ms Bourne’s admissions to unacceptable professional conduct and/or conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute in relation to allegations 1 and 4, and, also, in relation to allegation 3.

The panel first considered whether the conduct of Ms Bourne, in relation to the facts found proved, involved breaches of the Teachers’ Standards.

The panel considered that, by reference to Part 2, Ms Bourne was in breach of the following standards in relation to all of the proven allegations:

A teacher is expected to demonstrate consistently high standard of personal and professional behaviour.

- Teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by
  - ... at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to a teacher’s professional position

The panel also found a breach of the following standard in relation to allegations 2 and 3 only;

- not undermining fundamental British values, including ... the rule of law, ...

The panel also considered whether Ms Bourne’s conduct displayed behaviours associated with any of the offences listed on pages 12 and 13 of the Advice.

The Advice indicates that where behaviours associated with such an offence exist, a panel is likely to conclude that an individual’s conduct would amount to unacceptable professional conduct.



The panel found that the offence of revenge pornography was relevant in relation to allegations 2 and 3.

The act was intentional and undertaken in a way that sought to intentionally cause harm to Pupil A, Pupil A's [REDACTED] and Pupil A's relationship with [REDACTED]. The use of a ghost account to send messages to Pupil A's [REDACTED] and a third party's phone to send the explicit images was designed to conceal from Pupil A the identity of Ms Bourne as the sender of the messages and explicit images.

The panel noted that the allegations took place outside the education setting.

In relation to allegations 1 and 4 the panel took into account that the sexual relationship was consensual and took place when Pupil A was an adult, and some time after Pupil A had ceased to be Ms Bourne's pupil.

The panel considered that whilst such conduct fell below the standards expected of a teacher and amounted to misconduct of a serious nature, taking account of the factors above, and that the conduct had taken place outside of an educational setting, the panel was of the view that the conduct detailed in allegations 1 and 4 did not affect the way Ms Bourne fulfilled her teaching role and would not lead to pupils being exposed or influenced by the behaviour in a harmful way.

In relation to allegations 2 and 3 the panel considered that Ms Bourne's conduct, although it occurred outside an education setting, could undermine respect for the rule of law and demonstrated a serious undermining of the standards of personal and ethical conduct that are expected of teachers. It normalised unacceptable behaviour which represented a risk to pupils.

For these reasons, the panel was satisfied that the conduct of Ms Bourne in all of the allegations amounted to misconduct of a serious nature which fell significantly short of the standards expected of the profession.

Additionally, for these reasons, the panel was satisfied that Ms Bourne was guilty of unacceptable professional conduct in relation to allegations 2 and 3. It was not satisfied that she was guilty of unacceptable professional conduct in relation to allegations 1 and 4 for the same reasons.

In relation to whether Ms Bourne's actions amounted to conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute, the panel took into account the way the teaching profession is viewed by others. It considered the influence that teachers may have on pupils, parents and others in the community. The panel also took account of the uniquely influential role that teachers can hold in pupils' lives and the fact that pupils must be able to view teachers as role models in the way that they behave.

In considering the issue of disrepute, the panel also considered whether Ms Bourne's conduct displayed behaviours associated with any of the offences in the list that begins on page 12 of the Advice.

As set out above in the panel's findings as to whether Ms Bourne was guilty of unacceptable professional conduct, the Panel found that the offence of revenge porn was relevant in relation to allegations 2 and 3.

The findings of misconduct in relation to all of the proven allegations are serious, and the conduct displayed would be likely to have a negative impact on the individual's status as a teacher.

The panel considered that Ms Bourne's conduct in relation to all of the proven allegations could potentially damage the public's perception of a teacher.

For these reasons, the panel found that Ms Bourne's actions in all of the proven allegations constituted conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute.

[REDACTED]

## **Panel's recommendation to the Secretary of State**

Given the panel's findings in respect of unacceptable professional conduct and/or conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute, it was necessary for the panel to go on to consider whether it would be appropriate to recommend the imposition of a prohibition order by the Secretary of State.

In considering whether to recommend to the Secretary of State that a prohibition order should be made, the panel had to consider whether it would be an appropriate and proportionate measure, and whether it would be in the public interest to do so. Prohibition orders should not be given in order to be punitive, or to show that blame has been apportioned, although they are likely to have punitive effect.

The panel had regard to the particular public interest considerations set out in the Advice and, having done so, found a number of them to be relevant in this case, namely,

- the maintenance of public confidence in the profession, and
- declaring and upholding proper standards of conduct within the teaching profession.

