VANTAGE TEACHING SCHOOL HUB
NORTH HUMBER

AB Bulletin

Autumn 2026







Welcome to the Autumn Term Appropriate Body (AB) Bulletin from Vantage Teaching School Hub.

The AB Bulletin is created to share relevant information regarding statutory induction with Headteachers, Induction Tutors and Mentors. The AB Bulletin will begin with an introduction that is focused on topics thought to be relevant to the majority of schools and then you will be signposted to the sections of the bulletin that are specific to your own areas of interest.

This bulletin has a particular focus on statutory requirements and progress reviews. You will find essential information regarding:

- Ensuring compliance with statutory requirements
- Schools with ECTs who are experiencing difficulties
- Autumn Progress Reviews (Year 1 and Year 2 ECTs)
- Assessments for ECTs who started mid-year
- Assessments for ECTs who resign/leave post mid-year
- Part time ECTs
- ECTs completing induction at Sixth Form Colleges

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- ECTs on supply contracts
- Quality Assurance
- Charging policy 2026
- GDPR Compliance - updating details on ECT Manager
- Induction Tutor Training
- Contact details

Ensuring compliance with statutory requirements for induction at your school

In addition to confirming that the role within your school is suitable for induction, headteachers must ensure that Year 1 ECTs have a 10% reduced timetable in addition to their PPA time. They should also have regular (weekly) mentor meetings which take place during teaching hours if at all possible. For Year 2 ECTs they require a 5% reduced timetable and mentor meetings are fortnightly. In addition to this, ECTs and Mentors are expected to attend all training and seminars and engage fully with the materials shared through their provider, that underpin the ECTP Framework.

Schools who have ECTs who are experiencing difficulties or are already on support plans

The Appropriate Body should be made aware of any ECTs who are experiencing difficulties or who are already on a support plan. This includes any concerns you may have about extended absences particularly if the ECT is close to the 29 day limit that results in an automatic extension to induction. Conversations with ECTs should make clear any concerns; there should be no surprises when it comes to any assessment point. Support plans are designed to offer additional support to an ECT who is experiencing difficulties. It should be very clear about what the areas of focus are and how the ECT will be further supported to make progress. Vantage Standard and Enhanced support plan templates should be used and can be found on the resources section of ECT Manager. All support plans should be uploaded on to ECT Manager. If you require any further guidance please don't hesitate to make contact with the AB.

Autumn Progress Reviews (Year 1 and Year 2 ECTs)

Progress reviews are an important part of the induction process and should be seen as an opportunity to reflect on the ECT's progress towards meeting the Teachers' Standards. Whilst Progress reviews are designed to be briefer than assessments, they should still address the Teachers' Standards and make clear the key areas for further development. Please make sure that you have taken the opportunity to discuss the progress review/assessment with the ECT and that they have been given the opportunity to reflect and add their own comments. All progress reviews should be submitted by 11th December 2026. This allows for a review and moderation process to take place by the AB. Sample progress reviews can be found on the resources section of ECT Manager.

Assessments (Year 1 and Year 2 ECTs who started mid-year)

The deadline for uploading Assessments on to ECT Manager is 4th December 2026. It is important that this deadline is met to allow time for thorough quality assurance checks to take place. Please be mindful that this is the final opportunity to demonstrate how the ECT has met the Teachers' Standards consistently and should therefore be detailed. Please make sure that you have taken the opportunity to discuss the assessment with the ECT and the headteacher and that everyone has digitally signed, otherwise it can result in a significant delay to reporting the outcome of induction.

Please note that, in accordance with the SLA, a late submission charge of £50 per review/assessment will be incurred by schools who submit reviews/assessments more that 21 days after the deadline

Assessments for ECTs who resign/leave post mid-term

When ECTs resign or leave their post mid-term (or between assessments) it is the responsibility of schools to contact the Appropriate Body as soon as possible. Once the AB has been informed, an interim assessment will be manually generated for the Induction tutor to complete. This interim assessment is designed to ensure that ECTs have a detailed assessment of the current performance against meeting the Teachers' Standards for them to take to their next place of employment.

If an ECT leaves at a progress review point, you must select NOT staying at the school on the programme review. This will automatically convert the review into an Interim Assessment for you to complete.

Part time ECTs

The statutory guidance states that 'The default position is that part time ECTs should serve a full induction equivalent to two full years pro rata in order to benefit from time off timetable for study and mentoring and to have time to apply what they learned to their teaching practice and develop their skill without the pressure of a full timetable'.

