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*Promoting Quality in Teacher Education*

**Note of the meeting of the UCET Management Forum held on-line at 1pm on Tuesday 12 June 2021**

Welcome, introductions and minutes of the previous meeting

Colleagues were welcomed to the final meeting of the academic year. The note of the meeting held on 19 March was agreed. There were no matters arising not included elsewhere on the agenda.

Discussion

A range of issues was discussed, including:

* An update from JNR on issues not covered elsewhere on the agenda, including the teaching apprenticeship for the learning & skills sector, developments in Northern Ireland & Wales and UCET meetings taking place on-line for the rest of the 2021 calendar year.
* The DfE review of the ITE Market, latest details of which are available at [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reforms-to-teacher-development?utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\_source=21cf7cef-e9da-402e-b1ea-41150088354e&utm\_content=immediately](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fpublications%2Freforms-to-teacher-development%3Futm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3Dgovuk-notifications%26utm_source%3D21cf7cef-e9da-402e-b1ea-41150088354e%26utm_content%3Dimmediately&data=04%7C01%7C%7C8c8717b32a26401c6ed608d92a4d01c6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637587332491549022%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=poCEV56dU4hbgKFVX1u7DC3zi5fBBDI8Ak%2BjdA7wXdU%3D&reserved=0). Proposal, which were expected to be consulted on in July, were expected to cover: the content and structure of ITE programmes; mentoring support for student teachers; and a process under which existing and possible new providers would be required to seek accreditation under new ‘quality’ requirements. Comments made during the discussion related to: the number of accredited ITE providers there were likely to be; the apparently unreasonable timescale for implementation of the proposals; the cost implications for ITE providers and partner schools; the impact on teacher supply; and the availability of school placements. It was agreed that UCET would produce a briefing paper about the implications of the proposals for schools, and a draft consultation response, as soon as the consultation proposals had been published. In the meantime, UCET would be happy to provide briefing for senior staff within HEIs. UCET’s briefing paper for working with TSHs and MATTs in the context of the review was noted and welcomed.
* Other policy developments, including: teaching school hubs (who would have an as yet unspecified role in the new IE market); the Institute of Teaching (including the implications of proposals that the IOT has DAPs); the Early Career Framework and its implications for mentor resources; and UCET’s response to the DFE’s iQTS consultation.
* Suggestions for future morning symposia included: working with teaching schools hubs; building mentoring capacity; paired placements; and preparation for OfSTED inspections.
* Regulatory issues, where OfSTED’s focus on: CCF implementation and student teachers being able to articulate how they have received their CCF entitlement; the alignment of ITE curricula with what student teachers experience in schools; SSP; and the importance of not assessing students against the Teacher Standards part-way through programmes was stressed (one option considered was assessing students against the ITE curricula which could in turn be mapped against the standards). Colleagues were advised to also take into account the content of OfSTED subject reports, such as those recently published in respect of MFL and maths. The recent OfSTED research report into ITE, which appeared to have been drafted in the context of the Market Review, was noted.
* DfE guidance in relation to Covid 19, including the continued availability of course-extension funding for QTS programmes. Forum members reported a varied approach to social distancing next year, with some institutions deciding to return to pre-Covid arrangements (albeit sometimes with ‘plan Bs’), and others following a more blended approach with a mixture of face to face and on-line sessions, possibly depending on cohort size. Risk Assessments for students in placement would continue. Although Covid related relaxations that had been made to the ITE criteria would not apply for 2021/22 onwards, colleagues were reminded that requirements such as those about school placements related to programme design rather than to the experiences of each individual student teacher. In answer to a question, it was confirmed that, as long as institutional rules allowed it, ITE providers could accept evidence other than physical examination certificates of entry requirements being met, although care should be taken to ensure the robustness of such evidence, and that original certificates should be viewed when practicable.
* Recruitment to ITE, where difficulties (often bursary related) were reported in science subjects (especially biology) and in MFL. It was anticipated that some potential students were likely to delay applying by a year in the hope that bursaries would be increased, and to take a year out after living through Covid.
* The Chair and Vice Chair of Management Forum, where Stefanie Sullivan had been elected as Chair and Claire Ball-Smith as Vice Chair for up to three years from 2021/22. Matt Varley was again thanked for his excellent service as Chair over the previous three years.

Items for information

The following items were noted for information:

* The Easter UCET newsletter,
* The 2-3 November UCET on-line conference, registration for which was open at: [www.ucet/conference](http://www.ucet/conference).

Any other business

None.

Date of next meeting

Tuesday 30 November, via Zoom (although interim meetings might take place).