In the light of the panel's findings against Ms Bourne, which involved her engaging in a sexual relationship with a former pupil whom she had previously taught, and, sending explicit images of Pupil A, shared with her privately by Pupil A, to Pupil A's [REDACTED] with intent to cause distress, for which she received a caution, there was a strong public

interest consideration in respect of the maintenance of public confidence in the profession. The panel considered that public confidence in the profession could be seriously weakened if conduct such as that found against Ms Bourne were not treated with the utmost seriousness when regulating the conduct of the profession.

Similarly, the panel was of the view that a strong public interest consideration in declaring proper standards of conduct in the profession was also present as the conduct found against Ms Bourne was outside that which could reasonably be tolerated.

In addition to the public interest considerations set out above, the panel went on to consider whether there was a public interest in retaining Ms Bourne in the profession. The panel decided that there was a public interest consideration in retaining Ms Bourne in the profession, since no doubt had been cast upon her abilities as an educator. The panel noted that she had been consistently engaged as a music teacher by a number of schools through Surrey Arts and private individuals. However, the panel also noted that it had no evidence before it attesting to her skills as an educator. The panel considered that the adverse public interest considerations above outweigh any interest in retaining Ms Bourne in the profession, since her behaviour fundamentally breached the standard of conduct expected of a teacher.

The panel considered carefully the seriousness of the behaviour, noting that the Advice states that the expectation of both the public and pupils, is that members of the teaching profession maintain an exemplary level of integrity and ethical standards at all times.

In view of the clear public interest considerations that were present, the panel considered carefully whether or not it would be proportionate to impose a prohibition order, taking into account the effect that this would have on Ms Bourne.

The panel took further account of the Advice, which suggests that a prohibition order may be appropriate if certain behaviours of a teacher have been proved. In the list of such behaviours, those that were relevant in this case were:

- serious departure from the personal and professional conduct elements of the Teachers' Standards;
- the commission of a serious criminal offence, including those that resulted in a conviction or caution, paying particular attention to offences that are 'relevant matters' for the purposes of the Police Act 1997 and criminal record disclosures;
- an abuse of any trust, knowledge, or influence gained through their professional position in order to advance a romantic or sexual relationship with a pupil or former pupil;
- sexual misconduct, e.g. involving actions that were sexually motivated or of a sexual nature and/or that use or exploit the trust, knowledge or influence derived from the individual's professional position;

- actions or behaviours that ... undermine fundamental British values of ... the rule of law, ...;
- ...a lack of integrity, including the deliberate concealment of their actions ....

The panel considered that it was through her teaching role that Ms Bourne had come to know Pupil A and that there was an inherent power imbalance between them which put her in a position of influence in relation to Pupil A. As a teacher Ms Bourne was in a position where she could, and should, have ensured that no sexual relationship took place between her and her former pupil. She had a responsibility to prevent it from taking place. By engaging in and continuing the sexual relationship over a considerable period of time she seriously departed from the standards expected of her as a teacher. Ms Bourne had also committed a serious offence, for which she received a caution, and intentionally caused distress by disclosing private sexual photographs of Pupil A. In her admissions to the police and in accepting the caution, the panel recognised that Ms Bourne had taken responsibility for sending messages to Pupil A's [REDACTED] using a ghost Instagram account and the sending of the sexual photographs, via WhatsApp, from a phone that was not her own. These actions demonstrated that there was an element of deliberate concealment of her actions.

Even though some of the behaviour found proved in this case indicated that a prohibition order would be appropriate, the panel went on to consider the mitigating factors. Mitigating factors may indicate that a prohibition order would not be appropriate or proportionate.

There was no evidence that Ms Bourne's actions were not deliberate.

There was no evidence that Ms Bourne was acting under duress, indeed her actions in sending the sexual photographs were intentional and designed to cause distress.

Ms Bourne had no other matters recorded on the Police National Computer as at 9 November 2023 [REDACTED]. The panel considered her a person of previous good character. The panel also took into account the positive good character reference from Witness B within her evidence to the panel, although was aware that Witness B was [REDACTED] and not a professional colleague.

The panel noted that there were no references before it from any colleagues which attested to Ms Bourne's abilities as an educator.

