

Spring 2025 //

Northamptonshire
Teaching School Hub

ITT Bulletin //

for Northamptonshire schools



Welcome to the new ITT bulletin from Northamptonshire Teaching School Hub.

We believe that every child in our region deserves to be taught by a well-qualified teacher. We need your support to boost our teaching workforce and give all children the best opportunity to succeed.

Please visit our [website](#) | [Train to Teach](#) | [Information for Schools](#) for more info



Meet our ITT Strategic Lead

Kate Coleman leads the ITT Strategy for Northamptonshire Teaching School Hub and is the point of contact for schools interested in engaging with ITT. Read about Kate's experience [here](#).

Kate is also the Chair for the Regional ITT Partnership Forum for all local providers.

Contact: kate.coleman@northantsTSHub.org

1. Supporting ITT training and placements

Thank you to all those schools across Northamptonshire who have supported our local ITT providers with placements and experiences. All providers value your support and expertise in sharing the training of these early teachers.

Some of you have also been working with providers to support the intensive training and practice (ITAP) elements of their initial teacher training. ITAPs are a new element of the ITT curriculum which have been developed by all providers of initial teacher training for the 2024 to 2025 academic year.

If you would like to share your experience of how your school has supported placements and ITAPs, please follow the link below. We would value any feedback and reflections on your experiences.

[Email Kate Colman with your feedback](#)

2. Does your school have staff who are ready to gain QTS?

The Teaching School Hub, can support existing unqualified staff in your school, staff who have a degree but no QTS and interested members of your school community on their journey to gain QTS.

With a wealth of providers in this County and a range of routes, we can support your school in building great teachers to work in your school now and a pipeline of teachers for the future.

Please follow this link to find out about routes available for unqualified staff working in school already. This info graphic gives you information about what you can do to support staff who have a degree, or for those who need to gain one.

[QTS Routes for school staff](#)

This diagram explains the routes available and who in this area provides which route. This

includes apprentice, degree apprentice and Assessment Only routes which will suit those who are working with you already, or who wish to work in your school. These routes may suit you and be affordable options to build your workforce. Please follow this link for more information about suitability and cost.

[Routes into Teaching](#)

For any further information, or to have a conversation about your staffing needs please contact Kate Coleman.

We are very happy to support prospective trainees, Head Teachers and Senior Staff and school clusters through advice, meetings, or a chat through.

3. Schools not yet engaging in ITT

Following the ITT engagement work undertaken by all Teaching School Hubs over the last academic year, the ITT Strategic Lead has started to contact schools who have previously **not been engaged** with initial teacher training.

Thank you to all of the schools who have supported this next stage of the DfE's remitted work. Here are some of the key points which we have identified with our schools and wish to support:

- Small schools are often already supporting ECTs during induction, therefore limiting capacity to support ITT trainees. Staffing may not allow for the mentoring support required for trainees. Mixed age classes may be seen as more difficult for trainee teachers.
- A high level of, and increasing SEND and behavioural need, is limiting capacity
- Special schools are keen to participate, but are hampered by compliance and the need to train within mainstream settings. These schools often offer alternate placements and ITAP visits for trainees to experience SEND which encourage trainees to think about where they wish their careers to develop.
- Geographical restrictions such as a drop in driving/car access amongst young applicants. Difficulty in use of public transport, especially in rural areas.
- Recruitment issues: The drop in prospective trainees applying for teacher training rather than engagement of schools in teacher training.
- Budget restraints for schools hampering development of existing unqualified staff in school.

If your school is not ready to host a trainee, there are many other ways that you can get involved in supporting ITT regionally. Visit the link below to find out more on our website:

[Ways to get involved](#)

What are the immediate advantages of hosting an ITT trainee?

- Trainees work alongside teachers, team teaching and working with individuals and groups of students while they develop their practice.
- As trainees' confidence and ability grow, they quickly progress to lead whole-class teaching.
- Trainees have the potential to rapidly become valued members of the school team.
- Trainees are supernumerary: providing an extra pair of hands in the classroom.

What are the long-term advantages of hosting an ITT trainee?

- The opportunity to work with talented trainee teachers who may be a strong fit for future teaching vacancies in your school.
- Professional development for teaching staff who provide mentoring and support for trainee teachers.
- Access to the latest research, practice, and innovation on teaching and support for children and young people.
- Access to support from your ITT provider and their wider networks, including Teaching School Hub.

4. Offer School Experience

To help schools to **offer school experience**, the DfE provide a free service called Manage School Experience.

This service helps schools:

- advertise the experience they offer candidates at their school
- manage bookings and cancellations
- communicate with candidates

We all understand how vital school experience is for people who are thinking about a career in

teaching. It offers them an opportunity to work with children and young people within a real school environment, so they can be sure they're making the right decision about their future.

We encourage schools to support this initiative as this encourages applicants to train in Northants. This will support local applications and develop interest in working in your school and training with you. Please tell us if you have registered for this opportunity.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/manage-school-experience-service-information-for-schools>

5. Keep in touch

If you'd like to explore further ways to support ITT and build a sustainable teacher workforce, please do get in touch:

- emailing: itt@northantsTSHub.org / kate.coleman@northantsTSHub.org
- phoning: 01536 397013

Kind regards

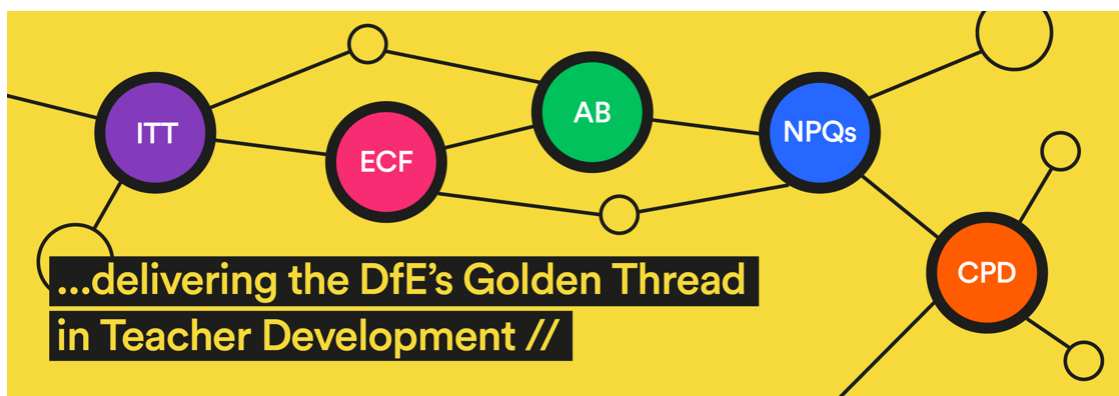
Kate Coleman

ITT Strategic Lead

Northamptonshire Teaching School Hub

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Growing Teacher & Leader Expertise



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