UWE Bristol Partnership Agreement 2025-2026

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In partnership with a placement provider (the "Partner"), UWE Bristol (the "University") aims to secure excellent learning experiences for students, including trainee teachers. The University values the relationships it builds with its Partners in a range of activities. By signing this agreement, the Partner confirms their understanding and acceptance of information provided in course-specific documentation. All documentation and course information can be found in the Mentor / Student Portfolio: SWEPT

Partners can participate in the governance and management of the UWE Bristol provision through formal structures such as the ITE Strategy Group and phase or course specific groups; if you wish to participate in any of these please contact: [Rich.Baker@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Rich.Baker@uwe.ac.uk) or [Ali.Law@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Ali.Law@uwe.ac.uk)

All Placements

## The University will:

* Prepare students for their placement.
* Administer the placement experience.
* Respond to feedback from Partners and provide appropriate support.
* Ensure compliance with statutory requirements and DfE guidelines regarding.
* Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and other background checks relevant to regulated activity.
* Provide appropriate course specific information pertinent to the content and delivery of each course to clarify procedures and expectations.
* Manage partnership data in accordance with the current Data Protection Legislation and such future legislation on the protection of personal data as may be enacted. For more information, please see our Privacy Notice: [Privacy notices - Data protection | UWE Bristol](https://www.uwe.ac.uk/about/structure-and-governance/data-protection/privacy-notices)
* Process the appropriate payment to Partners for providing a placement.
* Ensure that the partnership agreement is reviewed through its Governance structure on a yearly basis.

## The Partner will:

* Provide supportive supervision and / or line management as described in the placement specific documentation.
* Communicate with the University about relevant issues as appropriate.
* Have a responsibility to ensure that our students are treated fairly, and are free from bullying, harassment, discrimination in line with the requirements of Equality Act 2010 and to make any reasonable adjustments required to support our students whilst on placement.
* Be aware of their responsibilities in relation to DBS checks and suitability disclosures made by students in line with the UWE Bristol DBS policy.

## Teacher Training Placements

For those placements that are part of Initial Teacher Training pathways to becoming a qualified teacher for Early Years, Primary and Secondary schools, the additional requirements are detailed below. In these settings this document will be discussed with the lead mentor / Senior Mentor / Partnership Manager/Associate Directors as part of ITE quality assurance processes at the commencement of the engagement with the University partnership, year on year.

## The University and its Partners will work together to:

* Ensure that courses are in line with the current [ITT Criteria](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-training-criteria/initial-teacher-training-itt-criteria-and-supporting-advice) or [Early Years ITT Criteria](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1013308/EYITT_Criteria_September_2021.pdf)
* Select, train and (where appropriate) assess Trainees and ensure this complies with all current legislation as laid out in sections 1.3 and 3.3 of the ITT criteria, notably, but not limited to the [Equality Act (2010)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents) and [the](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2001/10/contents) [Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2001/10/contents).
* Support and facilitate high quality training experiences through working collaboratively on the design and delivery of the training provision. This should as a minimum expectation encompass the full entitlement as described in [the ITT Core Content Framework (2019)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-training-itt-core-content-framework).
* Participate in all partnership QA procedures as described in course documentation, including but not limited to mentor development, school visits and other internal and external moderation processes, trainee / mentor evaluations and actions and interventions following trainee review meetings.
* Ensure that assessment of trainees is accurate and reliable in establishing, consistently over time, whether or not trainees meet the relevant Teachers’ Standards.
* Ensure timely interventions through support for impact plans that are monitored and moderated.
* Engage in high quality self-evaluation to deliver continuing improvement.
* Engage together in effective communication for the benefit of the Trainees and the public benefit of high- quality teacher education.
* Ensure that everybody working within the partnership understands their safeguarding responsibilities in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025 (note: KCSIE applies to the version in use for that school year).
* Ensure trainee and mentor workload is manageable and feedback is actioned as a priority.
* Protect trainee health and well-being and respond as and when needed, including through the support for impact plans.
* Process any Personal Data received further to this Agreement in accordance with the Data Sharing terms under Schedule 1 of this Agreement.

## The University will:

* Engage in ongoing support and training for Partner mentors.
* When a school or setting is placed into Special Measures or Serious Weaknesses by Ofsted a risk assessment will be undertaken by the University to evaluate the quality of the experience and the capacity of the setting.
* If a Partner is unable to fulfil their responsibilities in accordance with the Partnership Agreement and where all support mechanisms have failed and serious issues remain unresolved, then the partner will be formally de-selected from the partnership at the ITE Strategy group for governance. Applications to re-join the partnership will be supported and considered by the same group.

## In providing a placement, the Partner will:

* Ensure that Trainees are covered under relevant legislation (see [ITT Criteria](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-training-criteria/initial-teacher-training-itt-criteria-and-supporting-advice) or [Early Years ITT Criteria](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1013308/EYITT_Criteria_September_2021.pdf)) including but not limited to equality, safeguarding, health & safety procedures and risk assessments in place for existing Partner employees.
* Provide a range of placement experiences appropriate to the Trainees' courses.
* Carry out formative and summative assessment where appropriate and report to the University as required.
* Notify the University of any change in circumstances relevant to Trainees' placements.
* Provide trainees with access to school or setting learning platforms to enable engagement with online teaching and learning activities.
* Ensure trainees are released from their current school for alternative placement opportunities in order to broaden their training experience.
* Ensure mentors have sufficient time to carry out their expected roles.
* Support UWE Bristol quality assurance procedures and work alongside Lead mentors to quality assure provision.

In addition, where a Partner employs an early career teacher (ECT) from the University, the Partner shall, upon reasonable request, provide the University with data regarding the employment status of the ECT and their progression against the professional standards. The University undertakes to anonymize the data and use it solely for reporting to Ofsted under its Initial Teacher Education framework.

More detailed information about procedures, placement requirements and roles and responsibilities can be found in course specific information. Contact the Education Placements Team at [partnership@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:partnership@uwe.ac.uk) for general enquiries. Specific contact details are listed in handbooks.

I have read the Partnership Agreement and agree to follow Partnership procedures. This will be signed via the PCP.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Setting Name:** |  | | |
| **Signed:** |  | **Print**  **Name:** |  |
| **Position:** |  | **Email:** |  |
| **Contact Tel:** |  | **Date:** |  |

## Schedule 1: Data sharing terms

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