The panel noted that Ms Bourne had admitted her actions in sending the explicit images as soon as she was asked about it by the police and had maintained that admission by both accepting the police caution and by accepting responsibility for her actions in the TRA proceedings and at the hearing. In addition, the panel noted that Ms Bourne told the panel that she was experiencing long term stress [REDACTED]. The panel also took into account that Ms Bourne was a young teacher, who had not undertaken formal teacher

training, and who was working in an environment that did not have the benefit of a school's direct management structure and support. Indeed, Ms Bourne incorrectly understood that pupil confidentiality stood in the way of her working in a collaborative manner with fellow teachers. In consequence of these factors Ms Bourne appeared to panel to lack the expected knowledge of professional boundaries and safeguarding including the existence of KCSIE (Keeping Children Safe in Education, introduced in 2014), and the Teachers' Standards (introduced in 2012). However, whilst these factors resulted in her not being well equipped to professionally address the situation in which she found herself, she should have been aware of the important, and fundamental, principle of maintaining professional boundaries.

The panel found that Ms Bourne was developing some limited insight although it noted that she had not undertaken formal training around the issues of concern or demonstrated formal reflection on her actions in relation to statutory guidance. [REDACTED]. The panel did not consider that she had properly understood, or adequately reflected on, the very serious impact of her actions on Pupil A and on Pupil A's [REDACTED].

Taking all of these factors into account the panel considered that there was some risk of repetition of the inappropriate conduct, albeit that it considered that this was at the lower end of the scale. Ms Bourne had not undertaken formal training and reflection on her conduct which would demonstrate that the risk had been reduced to an acceptable level particularly where she may work again, in the future, in a less structured educational environment.

The panel first considered whether it would be proportionate to conclude this case with no recommendation of prohibition, considering whether the publication of the findings made by the panel would be sufficient.

The panel was of the view that, applying the standard of the ordinary intelligent citizen, it would not be a proportionate and appropriate response to recommend no prohibition order. Recommending that the publication of adverse findings would be sufficient would unacceptably compromise the public interest considerations present in this case, despite the severity of the consequences for Ms Bourne of prohibition.

The panel was of the view that prohibition was both proportionate and appropriate. The panel decided that the public interest considerations outweighed the interests of Ms Bourne. That her actions had involved a sexual relationship with a former pupil and, in relation to the matters for which she received a caution, were designed to cause distress and were undertaken in a way that sought to conceal her involvement by using a ghost account and the details of third parties were significant factors in forming that opinion. Accordingly, the panel made a recommendation to the Secretary of State that a prohibition order should be imposed with immediate effect.

The panel went on to consider whether or not it would be appropriate for it to decide to recommend a review period of the order. The panel was mindful that the Advice states that a prohibition order applies for life, but there may be circumstances, in any given case, that may make it appropriate to allow a teacher to apply to have the prohibition order reviewed after a specified period of time that may not be less than 2 years.

The Advice indicates that there are certain types of case where, if relevant, the public interest will have greater relevance and weigh in favour of not offering a review period.

The panel considered one of these was relevant:

- serious sexual misconduct e.g. where the act was sexually motivated and resulted in, or had the potential to result in, harm to a person or persons, particularly where the individual has used their professional position to influence or exploit a person or persons;

The panel noted that Ms Bourne had come to know Pupil A through her work with him as a pupil and considered that a power imbalance existed between them. She had allowed a sexual relationship to develop between them when she should not have done so.

The Advice also indicates that there are certain other types of cases where it is likely that the public interest will have greater relevance and weigh in favour of a longer period before a review is considered appropriate.

None of the listed characteristics were engaged by the panel's findings.

The panel noted that Ms Bourne was a young teacher, who had not undertaken formal teacher training and was working in a less structured educational environment which appeared to have resulted in her having a limited understanding of the professional requirements of a teacher. However, the Panel considered that she should have had a clear understanding that her actions were wholly unacceptable and seriously inappropriate and represented a breach of fundamental principles of the teaching profession.

The panel took into account that Ms Bourne had admitted and accepted responsibility for her actions in the TRA process. However, whilst she had expressed some limited remorse for her actions, she had failed to show an understanding or insight into the seriousness of her actions or their impact on Pupil A, Pupil A's [REDACTED]. The panel understood that her level of remorse may have been coloured by her perception of Pupil A's alleged behaviour subsequent to the caution.

Ms Bourne had also not demonstrated an appreciation of the serious impact of her actions on the teaching profession and its reputation. She had not undertaken any training or formal reflection on her conduct since it had taken place.

Taking these factors into account the panel considered that a review period of four years was necessary. This would allow Ms Bourne time to reflect upon and gain an appreciation of the seriousness of her actions and their impact on others and to demonstrate developed knowledge, understanding and reflection on the Teachers' Standards, including the fundamental requirements to always maintain appropriate professional boundaries and professional integrity.

The panel decided that the findings indicated a situation in which a review period would be appropriate and, as such, decided that it would be proportionate, in all the circumstances, for the prohibition order to be recommended with provision for a 4-year review period.

