



Welcome to the Summer 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 links that take you to the sections of the bulletin that are specific to your own areas of interest.

This bulletin has a particular focus on ASSESSMENTS and PROGRESS REVIEWS including the importance of meeting the deadlines. You will find essential information regarding:

- Summer Assessment/Progress Review deadlines
- ECTs leaving mid-induction - Interim Assessments (ensuring compliance)
- ECTs who are experiencing difficulties (including attendance)
- Extension to induction requests
- Feedback from Spring Progress Reviews and Assessments
- Onboarding for September 2026
- Ensuring compliance with statutory requirements
- Part-time ECTs
- ECTs completing induction long term supply contracts

- ECTs completing induction at Sixth Form Colleges
- Quality Assurance Visits and Reviews
- Charging policy 2026
- Updating details on ECT Manager
- Induction Tutor training
- Contact details

Summer Assessments and progress reviews (Year 1 and Year 2 ECTs)

The deadline for uploading assessments on ECT Manager is 3rd July 2026. Progress reviews for those ECTs who started mid-year are due 10th July 2026. It is important that these deadlines are met to allow time for thorough quality assurance checks to take place and for the Advisory Panel to meet as part of this process. Please be mindful that when completing the Final Assessments that this is the final opportunity to demonstrate how the ECT has met the Teachers' Standards consistently and should therefore be detailed and include precise examples. 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 significant delays to reporting the outcome of induction. Sample progress reviews and Assessments can be found in the resources section of ECT Manager.

Interim Assessments for ECTs who leave mid-induction (taken from Statutory Guidance)

2.62. When an ECT leaves a post after completing one term or more in an institution but before the next formal assessment would take place, the induction tutor or headteacher/principal is expected to complete an interim assessment. This is expected to take place before the ECT leaves their post to ensure that the ECT's progress, performance, the length of induction completed and the number of days absent since the last assessment are captured. This is especially important where concerns about progress may have arisen. The information recorded on the interim assessment report will help to ensure that induction can be continued effectively in any subsequent post. This is also required if the ECT leaves during their final term of induction.

2.63. In exceptional circumstances where an interim assessment cannot be completed before the ECT leaves post (for example, in situations where an absent ECT subsequently leaves their post without returning) the Induction Tutor or Headteacher/Principal is still expected to complete an interim assessment report and provide a copy to the Appropriate Body and the ECT.

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.

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. Support plan templates can be found on the resources section of ECT Manager.

This academic year has seen a significant increase in the number of ECTs who are experiencing difficulties whilst on induction and many of these concerns have been raised very late in the induction progress. Experience confirms that intervening early when an ECT is not on track to meet the Teachers' Standards often prevents escalation and is in the best interest of both the ECT and the school.

Extensions to Induction (formal requests)

An extension due to an ECT exceeding 29 days absence is automatic, however, an extension for ECTs not on target to complete induction successfully at the end of the two years, must be formally requested to the AB. This formal request, prior to the end of the induction period, must be from the Headteacher and should summarize the reasons why an extension is necessary. It should also include the proposed extension period. The ECT must be fully informed at all points and there should be clear evidence to support the school's judgement. In this rare circumstance, the AB would already be working closely with the school. On receipt of a formal request, the AB will then contact the ECT to make them aware of their right to appeal this decision as per statutory guidance.

Feedback from Spring Progress Reviews and Assessments (Year 1 and Year 2 ECTs)

Overwhelmingly positive, the majority of Progress Reviews show precisely how the ECT is making progress. Equally, comments made by the ECTs frequently acknowledge how they benefit from the support they are receiving. Standard and Final Assessments were also of a high standard, with Induction Tutors/Leads exemplifying the ECT's performance with precise examples, making it clear how the ECT has consistently met the Teachers' Standards.

74 reviews were still outstanding one week after the deadline, and approximately half of this number remained outstanding 4 weeks later. In response to the additional work involved, **a late submission charge will be implemented from September 2026.**

Onboarding ECTs for September 2026

As we are making a few changes to our SLA and templates on ECT Manager, we ask you to please complete the Microsoft Form which is [linked here](#) and on our website if you wish to onboard your ECT for AB Services or the ECTP Programme.

Ensuring compliance with statutory requirements for induction at your school, including mentor engagement at training events

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 ITTECF Framework.

Additionally, please be advised that attendance at mentor training is mandatory to ensure that schools are meeting the statutory requirement that induction is underpinned by the ECF.

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 ECF 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 teacher standards. Part time ECTs will have progress reviews completed termly regardless of their number of days teaching. Requests for reduction to induction can be found on the resources section of ECT Manager.

ECTs on supply contracts

ECTs who are employed on a supply contract of one term or more must be registered for statutory induction. Please note, as per the statutory guidance: 'It is not possible to backdate the start of an induction period if a short-term supply contract is extended so that it lasts for one term or longer. However, an induction programme must be put in place immediately if it becomes clear that the extended contract will continue for at least a term. (2.16)

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.

Quality Assurance

Thank you to all those schools who accommodated quality assurance visits this year; the feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive and suggests an increased confidence around the induction process. 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. Please note that in addition to the AB reviewing all final assessments, we will be undertaking a sample moderation process at our Advisory Board meeting as part of our quality assurance activities.

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

Please also note that from September we are increasing our number of standard quality assurance visits with the view to visiting schools with active ECTs once every three years as a minimum.

Charging Policy 2026-2027

Schools who have new ECTs from September will be charged in October for one year. Schools who have ECTs joining the January or April cohort will be charged until August 2027.

The pricing structure has been under review in consultation with other AB providers regionally and nationally. After careful consideration we have made the decision to support schools by staging the increase over the next two years. This means that the costs will increase initially from £225 to £250 for the year 2026-27 (an increase of £8.33 a term per ECT).

From Sept 2026 a £50 late charge per review/assessment will be incurred by schools whose reviews/assessments are more than 21 days late. The exception to this is when the AB has received a written request to delay the completion of a review/assessment.

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 their finance leads are aware of these charges so that invoices can be processed swiftly and additional charges avoided. Late payment of invoices will result in an additional admin charge of £25 plus an additional £10 a term.

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, in accordance with GDPR guidelines, the details of any colleagues who have changed roles or left the school have been amended or removed.

Induction Tutor Training

The termly Induction Tutor training for the Summer term took place on Thursday 11th June 2026 and all Induction Tutors should have received a copy of this recording. Please contact us, if you have not received this or would like clarification on any points discussed.

The dates for the termly Induction Tutor seminars for the next academic year are:

- Thursday 8th October 2026 at 4pm, via zoom
- Thursday 4th March 2027 at 4pm, via zoom
- Thursday 17th June 2027 at 4pm, via zoom

Best Wishes

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