

**ACCESS AGREEMENT – PORTSMOUTH PRIMARY SCITT**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Portsmouth Primary SCITT began training graduates to become primary teachers in September 2000. At that time there was a shortage of primary teachers in Portsmouth and the programme was seen as a way of training high quality teachers, who would predominantly work within the boundaries of the city.

It provides high quality training to give trainees the opportunity to acquire:

- Excellent professional attributes.
- Good subject knowledge.
- Well-developed skills in learning and teaching.

The course is now offered at both Professional and Postgraduate level (60 M-Level credits).

**2. Length of agreement**

- 2.1 This agreement is for 3years from the academic year 2008/09.

**3. Fee limits**

- 3.1 We will charge a fee of £3,000.00 for all full-time postgraduate ITT courses from the 2008/09 academic year. The fee will be reviewed annually.

**4. Bursary support**

- 4.1.1 We will offer a bursary of £300.00 to any student who is in receipt of the full state maintenance grant. This bursary payment will be made in one instalment of £300.00, payable in May of each academic year.
- 4.2 All trainees on the course will qualify for a cash bursary of £300.00. This will be paid in one instalment in February. The bursary is particularly intended to help with the purchase of books, materials or resources.

**5. Publicising fees and financial support**

- 5.1 A number of methods will be used to ensure that prospective students are as clear as possible about the fee charged, and the amount of student support they may be entitled to. These are outlined below:
- 5.2 Portsmouth SCITT and Portsmouth University websites both contain a section on finance, including fee and support information. Support information will include institutional support and support available through the government through the maintenance grant, teaching bursaries and maintenance loans.
- 5.3 Leaflets are distributed after a presentation on each interview day, informing candidates about Portsmouth SCITT tuition fees, and the loans and grants available during the training year.

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- 5.4 This information is again clearly articulated to applicants in writing at the offer stage, before they make their key decisions on whether to accept a place.

### **6. Outreach**

- 6.1 We will seek to identify areas of under-representation in our student cohort, when compared to the HE 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.

### **7. Institutional Targets and milestones**

- 7.1 We do not currently collect data, which would be suitable to determine baseline for targets and milestones around low income or socio-economic groups. However, we will wish to monitor the number of students participating in our institution who are in receipt of full or partial state support. We feel that monitoring against income will be particularly suitable, as it will be easy to collect data on this and should reflect the aspirations of the access agreement.
- 7.2 We will seek to maintain the proportion of our students in low-income groups, but will only be able to set meaningful targets once data is available. Therefore, we commit to return to OFFA to revise this agreement by May 2008, with a view to an amended agreement taking effect from the 2008/9 academic year, if we need to.

### **8. Monitoring Arrangements**

- 8.1 We will formally monitor the progress of the access agreement at least once a year and report annually to the SCITT Executive Group. Initial monitoring will be concerned with participation rates and the development of data on lower income and other under-represented groups. When specific data is accrued, we will look to monitor against this.
- 8.2 Our annual report to the SCITT Executive Group will form the basis of our monitoring report to OFFA.