## **Decision and reasons on behalf of the Secretary of State**

I have given very careful consideration to this case and to the recommendation of the panel in respect of both sanction and review period.

In considering this case, I have also given very careful attention to the Advice that the Secretary of State has published concerning the prohibition of teachers.

In this case, the panel has found all of the allegations proven and found that those proven facts amount to unacceptable professional conduct and/or conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute.

The panel has made a recommendation to the Secretary of State that Ms Christina Bourne should be the subject of a prohibition order, with a review period of four years.

In particular, the panel has found that Ms Bourne is in breach of the following standards:

- Teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by
  - ... at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to a teacher's professional position

The panel also found a breach of the following standard in relation to allegations 2 and 3 only;

- not undermining fundamental British values, including ... the rule of law, ...

The panel finds that the conduct of Ms Bourne fell significantly short of the standards expected of the profession.

The findings of misconduct are particularly serious as they include a teacher accepting a Police Caution for disclosing private sexual photographs with intent to cause distress.

I have to determine whether the imposition of a prohibition order is proportionate and in the public interest. In assessing that for this case, I have considered the overall aim of a prohibition order which is to protect pupils and to maintain public confidence in the profession. I have considered the extent to which a prohibition order in this case would achieve that aim taking into account the impact that it will have on the individual teacher. I have also asked myself, whether a less intrusive measure, such as the published finding of unacceptable professional conduct and conduct that may bring the profession into disrepute, would itself be sufficient to achieve the overall aim. I have to consider whether the consequences of such a publication are themselves sufficient. I have considered therefore whether or not prohibiting Ms Bourne, and the impact that will have on the teacher, is proportionate and in the public interest.

In this case, I have considered the extent to which a prohibition order would protect children and safeguard pupils. The panel makes this observation:

“In relation to allegations 2 and 3 the panel considered that Ms Bourne’s conduct, although it occurred outside an education setting, could undermine respect for the rule of law and demonstrated a serious undermining of the standards of personal and ethical conduct that are expected of teachers. It normalised unacceptable behaviour which represented a risk to pupils.”

A prohibition order would therefore prevent such a risk from being present in the future.

I have also taken into account the panel’s comments on insight and remorse, which it sets out as follows:

“The panel found that Ms Bourne was developing some limited insight although it noted that she had not undertaken formal training around the issues of concern or demonstrated formal reflection on her actions in relation to statutory guidance. [REDACTED]. The panel did not consider that she had properly understood, or adequately reflected on, the very serious impact of her actions on Pupil A and on [REDACTED].

Taking all of these factors into account the panel considered that there was some risk of repetition of the inappropriate conduct, albeit that it considered that this was at the lower end of the scale. Ms Bourne had not undertaken formal training and reflection on her conduct which would demonstrate that the risk had been reduced to an acceptable level particularly where she may work again, in the future, in a less structured educational environment.”

In my judgement, the lack of evidence that Ms Bourne has developed full insight means that there is some risk of the repetition of this behaviour and this puts at risk the future wellbeing of pupils. I have therefore given this element considerable weight in reaching my decision.



I have gone on to consider the extent to which a prohibition order would maintain public confidence in the profession. The panel makes the following observation:

“In the light of the panel’s findings against Ms Bourne, which involved her engaging in a sexual relationship with a former pupil whom she had previously taught, and, sending explicit images of Pupil A, shared with her privately by Pupil A, to Pupil A’s [REDACTED] with intent to cause distress, for which she received a caution, there was a strong public interest consideration in respect of the maintenance of public confidence in the profession. The panel considered that public confidence in the profession could be seriously weakened if conduct such as that found against Ms Bourne were not treated with the utmost seriousness when regulating the conduct of the profession.”

I am particularly mindful of the finding of a teacher accepting a Police Caution for sharing private sexual photographs in this case and the negative impact that such a finding is likely to have on the reputation of the profession.

I have had to consider that the public has a high expectation of professional standards of all teachers and that the public might regard a failure to impose a prohibition order as a failure to uphold those high standards. In weighing these considerations, I have had to consider the matter from the point of view of an “ordinary intelligent and well-informed citizen.”

I have considered whether the publication of a finding of unacceptable professional conduct and conduct likely to bring the profession into disrepute, in the absence of a prohibition order, can itself be regarded by such a person as being a proportionate response to the misconduct that has been found proven in this case.

