

University Of Cumbria ITE Partnership: Resilience & Teacher Workload Reduction Charter

The University of Cumbria ITE Partnership has a strong focus on teacher workload reduction and teacher resilience for all. Our aim is to supplement and, in many cases, add value to the support being offered in Partner Schools & Settings. The opportunities offered by the University of Cumbria are open to all of our students, current or recently qualified.

We also offer the enhancement of ongoing quality training and CPD noting the benefit this brings to the wider Partnership.

Everyone has a right to expect access to support throughout our Partnership- please use this Charter as the starting point for conversations with leads both at University and in Schools/Settings.

Intent –

- Our intent is that our partnership has a focus on ensuring all teachers & students are well supported (mentally / emotionally)
- Challenge and lead dialogue about Teacher Workload Reduction (TWR) and Teacher Resilience.
- Encourage professional conversations...& lay out responsibilities for ensuring Resilience and TWR are key attributes of any Teacher training programme.
- To provide support for students targeted at individuals leading to resilient trainees.

Implementation –

- To promote discussion and provoke challenge
- To be shared throughout programmes and their partnerships
- Lead to CPD;
- To promote professional conversations relating to wellbeing and workload feeding into ongoing partnership feedback mechanisms.

Impact –

- Students leaving the university feeling confident to take on their NQT year and remain in the profession
- Ensuring students know where to go for support and to understand that asking for help is a strength; also to recognise the students who may not seek this support when they need it.
- School / Setting staff receive regular feedback, training and ongoing CPD opportunities linked to Teacher workload reduction and resilience

* This Charter will become part of the UoC ITE Partnership Agreement ensuring that it will come to the attention of Head Teachers / mentoring leads who sign the agreement.

UoC students will:

- identify your strengths & skills early on and have the confidence to share these;
- know who to approach for support (seek it out);
- aim to maintain a healthy work/life balance by:
 - Getting adequate sleep.
 - Getting regular exercise.
 - Being realistic about what you can achieve.
- set your own placement well-being target and review it each week with your mentor;
- take responsibility for confronting fears rather than avoiding them; helping to reduce anxiety. The sooner they are confronted the sooner they will be addressed;
- be clear about the evidence you have to exemplify Teachers' Standards;
- know when you have done enough!

UoC Programmes will:

- ensure that students understand the current Teachers' Standards;
- work through elements of ITE paperwork during programme sessions prior to placement (Planning, tracking, assessment);
- support students to reduce the workload associated with planning for learning, marking and use of data in line with DfE guidance;
- ensure Personal Tutors review and refer to student's targets prior to and post placement;
- be honest and balanced about expectations of teachers and how to manage reasonable workloads;
- reach out & support as necessary. e.g. Guiding on exemplifications of evidences for tracking current teacher standards.

ITE Partnership Staff will:

- have regular & timely check ins with ITE students whilst on placement- be specific in asking:
 - how they are feeling?
 - have they any concerns?
 - are they maintaining a work/life balance?
- talk to ITE Students about ways in which your school have reduced teacher workload & support teachers to develop effective work/life balance;
- allow ITE students the opportunity to discuss ways that they have experienced planning, pupil tracking & assessment methods;
- share school well-being guidance & policy;
- ensure that ITE students signal where evidence can be found for Teacher Standard exemplification rather than collection.

Together we will:

- ask, assess, act; listen non-judgmentally; give reassurance & information; encourage self-help strategies (www.mhfaengland.org); enable the ITE student to get appropriate professional help;
- have a shared understanding of and commitment to implementing teacher workload reduction; conduct an annual review of ITE partnership paperwork with a focus on responding to teacher workload reduction;
- aim to place ITE students in schools which will recognise their strengths and provide them with appropriate challenge; supporting for areas of development effectively; ensure that everyone is clear as to expectations of students at different stages of placement journey;
- encourage mentors to develop and be recognised for their mentoring & coaching skills; through ongoing professional development & qualifications with the University of Cumbria.