Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards

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Dear Colleagues,

The Department's Recruitment and Retention Strategy, published in January 2019, committed to helping talented people become teachers by introducing a new application system for initial teacher training.

I can confirm that our new "Apply for Postgraduate Teacher Training" Gov.UK service is now being piloted by a small number of schools that provide School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITTs). Over the coming weeks and months, many more SCITTs will be invited to join the pilot. I am grateful for the support of the participating schools and universities that are providing teacher training.

DfE's Apply for Postgraduate Teacher Training

The Department has conducted extensive research into the needs of candidates and those delivering teacher training. This has helped inform the design of the new Apply service, to ensure it is intuitive and easy to use and caters to the needs of SCITTs, schools and universities.

My officials are now opening the service to start processing applications to SCITTs and schools in specific regions. If you would like to find out more or help shape the development of the Apply for Postgraduate Teacher Training

service I would be grateful if you could email us at: becomingateacher@digital.education.gov.uk.

The team is also working closely with universities throughout England to support them in transitioning to Apply for Postgraduate Teacher Training. Those that have opted to be an "early adopter" are joining the pilot from October 2020.

All postgraduate teacher training applications will be processed through the new Apply service from October 2021, when the UCAS Teacher Training service will be replaced. If you would like to adopt the service in time for the October 2020 recruitment cycle, I would be grateful if you would email us, again, at: becomingateacher@digital.education.gov.uk.

I am very grateful to the existing "early adopters" and would like to encourage other universities to take part and help develop a service that better meets the needs of both candidates and those engaged in teacher training.

With best wishes.

Nick Gibb MP