I have also considered the impact of a prohibition order on Ms Bourne herself. The panel comments as follows:

“In addition to the public interest considerations set out above, the panel went on to consider whether there was a public interest in retaining Ms Bourne in the profession. The panel decided that there was a public interest consideration in retaining Ms Bourne in the profession, since no doubt had been cast upon her abilities as an educator. The panel noted that she had been consistently engaged as a music teacher by a number of schools through Surrey Arts and private individuals. However, the panel also noted that it had no evidence before it attesting to her skills as an educator.”

I have also noted the panel’s comments regarding the mitigating circumstances in Ms Bourne’s personal and professional life at the time of these events.

A prohibition order would prevent Ms Bourne from teaching. A prohibition order would also clearly deprive the public of her contribution to the profession for the period that it is in force.

In this case, I have placed considerable weight on the panel's comments concerning the serious nature of the misconduct found in this case and the risk of repetition. I have also placed weight on the panel's comments on insight and remorse:

"The panel took into account that Ms Bourne had admitted and accepted responsibility for her actions in the TRA process. However, whilst she had expressed some limited remorse for her actions, she had failed to show an understanding or insight into the seriousness of her actions or their impact on Pupil A, Pupil A's [REDACTED]. The panel understood that her level of remorse may have been coloured by her perception of Pupil A's alleged behaviour subsequent to the caution.

Ms Bourne had also not demonstrated an appreciation of the serious impact of her actions on the teaching profession and its reputation. She had not undertaken any training or formal reflection on her conduct since it had taken place."

I have given less weight in my consideration of sanction therefore, to the contribution that Ms Bourne has made to the profession. In my view, it is necessary to impose a prohibition order in order to maintain public confidence in the profession. A published decision, in light of the circumstances in this case, that is not backed up by full remorse or insight, does not in my view satisfy the public interest requirement concerning public confidence in the profession.

For these reasons, I have concluded that a prohibition order is proportionate and in the public interest in order to achieve the intended aims of a prohibition order.

I have gone on to consider the matter of a review period. In this case, the panel has recommended a four-year review period.

In doing so, it has referenced the Advice:

"The Advice indicates that there are certain types of case where, if relevant, the public interest will have greater relevance and weigh in favour of not offering a review period.

The panel considered one of these was relevant:

- serious sexual misconduct e.g. where the act was sexually motivated and resulted in, or had the potential to result in, harm to a person or persons, particularly where the individual has used their professional position to influence or exploit a person or persons;"

I have considered the panel's concluding comments:

“Taking these factors into account the panel considered that a review period of four years was necessary. This would allow Ms Bourne time to reflect upon and gain an appreciation of the seriousness of her actions and their impact on others and to demonstrate developed knowledge, understanding and reflection on the Teachers’ Standards, including the fundamental requirements to always maintain appropriate professional boundaries and professional integrity.

The panel decided that the findings indicated a situation in which a review period would be appropriate and, as such, decided that it would be proportionate, in all the circumstances, for the prohibition order to be recommended with provision for a 4-year review period.”

I have considered whether a four-year review period reflects the seriousness of the findings and is a proportionate period to achieve the aim of maintaining public confidence in the profession.

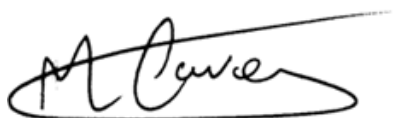
As the panel notes, the Advice indicates that in cases involving serious sexual misconduct the public interest will have greater relevance and weigh in favour of not offering a review period. However, after consideration of the mitigating evidence in this case, I have concluded that the panel’s recommendation is sufficient and proportionate in order to achieve the aim of maintaining public confidence in the profession and to safeguard the future wellbeing of pupils.

I agree with the panel therefore that a four-year review period is required to satisfy the maintenance of public confidence in the profession. If Ms Bourne is to return to teaching after that period has elapsed, she will need to provide a future panel with evidence that she has taken steps to develop full insight into and remorse for her actions in order to provide assurance that she does not pose a risk to the safety and wellbeing of pupils.

**This means that Ms Christina Bourne is prohibited from teaching indefinitely and cannot teach in any school, sixth form college, relevant youth accommodation or children’s home in England.** She may apply for the prohibition order to be set aside, but not until 2029, four years from the date of this order at the earliest. This is not an automatic right to have the prohibition order removed. If she does apply, a panel will meet to consider whether the prohibition order should be set aside. Without a successful application, Ms Bourne remains prohibited from teaching indefinitely.

This order takes effect from the date on which it is served on the teacher.

Ms Bourne has a right of appeal to the High Court within 28 days from the date she is given notice of this order.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Bourne', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Decision maker: Marc Cavey**

**Date: 19 December 2025**

This decision is taken by the decision maker named above on behalf of the Secretary of State.