



Bury Teaching Schools Alliance

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Promoting Excellence through Collaboration

Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Following correspondence from the Teacher Regulation Agency earlier today, I am writing to provide reassurance to NQTs and schools about the potential disruption of Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT) statutory induction now that schools are closing due to the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) causing extended NQT absence during school closures.

The length of the induction period should ordinarily be three full terms at the institution in which induction has begun, based on a school year of three terms (i.e the full-time equivalent of one school year). Absences up to and including 29 days are permitted. If absences exceed a total period of 30 days or more, induction is extended by the aggregate total of days absent, allowing NQTs to finish their induction programmes as well as sufficient time to demonstrate that they are meeting the Teachers' Standards.

It has been confirmed today that due to these unprecedented circumstances that as the Appropriate Body we have the option, with the consent of the school and teacher concerned, to reduce the induction period which the teacher is required to serve to two school terms if we are satisfied that the teacher has met the Teachers' Standards and has maintained good attendance, together with a positive Induct 1 and Induct 2 and associated paperwork returns.

In the summer term, once we receive your Induct 2 paperwork, we will make this decision in agreement with the NQT and confirm our decision with the school.

In light of school closures, we would now like you to submit your Induct 2 paperwork by **Friday 1st May 2020**.

We are grateful for your support as we navigate through these difficult times.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Young
BTSA Director