Any requests to the Appropriate Body for reduction to induction for part time ECTs can only be made in the final term of the two years and it is down to the AB's discretion, in light of the evidence provided as to whether this is agreed or not. No schools/providers can promise a reduced induction and for clarity, any agreement made with the ECTP Programme Lead about the completion of the study programme within the two years, is entirely separate to statutory induction. Schools with part time ECTs might consider using the progress reviews as a form of evidence as to how they are progressing against the Teachers' Standards. Part time ECTs will have progress reviews completed termly regardless of their number of days teaching. Request forms for reduction to induction can be found on the resources section of ECT Manager.

ECTs completing induction at Sixth Form Colleges

In addition to the statutory requirements referenced in the first section of the bulletin that apply to all schools/providers, Sixth Form Colleges are subject to additional requirements as set out in 2.3 of the statutory guidance. Headteachers have a responsibility to 'ensure that normally no more than 10% of the ECT's teaching in the FE institution is devoted to teaching classes predominantly consisting of pupils aged 19 and over'; 'enable the ECT to develop a sound knowledge and understanding of day to day practices and the role of a teacher in a school; ECTs should spend the equivalent of at least ten days teaching children of compulsory school age in a school during their induction' and 'make every effort to provide the ECT with up to a further 15 days' experience in a school setting'. In light of these requirements, it is important that Induction Leads consider how, over the full period of induction they might accommodate a minimum of ten days in a school setting.

ECTs on Supply Contracts

Whilst short term supply teachers (who are also ECTs) are not required to complete induction, an ECT whose supply contract is for more than one term, is required to be on Statutory Induction as explained in the statutory guidance, 2.16.

Quality Assurance

Thank you to all those schools who have accommodated quality assurance visits last year. Equally, thank you to all those colleagues who have responded to any requests for further information about colleagues on support plans or amendments that needed to be made to progress reviews or assessments. Our regular quality assurance and support visits (in person and online) have already commenced. We will be visiting a minimum of 20% of all schools/providers. If your school is to receive a visit you will be contacted prior to the visit (minimum of a week's notice). In addition to these visits we will also attend schools where ECTs are experiencing difficulties in order to offer further support. The form completed during a quality assurance visit can be found on the resources section of ECT Manager.

Please be aware that there are mandatory questions on all progress reviews and assessments that ask ECTs to confirm they are receiving their statutory entitlements every term.

Charging Policy 2026

Schools who have ECTs from September will have been charged in October for one year, according to the pricing structure detailed in our SLA on our website: (Link here)
Those schools whose ECTs are on contracts shorter than three terms will need to request a credit for the unused term(s).
Schools who have ECTs joining in January or April will be charged until August 2027 and any outstanding terms will be charged the following academic year.
Reduced induction visits and fast track visits incur an additional charge of £175 to cover the cost of a half day visit (as per the SLA).
Induction Tutors should ensure that their finance leads are aware of these charges so that invoices can be processed swiftly and additional charges avoided. Late payment of invoices may result in an additional admin charge of £25 plus an additional £10 a term.

Please note that, in accordance with the SLA, a late submission charge of £50 per review/assessment will be incurred by schools who submit reviews/assessments more that 21 days after the deadline.

GDPR - Updating details on ECT Manager

It is vital that we have the most up to date and accurate contact details on ECT Manager. As such can you please take time to check that only colleagues who are Induction Tutors and Headteachers have access to ECT Manager (mentors do not have access to ECT Manager) and that the details of any colleagues who have changed roles or left the school have been amended or removed.

Induction Tutor Training

As part of the ongoing Induction Tutor support from Vantage TSH, the Autumn Term webinar took place on Thursday 8th October 2026 via zoom. If you missed this meeting and have not received a recording of this seminar, please email us and we can send you a copy. The Spring Term webinar will be held on Thursday 4th March 2027, 4pm via Zoom and the Summer Term webinar will be held on Thursday 17th June 2027 at 4pm via Zoom. These meetings will be hosted by Andrea Tonks, ECF Strategic Lead & Nicola Tennison, AB Lead who will be able to respond to any queries. Induction Tutors will receive an email containing the link to join the meeting a week before the meeting date.

Contact Details

Vantage Website: www.vantagetsh.org
Telephone Number: 01482 851136
AB Lead, Nicola Tennison: ntennison@smchull.org
ECT Manager queries: abadmin@smchull.org

As always, we are here to support you so please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best Wishes
Nicola Tennison,
AB Lead