



Scottish Funding Council  
Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba

## Intake Targets for Initial Teacher Education 2022-23

**SFC Announcement**

Issue Date: 15 February 2022

## Intake targets for Initial Teacher Education in universities for AY 2022-23

Issue date: 15 February 2022

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Summary: Announcement of intake targets for the controlled subject of Initial Teacher Education in universities for Academic Year 2022-23.

FAO: Principals / Finance Directors / Board Secretaries of Scotland's universities

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## Intake targets for Initial Teacher Education in universities for AY 2022-23

### Purpose

1. I am writing to announce the university intakes to the controlled subject of Initial Teacher Education (ITE) for Academic Year (AY) 2022-23.

### Summary of intakes and targets for AY 2022-23

2. The table below summarises the sector level intake targets for AY 2022-23. Intakes to the 'Secondary PGDE and Other' route have increased by 200 places this year and other routes are unchanged from AY 2021-22. The details of the intakes, including the allocations to individual universities, are set out in this document.

Academic Year	Primary – UG and Combined	Primary – PGDE and Other	Secondary – UG and Combined	Secondary – PGDE and Other	Total
2021-22	779	1,155	336	1,800	4,070
<b>2022-23</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>1,155</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>4,270</b>

### Background

3. In setting the intake targets for AY 2022-23, we have taken account of guidance from the Scottish Government's Learning Directorate, received by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) on 7 February 2022. A copy of the guidance letter is attached as **Annex A**. In accordance with this guidance, the overall number of student teacher intake places is being increased by 200 places.
4. Prior to finalising the intakes announced in this letter, SFC has consulted with the universities involved in the delivery of ITE to discuss how they will contribute towards the overall requirement for trained teachers, taking account of all the traditional and alternative routes which are now incorporated in the main targets.

### Primary provision

5. The AY 2022-23 target intakes to Primary courses remain at 1,934 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) student places. The Primary intakes comprise the following elements:
  - Undergraduate: 707 FTE places.
  - PGDE and Other: 1,155 FTE places.
  - Combined: 72 FTE places.

6. Details of the allocations to individual universities under each of the above headings are set out in Table 1. The allocations of places for Primary provision include some specific courses. These are summarised at **Annex B**.

### **Secondary Provision**

7. The AY 2022-23 target intakes to Secondary courses increase by 200; from 2,136 to 2,336 FTE student places. The Secondary intakes comprise the following elements:
  - Undergraduate: 163 FTE places.
  - PGDE and Other: 2,000 FTE places.
  - Combined: 173 FTE places.
8. Details of the allocations to individual universities under each of the above headings are set out in Table 1. Table 2 provides a further breakdown by individual Secondary subject for each university. The allocations of places for secondary provision include some specific courses. These are summarised at **Annex B**.

### **Priority Secondary subjects and consolidation policy**

9. Universities have historically found it challenging to achieve target intakes in some subjects. The Scottish Government will continue to invest in recruitment campaigns to stimulate demand in key subjects. In addition, the Scottish Government and SFC remain open to continued working with universities to develop alternative routes into subjects which have traditionally been difficult to recruit to, in response to the changing patterns of student demand for flexible learning routes.
10. However, we are aware that challenges are likely to remain with recruitment to some subjects. Therefore, it is vital that universities continue to be proactive in the promotion of teaching as a career choice for undergraduate students, both in their own institutions and in other universities that do not offer teaching provision.
11. Table 2 sets a subject specific target for each individual university. Working with the Scottish Government and the Teacher Workforce Planning Advisory Group, SFC will continue to monitor recruitment to these subjects to assess if the sector is achieving the subject targets. We will also continue to discuss with the Scottish Government and universities how we approach the recovery of funds for over and under-enrolment in individual subjects.

## **Gaelic education**

12. The supply of teachers able to teach in the Gaelic medium continues to be a priority for Scottish Ministers. The allocations to universities set out in Table 1 include allocations of places specifically for Gaelic provision (summarised at **Annex B** and denoted with a **(G)**).
13. In addition to the above, universities are free to recruit as many student teachers of Gaelic as possible without being penalised. However, SFC is aware of the difficulties universities face in filling the number of places allocated specifically for Gaelic medium provision to the PGDE routes in particular. To tackle this, we expect universities to promote this provision on a part-time basis, as well as a full-time basis, and consider the introduction of further avenues to increase the numbers of Gaelic medium teachers in both the Primary and Secondary sectors where possible.
14. Universities are asked to note the priorities relating to teacher education contained within the National Gaelic Language Plan and the Gaelic Education Guidance as referenced in the Scottish Government's guidance to SFC. In addition, universities are asked to contribute to the teacher education work stream of Faster Rate of Progress initiative for Gaelic.

