

Endorsement of Initial Teacher Education Qualifications

**Standards Verification UK**  
**Briefing paper 08/01**

Title:	
<b>Teaching Practice as a Defining Component of Endorsement</b>	
Date of issue:	Distribution:
July 2008	All Awarding Institutions in England.
Intended recipients:	Contact for further info:
All awarding institutions with existing interim endorsed or endorsed generic or integrated initial teacher education programmes for the FE/learning and skills sector, England	Kay Fountain Quality Assurance Officer  kayfountain@svuk.eu
Replacement instructions:	Response deadline:
Complements SVUK paper 08/02	

Contents:
<p><b>1 Location of Endorsable Teaching Practice</b></p> <p>1.1 The process of endorsing ITE qualifications ensures a supply of qualifications that will enable new teachers in the FE/learning and skills sector<sup>1</sup> (whether required by Regulation or contract) to reach the starting point of professional formation on the journey to licensed status as a teaching/tutoring/training professional. Endorsement is how such ITE qualifications gain the approval of the Secretary of State.</p> <p>1.2 <b>Teaching practice</b> associated with endorsed qualifications, therefore, <b>must be in one or more learning environments in the FE/learning and skills sector</b> for the purpose of ultimately being licensed, Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills or Associate Teacher Learning and Skills. However a lesser proportion of teaching practice could be in a school or higher education in order to support those with</p>

<sup>1</sup> The FE/learning and skills sector contains incorporated FE (including Sixth Form and Specialist) colleges, together with other LSC funded provision such as work based learning, adult & community learning, offender learning etc. Reference to LSC funding provision refers to contracts with learning providers, and not to contracts with organisations whose primary purpose is not learning provision.

teaching portfolios that cross phase boundaries. Similarly a lesser proportion of teaching practice could be in other lifelong learning environments outside the FE/learning and skills sector.

2 It is imperative, though, that **awarding institutions** ensure that **sufficient teaching practice and its assessment takes place in FE/learning and skills learning environments** to be confident the trainee teacher is fit to practise in the sector and can meet the professional standards required of new career entrants specified by the Regulations<sup>2</sup>.

2.1 The teaching practice requirement per qualification is given in the Lifelong Learning UK (LLUK) guidance document '*Guidance for awarding institutions on teacher roles and initial teaching qualifications*' August 2007 Version 3.

## 2.2 **Criteria for acceptable teaching practice locations**

- Teaching practice for endorsed qualifications must allow trainee teachers to meet the professional standards for teachers, tutors and trainers as specified for each class of qualification through the particular setting(s) in which they teach.
- For those employed in **FE institutions**, this can be any activity which their employer conducts, regardless of the source of funding<sup>3</sup>.
- For others in the **wider FE/learning and skills sector** it is most likely to be provision funded by their employer's contract as a learning provider with the Learning and Skills Council.
- Teaching practice locations are likely to be open to Ofsted inspection under their FE sector remit.

More detailed information for individuals, awarding institutions, and employers on teaching practice, including consideration of publicly funded training in the private sector, is provided in the FAQs to be found at:

[Standards Verification UK \(SVUK\) - Endorsement briefing papers](#)

<sup>2</sup> The Further Education Teachers' Qualifications (England) Regulations 2007

<sup>3</sup> Only those with wholly HE timetables are exempt