

Item 10n – Schools Liaison report

Initial Teacher Education

The efforts to increase the numbers of trainee teachers in England continues to be a focus for the Department of Education, particularly at secondary level. Languages continue to be seen an area with a severe shortage. Despite this, the Government is committed to its EBacc policy; its implementation requires additional language teachers in order to meet the ambitious EBacc targets.

In order to streamline the application process, the government is currently in the process of transferring the courses on offer from the UCAS portal to a government-owned platform. In addition, the bursaries for Languages will continue to be one of the highest but will be paid in instalments over the first five years.

Since our last meeting, two important policy documents have been published:

- The Early Career Framework (ECF) sets out a series of expectations for schools to fulfil when employing early career teachers. The intention of this framework is for newly qualified teachers to receive the necessary support, additional training as well as time they require when starting out in their career. See link for the framework document: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-early-career-teachers> The ECF will initially be rolled out from September 2020 in the North East, Bradford, Doncaster and Greater Manchester. The national rollout will follow in September 2021.
- Alongside this framework, a Teacher Recruitment and Retention Strategy was published earlier this spring. It focuses on the following four priorities:
 - 1) Create the right climate for leaders to establish supportive school cultures
 - 2) Transform support for early career teachers
 - 3) Build a career offer that remains attractive to teachers as their careers and lives develop
 - 4) Make it easier for great people to become teachers

For more info see the strategy document: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teacher-recruitment-and-retention-strategy>

Schools and Languages

The EBacc agenda and the implementation of the recommendations set out in the Teaching Schools Council review on MFL Pedagogy in 2016 have led to the DfE-funded pilot of the National Centre for Excellence for Languages Pedagogy (www.ncelp.org.uk) The centre is led by York University. The nine Hub lead schools, identified by the DfE, work with 36 hub schools to develop the pedagogical approaches in the language departments of the hub schools. One of the metrics is directly related to the take-up of languages at GCSE for September 2020. Hub schools should on average demonstrate an increase of 25% in up-take.

Annual Language Trends Survey: The initial findings of the survey have been reported at this year's Language World Conference. The executive summary report is due to be published in June this year.