

## Access Agreement for 2012-13

<b>Name of institution</b>	Devon Primary SCITT
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### 1. Introduction

#### **A. DPSCITT's current position in relation to access and retention.**

The Devon Primary SCITT offers a one-year, full time, school-based route to qualification as a primary teacher. The SCITT consists of 32 successful primary schools based all around the County and including clusters in North Devon, Exeter and in the South including Plymouth. We are an outstanding ITT provider and use our resources wisely to provide the best training we can for all our Trainees. The Devon Primary SCITT has a commitment to promote widening participation in ITT. Our website encourages applications from all candidates with the requisite qualifications but particularly from those who are from a low income background, minority ethnic backgrounds, those with a disability and those who are male. We have provided bursaries, IT equipment and software and a hardship fund to ensure Trainees are able to complete their course successfully over the last 5 years. 37% of our Trainees are usually entitled to a full maintenance grant and on average we have 23% males on our course both of which are high proportions compared to national and regional norms. We currently average 4% of Trainees from ethnic minority backgrounds and those with a disability which is in keeping with regional norms but low against national norms. We also have Trainees on the Course from previous military careers and are registered with ELCAS who provide training funding for them.

#### **Part two: Fee limits, spend on access and financial support for trainees**

#### **B. Fee limits**

DPSCITT will charge £9,000 in tuition fees to new entrants for 2012-13.

It is the DPSCITT's intention to apply annual increases to this fee, in line with the amount set by the Government each year. Financial support for students is likely to rise annually to reflect this increase.

Trainees will be informed, before they accept a place onto the Course, the Tuition fee that will be charged and the support available to them. This information will also be made available publicly on our website.

#### **C. Amounts of additional fee income to be spent on access measures**

For 2012-13 we expect to receive additional fee income of £120,000.

We expect to invest 13.4 % (£16,000) through bursaries, IT support, a hardship grant, 24/7 support line and outreach and retention measures to support Trainees.

#### **D. Financial support for trainees**

Trainees will be entitled to the set terms and conditions for financial support regarding Student Maintenance Loans, Student Maintenance Grants and bursaries published by the Government to attract ITT Trainees with high academic qualifications.

DPSCITT endeavors to attract and support those Trainees who are on low incomes through the countable DPSCITT Bursary set out below and provision of a laptop and software for the duration of the Course.

- DPSCITT will provide £450 to UK trainees in receipt of a full grant (those with residual household incomes up to £25,000 in 2012-13)
- DPSCITT will provide £150 to UK trainees in receipt of partial state support (those with a residual household income up to £42,600)

#### **Part three: outreach and retention**

#### **E. Outreach and retention work**

Outreach:

We will seek to identify areas of under-representation in our trainee cohort, when compared with the higher education sector from which we recruit. If we identify an area of significant under-representation, we will seek to address this and may do so by considering whether there might be any effective outreach initiatives which could be directed at such groups.

DPSCITT in its advertising and publicity materials encourages candidates from underrepresented groups outlined in section 1 to apply. This has been an ongoing activity for the last 5 years. It is targeted by placing adverts in particular publications relevant to underrepresented groups.

We are intending to hold more interview days which will have, where possible, two or more of the six interviewees who are from one of our underrepresented groups. There will always be at least one male on the interview panel.

Our outreach spend will be on the cost of advertising and additional interviews.

Retention:

DPSCITT will provide for those who experience hardship of the course and as such are at risk of not completing their studies access to the DPSCITT Hardship Fund, a 24/7 helpline and a designated counseling service. Built in to the fabric of the course is a weekly mentoring meeting with an experienced teacher together with regular individualized support from the Programme Manager and Senior Tutor.

#### **Part four: Targets, milestones and monitoring**

##### **F. Targets and milestones**

DPSCITT is committed to the rigorous monitoring and evaluation of all aspects of its work including equality of opportunity and access and retention.

We aspire to maintain and increase our high performance in attracting

- a) Above average numbers of low income high performing graduates onto our course (from 37% to 45%)
- b) Above average numbers of high performing male graduates onto our course. (23% to 27%)
- c) State school applicants (where we are collecting data over the next 18 months)

We aspire to increase the number of

- a) High performing graduates from black or ethnic minority groups (5% to 8%)
- b) High performing graduates with disabilities (3% to 5%)

coming onto the course. However, due to the small cohort size we will continue to monitor these numbers which fluctuate from year to year.

We aspire to increase the retention of our trainees until completion of the course (90.25% to 93%)

##### **G. Institutional monitoring arrangements**

The DPSCITT Management team review the data termly relating to recruitment, retention and progress of Trainees. They report to the Executive Board on a termly basis, which evaluates and recommends the strategic direction of the access agreement to the Steering Committee. Yearly targets are reviewed as part of the self evaluation process and new targets set where appropriate.

#### **Part five: Information to students**

## **H. Provision of information to trainees**

Trainees will be informed of the salient financial points in relation to the Access agreement prior to their having to accept a place on the Course. This will be done verbally at interview in order that they can explore any questions they may have. It will also be done in writing as part of their Training Contract. They will be directed to our website where they are able to access the full access agreement.

DPSCITT is committed to provide timely information to GTTR and SLC as they reasonably require, to enable them to populate their applicant-facing web services for our prospective candidates to be as fully informed as possible prior to making their application.