## **Teachers in Catholic schools**

15. Universities are asked to note the Scottish Government's advice on training teachers for Catholic schools, as set out in the guidance in **Annex A**. In particular, Catholic PGDE students at the Universities of Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Strathclyde, and West of Scotland, and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, should be made aware of the Catholic Teachers Certificate that is available locally to them, delivered by the University of Glasgow, to enable them to teach Religious Education in Catholic schools, subject to Church approval.

## **Funding and funded places**

16. SFC will provide further information with regards to funding and funded places for the controlled subject of ITE in our final university funding announcement for AY 2022-23 in May 2022.

## Further information

17. Please contact Elizabeth Horsburgh, Funding Policy Officer, tel: 0131 313 6681, email: [ehorsburgh@sfc.ac.uk](mailto:ehorsburgh@sfc.ac.uk), or Sarah Kirkpatrick, Senior Policy Officer, tel: 0131 313 6696, email: [skirkpatrick@sfc.ac.uk](mailto:skirkpatrick@sfc.ac.uk).



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7 February 2022

Dear Karen

## **TEACHER WORKFORCE PLANNING: INITIAL TEACHER EDUCATION (ITE)**

1. This letter contains Scottish Government Ministers' guidance to the Scottish Funding Council on initial teacher education (ITE) in academic session 2022/23. Having considered all the factors involved and the advice of the Teacher Workforce Planning Advisory Group (TWPAG) the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills is recommending that student teacher places on programmes for ITE should increase from 4,070 in 2021/22 to 4,270 in 2022/23. The increase of 200 is in PGDE and other routes secondary places.

### **ITE intakes for 2022/23**

2. The annual teacher workforce planning process is informed by a statistical model which estimates the number of ITE students required to maintain pupil teacher ratios. The model is based on a number of inputs including projections about the number of pupils in the education system at primary and secondary ages, churn in teacher numbers (retirement, maternity, returners, etc) and the retention rates of ITE students. This year, the statistical modelling has also looked at the number of ITE students required to meet the Programme for Government (PfG) commitment to support the recruitment of at least 3,500 additional teachers over the course of this Parliament.

3. The TWPAG recommends maintaining primary target intakes at the same level for next year and to increase secondary targets by 200. This approach recognises historical over-recruitment in primary and the on-going need to increase teacher numbers in secondary. In making this recommendation it is recognised that there is a need to keep primary targets under review and that some analysis of local authority need is required to inform teacher recruitment decisions in future years. While it is acknowledged that SFC are ultimately responsible for agreeing ITE intake targets with the universities, the view is that increased secondary targets should be evenly applied across subjects, with a particular focus on hard to fill subjects. It is also recognised that considerable effort will be required on



the part of the universities to reach an increased target of 2,000 in 2022/23 and support will be required in promoting teaching as a career to meet this challenging target.

4. The following recommendations are made:

a) Intakes to **primary** courses in 2022/23

- 1,155 PGDE and other routes; and
- 779 undergraduate and combined degrees;

b) Intakes to **secondary** courses in 2022/23

- 2,000 PGDE and other routes – an increase of 200; and
- 336 undergraduate and combined degrees.

5. It is recognised that clawback of funding for under recruitment to courses is a significant issue for the ITE providers. In taking any decisions around clawback there is a need to balance efforts made by universities in terms of the recruitment of students against the fact that we should not be providing universities with funding for students not studying in schools of education. A decision on the treatment of clawback will be made later in the year. However, we anticipate a continuation of current arrangements.

**Other points:**

### **Requirements for teachers for Catholic schools**

6. Scottish Ministers wish to ensure that the requirements for teachers for Catholic schools are met and look to the SFC to seek to secure this through its funding allocations.

7. The University of Glasgow is generally recognised as the major provider of teachers for denominational schools. However, not all students wishing to teach in denominational schools can attend the University of Glasgow and not every secondary subject is offered there. Suitably eligible students may undertake the Catholic Teacher's Certificate to ITE offered through the School of Education, University of Glasgow which allows access to teaching in Catholic schools. The Scottish Government is supporting the provision of the Catholic Teacher's Certificate at the Universities of Glasgow, Strathclyde, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Dundee, West of Scotland and the Royal Conservatoire Scotland.

### **Requirements for teachers in Gaelic medium**

8. The supply of teachers able to teach in the medium of Gaelic continues to be a priority for Scottish Ministers. The Scottish Government would like SFC to continue to assist in promoting provision in this area and to give consideration to any initiatives which could improve effectiveness. We would not wish to see any diminution of the places currently allocated and for SFC to continue to encourage all ITE providers to promote a positive approach in relation to applicants for all ITE courses by interviewing all who would be able to teach in Gaelic medium education.

