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| Update on ITT delivery 2021 to 2022 Dear colleagues,  As announced by the government, there has now been a full return to Plan A, with all Plan B measures removed on Thursday 27 January. We will continue to monitor the level of disruption caused by COVID-19 to ITT delivery this academic year.  We would like to thank stakeholders for providing feedback and to everyone who completed the survey in December. At present, based on feedback and data from the sector, we do not plan to make any changes to the ITT criteria or Education (School Teachers’ Qualifications) Regulation.  The Secretary of State wrote to all schools at the start of term saying “I want to reassure you that enabling face-to-face education and childcare is my absolute priority.” Alongside that, we continue to encourage you to work with schools to host trainees on face-to-face placements, where possible. We’ll also be sending further, additional communications to schools, including via the daily bulletin, encouraging schools to either continue to host trainee teachers or to consider starting to if they do not already.  If you’re struggling to source sufficient numbers of school placements for your trainees, you might consider taking the following steps:   |  | | --- | | * Contacting your local Teaching School Hubs to ask whether they can provide support sourcing placements: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/teaching-school-hubs> |  |  | | --- | | * Use the Get Information About Schools (GIAS) service to search for and contact schools in the area(s) you are looking for placements in: <https://get-information-schools.service.gov.uk/> |  |  | | --- | | * Working with schools to buddy up trainees on placements |  |  | | --- | | * Use online learning and teaching where required, which could form part of a trainee’s required teaching experience. For example, to help with observing, deconstructing, analysing and adapting lessons. Oak Academy have produced a range of lessons for ITT: <https://teachers.thenational.academy/lessons-for-itt> |   After taking these steps, if you’re still having difficulty finding placements, contact us via [itt.engagement@education.gov.uk](mailto:itt.engagement@education.gov.uk).  As a reminder, DfE also issued guidance to schools and providers in December:   |  | | --- | | * This Schools Operational Guidance explains the actions school leaders should take to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) in their school: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak#school-workforce>. Additional operational guidance is also available for special schools, special post-16 providers and alternative provision: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-full-opening-special-schools-and-other-specialist-settings> |  |  | | --- | | * The contingency framework describes the principles of managing local outbreaks of COVID-19 in education and childcare settings. It covers all types of measures that settings should be prepared for: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-in-education-and-childcare-settings> |  |  | | --- | | * Schools have received this resource to support them in managing staff absences, which includes information on the value of ITT trainees and encourages schools to continue or start hosting trainee teachers: <https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/UKDFE/2021/12/10/file_attachments/2018642/Updated%20advice%20for%20staff%20absences%20-%20Dec%202021.pdf> |  |  | | --- | | * We have also worked with sector leaders to publish some case studies that offer a range of examples for how schools can maximise attendance when faced with staff shortages: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1VXAfORN-5yMvPRlv0ZJpmfaumzyHiUWQ> | |