

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

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TEACHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP HANDBOOK (AUGUST 2010 EDITION) AND QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS BOOKLET

The purpose of this letter is to alert you to further refinements to the Teacher Education Partnership Handbook (TEPH) and to the publication of a complementary 'Questions and Answers' booklet.

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. It is an important and valuable resource which combines the vision of an integrated approach with practical support.

The main changes to the September 2009 Edition of the TEPH are as follows:

Section 4 – The Induction Stage: Partnership between schools and the Curriculum Advisory and Support Services (CASS)

- Sub-section 4.3.1 has been refined and simplified.
- Sub-section 4.3.2 – when developing individual action plans for each beginning teacher, teacher-tutors should also take account of the personal and professional development needs of the beginning teacher.
- Sub-section 4.3.6 – the Induction portfolio should include a short statement of context, and there should be two formal observations of the beginning teacher's teaching each term.
- Sub-section 4.10 – please note that a copy of the Certificate of Completion of Induction should also be sent to the relevant Education and Library Board.

Section 5 – Early Professional Development (EPD): Managing and Coordinating EPD in Schools

- Sub-section 5.4.2 – the experienced teacher who is providing tutorial support for the beginning teacher is expected to attend the teacher-tutor training provided by their Education and Library Board and to regularly update this training.
- Sub-section 5.10 has been refined and provides guidance as to when this form should be completed.
- Sub-section 5.11 – please note that a copy of the Certificate of Completion of the EPD stage should also be sent to the relevant Education and Library Board.

Questions and Answers Booklet

The booklet, “The Professional Development of Beginning Teachers: Questions and Answers”, which complements the TEPH, provides additional guidance in the form of frequently asked questions.

Both the TEPH and the Questions and Answers booklet may be accessed at http://www.deni.gov.uk/4_teachers_-_professional_development_tepartnershiphandbook_pg.htm



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