9. The SFC and ITE providers should be aware of Bòrd na Gàidhlig's National Gaelic Language Plan 2018-23. We would also like to bring to your attention the Gaelic Education Guidance that was published in February 2017 as required by the Education (Scotland) Act 2016. We would like the SFC to have regard to the priorities set out in both of these documents in relation to Gaelic education matters. In addition, the SFC are aware of the

recent Faster Rate of Progress initiative for Gaelic and are directly involved in delivery of its teacher work stream which we would ask is reflected in the SFC's activity. We would also ask the SFC to continue to pursue the introduction of further avenues to increase the numbers of Gaelic medium teachers in both the primary and secondary sectors where possible, while bearing in mind that all students for ITE must meet the same minimum academic entry requirements.

### **Diversity in the teacher workforce**

10. We know that Black and minority ethnic teachers continue to be significantly under-represented in Scotland's schools (1.6% of the workforce in 2019 compared to 4% of Scotland's population overall). The Report [Teaching in a diverse Scotland](#) aims to increase the number of teachers from under-represented groups at all levels in Scottish schools and sets out recommendations to achieve this. The Scottish Government is firmly committed to developing an education workforce that is representative of Scotland's increasingly diverse population. Doing so provides clear benefits to pupils, teachers and other school staff. We would therefore ask the SFC to encourage all ITE providers to embed a proactive approach in terms of race equality, and consider using positive action and the provisions in the Equality Act 2010 when assessing their 2022-23 intake.

### **Distribution**

11. This letter is copied to Principals of Universities and Heads of Schools of Education. Copy recipients should bear in mind that this letter constitutes advice to SFC to assist in the setting of intakes to ITE programmes. It is for SFC to decide on student intakes to ITE and to allocate the share of the intake numbers to individual institutions and programmes.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Robb  
Unit Head  
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## **Annex B: Specific provision embedded in overall allocations**

Embedded within the intakes announced in this letter are allocations to the following institutions/courses. Courses that relate to Gaelic provision are denoted with a **(G)**.

### **Undergraduate Primary**

- 11 places to the University of Edinburgh for its MA in Gaelic Education. **(G)**
- 29 places to the University of Stirling for its four-year Primary teaching degree with an Environmental Science or Modern Language specialism.
- 15 places to the University of Stirling for its Early Years teaching qualification.

### **PGDE and Other Primary**

- 85 places to the University of the Highlands & Islands (UHI) to meet the dual purpose of Gaelic medium and to widen access to education in rural areas of Scotland. **(G)**
- The MSc Transformative Learning and Teaching (generalist) at the University of Edinburgh, which covers provision from nursery up to the early years of Secondary school.
- 20 places to University of Strathclyde for Gaelic-medium provision. **(G)**
- 20 places to the University of Glasgow's Dumfries Campus to work with Dumfries & Galloway Council to train teachers in the region.

### **Combined Primary**

- 20 places allocated to the University of Glasgow's Dumfries Campus for its MA in Primary Education with Teaching Qualification.
- 44 places to the University of Stirling for routes to deliver Primary teachers with subject specialisms in Inclusive Practice, Literacy, Numeracy, and STEM.
- 8 places to UHI for its Gaelic Primary programme offered in conjunction with Sabhal Mòr Ostaig and Lews Castle College. **(G)**

### **PGDE and Other Secondary**

- University of Edinburgh for its MSc route in STEM subjects and English.
- 117 places to UHI for provision across the Academic Partners of the University, and in a range of subjects. Offered to meet the dual purpose of Gaelic medium and to widen access to education in rural areas of Scotland. This includes 4 places specifically for secondary teachers of Gaelic as a subject. **(G)**

- 45 places to the University of Stirling for its partnership programme offering Combined Degrees in STEM subjects.
- 5 places to the University of Strathclyde specifically for secondary teachers of Gaelic as a subject. **(G)**
- University of Strathclyde's BSc in Education and Curricular Studies with Teaching Qualification, which covers Home Economics and Technological Education.
- University of Strathclyde for its Masters for STEM Graduates programme.
- 77 places to the University of the West of Scotland for its route offering Combined Degrees in STEM subjects (Chemistry, Physics and Maths).

### **Combined Secondary**

- 30 places to the University of Strathclyde for its Combined Degrees in STEM subjects.
- 3 places to UHI for its Gaelic programme offered in conjunction with Sabhal Mòr Ostaig and Lews Castle College. **(G)**
- 30 places to the University of Aberdeen for its BMus provision.