

# Frequently Asked Questions for ECTs

Document date: 20/07/22

## 1. What is the ECF?

The Early Career Framework (ECF) is a two-year package of structured training and support for early career teachers linked to the best available research evidence. The package of reforms will ensure new teachers have dedicated time set aside to focus on their development. At Generate, we can offer a Full Induction Package through Teach First.

## 2. How do I register on the DfE Portal?

Once your Induction Tutor registers you on the DfE portal, you will receive an email asking for further information including your Teacher Reference Number (TRN). This registration triggers your access to Brightspace, which is Teach First's system.

## 3. Who else do I need to register with?

Your Induction Tutor will need to register you with:

- An ECF Provider – Generate Teaching School Hub
- An Appropriate Body – this can be Generate Teaching School Hub or your Local Authority

## 4. What does Year 1 look like?

During Year 1 of your programme you will cover 6 modules outlined in your handbook. You will initially attend a full day induction followed by 11 twilight seminars. You will also be required to use the online platform 'Brightspace' to complete some independent studies. Your progress is monitored by your mentor, Teach First and Generate Teaching Hub.

## 5. What does Year 2 look like?

Year 2 of the programme will be more subject-specific. After a full day induction at the start of the academic year you will take part in development cycles, with one seminar per half term. There won't be as many seminars to attend and they will be replaced by more formal observations of your teaching by your school-based mentor. You will also be required to use the online platform 'Brightspace' to complete some independent studies.

## 6. Will my seminars be online or face-to-face?

Depending on your area and the time you start your ECF programme with us, your seminars could be face-to-face, online or blended. This will be confirmed with you prior to you beginning the programme.

## 7. Can I be an ECT (Early Career Teacher) if I work part time?

ECTs can work part time and adjustments to their programme will be made to allow more time for this to be completed, if required. We recommend completing in two years so you can follow the same development plan as your peers.

**8. Can I be an ECT if my employment is fixed term?**

As long as your contract is for at least 1 school term, you will be able to enrol on the ECF. It is the responsibility of your school to enrol you.

**9. Do I get time away from teaching to focus on this?**

During Year 1 you are entitled to 10% off the timetable, in addition to your PPA, to focus on your ECF programme.

During Year 2 you will receive 5% off your timetable, in addition to your PPA.

You should speak with your Induction Tutor about this, your Appropriate Body will also *check in* with you to ensure you are receiving that statutory entitlement.

**10. What do I do if I move schools?**

It is important that you let us and your Appropriate Body know if you move schools and keep a record of how far into the programme you are. It is possible to transfer your journey on the ECF to a new Teaching School Hub if you move out of our area.

**11. Can I fail?**

No, you cannot fail your ECF training - the ECF is a package of support, not an assessment tool for teachers. You should participate in the programme as fully as possible, but failing to complete it will not mean you fail your induction. However, completing the assignments in your training programme is one way to collect evidence that you meet the Teachers' Standards.

The separate process led by your Appropriate Body determines your pass or fail to your induction period.

**12. What do I do if I'm off sick?**

If you have a period of sickness, we can support you by working with you, your mentor and Induction Tutor to create an appropriate action plan. This could be an extension in programme, or provide you with extra time and support to catch up on seminars and Brightspace.

**13. What is Brightspace and how do I access it?**

Brightspace is Teach First's online learning platform where you will access your self-directed study materials including weekly sessions containing expert guidance, research and examples of best practice.

To gain access to Brightspace, you will need to be fully registered on the DfE portal. This is the responsibility of the Induction Tutor.

**14. What other resources do I need?**

You will need access to a computer and internet to complete online learning and attend any online seminars. You do not need to keep a portfolio of evidence.

## 15. References

- [www.gov.uk/government/publications/induction-for-early-career-teachers-england](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/induction-for-early-career-teachers-england)
- [www.teachfirst.org.uk/knowledge-base/early-career-framework](http://www.teachfirst.org.uk/knowledge-base/early-career-framework)