

For the attention of:

Principals and Boards of Governors of all grant-aided schools
Higher Education Institutions
Institutions of Further and Higher Education
Education and Library Boards
Council for Catholic Maintained Schools
General Teaching Council for Northern Ireland

14 September 2009

**TEACHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP HANDBOOK – REVISED EDITION
(SEPTEMBER 2009)**

The purpose of this letter is to alert you to amendments to the Teacher Education Partnership Handbook (TEPH).

As you will be aware, the TEPH draws together in one place guidance on the roles and responsibilities of the various teacher education partners in Northern Ireland (schools, education and library boards and higher education institutions) and of student teachers, beginning teachers, teacher-tutors and others with a role in the three main stages of early teacher education – initial teacher education, induction, and early professional development (EPD). It is an important and valuable resource which combines the vision of an integrated approach with practical support.

The TEPH has been updated to reflect the following:

Section 2 – Core Values and Teacher Competences

- The General Teaching Council for Northern Ireland's (GTCNI's) Code of Values and Professional Practice and the replacement of the previous framework of 92 teaching competences with the 27 new competence statements as set out in the GTCNI publication "Teaching: the Reflective Profession".

Section 3 – Initial Teacher Education

- A revised Career Entry Profile and guidance, drawn up by the GTCNI and agreed with the higher education institutions.

In addition, I would draw your attention to the following important change:

- Confirmation of completion of Induction and EPD – see Paragraphs 4.10 and 5.11.

Please note that, with immediate effect, certificates of completion of induction and of EPD should no longer be copied to Teachers' Administration and Salaries Branch but should instead be copied to the General Teaching Council for Northern Ireland, 3rd Floor, Albany House, 73-75 Great Victoria Street, Belfast BT2 7AF.

The revised TEPH may be accessed at http://www.deni.gov.uk/4_teachers_-_professional_development_tepartnershiphandbook_pg.htm

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