Primary Experience – Secondary ITT

The DfE make clear, in their “Initial teacher training criteria and supporting advice” DfE March 2016 document that ITT Providers should “prepare all trainee teachers to teach within one of the following age phases:

The guidance goes on to say “Providers must ensure that trainees are afforded the opportunity to develop a comprehensive understanding of progression across, and before and after, the age range for which they are training to teach. This might include enhanced experiences in other age ranges.”

“Initial teacher training criteria and supporting advice” DfE March 2016

In order to support trainees to develop a comprehensive understanding of progression in the age range before Key Stage 3, experience of Key Stage 2 teaching and learning is built into all Secondary training programmes.

This may include:

- Professional Studies Sessions on both Professional Practice 1 (a & b) and Professional Practice 2. These should be delivered by the Transition Lead at the setting as part of the Professional Studies Programme devised by the Professional Mentor at the setting.

- During Professional Practice which takes place in the school summer term, trainees will be afforded the opportunity to work with the Transition Lead at their setting to support Year 6 pupil days / engagement which may take place at the setting or in the Primary feeder schools attached to the secondary setting.

- Normally, trainees should have a minimum of 1 day’s experience in a Primary setting as part of these arrangements.

The mapping of this experience is as follows:

- Undergraduate Year 1 PP1a normally April - July
- Undergraduate Year 2 PP1b normally April – July
- PGCE Flexible – as per individual Training Plan
- PGCE (including School Direct) normally March – June/July

University Professional Studies programmes will include a Lead Lecture on KS2 Teaching and Learning prior to the start of Professional Practice.

In addition, trainee’s will engage with subject specific input “Your Subject in Year 6” which will introduce trainees to the content and nature of teaching and learning of their specific subject area in the Primary age phase.