

Friday 3 April 2020

Message from Professor Kate Ireland, Director of the Centre for Teacher Education, University of Warwick

To all University of Warwick PGCE students and trainees (cc. partner schools for information)

- **WORK IN PROGRESS REGARDING THE AWARD OF QTS IN LIGHT OF SCHOOL CLOSURE.**
- **STUDENT SUPPORT AND QUERIES**
- **PGCE SECONDARY ASSESSMENT DEADLINE UPDATES**

The Award of QTS in light of school closure and COVID-19

You will be aware the Department for Education (DfE) has enabled ITT providers to make judgements on trainees based on assessments already completed and each trainee's current trajectory of progress towards meeting the Teachers' Standards.

It is critical that the Centre for Teacher Education takes all reasonable measures to develop a fair, transparent and evidence-based approach to reaching these conclusions. We have a duty of care to all trainees to make the right judgements for QTS, not only for the present but also for their longer-term careers. We are working on this as a priority, however this takes time to develop alongside new information being published by the DfE on an on-going basis (see the footer of this email for information).

The process and criteria by which we will make our decisions is being developed by the Head of Primary and Secondary Teacher Education and will be consulted on as far as reasonably possible as well as quality assured by our External Examiners. Whilst we are mindful of the importance of these decisions and communicating these to you, we will only do this when we are completely sure that our approach is fully robust and reliable. I am attending SSLCs when invited and will update Course Representatives as far as possible on the work as we progress.

Student Support and queries

We sincerely thank you for your continued patience at a time that we appreciate comes with a lot of uncertainty. Please could we ask that you provide us with the space and time to develop the necessary arrangements by keeping questions about individual circumstances to a minimum until we are in a position to provide more detailed answers.

Please do get in touch with your personal tutor should you be experiencing difficulties engaging with your course for whatever reason and also remember that you can also access support for your wellbeing during this time through the resources and help available through the University's Wellbeing Support Services. Further information can be found here:

<https://warwick.ac.uk/services/wss/>

Assessment deadlines – update for Secondary PGCE only

You will be aware of recent changes made to assessment deadlines by the university in light of the current situation and I thought it would be helpful to clarify the revised deadlines and proposed changes to assessment with you.

DATES	ACTIVITY
14 th – 21 st April	PG1a early resubmission
4 th May	PG2b submission
8thMay	Bank Holiday
25thMay	Bank Holiday
1 st June	PDP submission
1 st – 12 th June	<i>vivas</i>
1 st June	PG1a resubmission deadline for exam board completion
3 rd June	PG2b return
15 th June	PG1b submission
15 th – 25 th June	Poster presentations
7 th July	FINAL EXAM BOARD

Due to the extended deadline for PG2b, Tabula will reopen for PG1a resubmissions between 14th and 21st April. There is a further opportunity to resubmit PG1a at the end of May and Tabula will remain open. We cannot guarantee that resubmissions of assignments made after 1st June will be marked in time for the exam board. Anyone passing the course after the exam board will be officially signed off via Chair's Action.

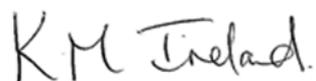
Whilst we will endeavour to return PG2b essays by 3rd June, this may not be possible due to staff absence. Essays with extensions to deadlines beyond 4th May will probably not be returned by 3rd June.

Poster presentations and *vivas* will now be done separately via Blackboard Collaborate. Your personal tutor will arrange your *viva* directly with you and they will take place in the first two

weeks of June. Poster presentations are done in pairs: two trainees with your two tutors. Your tutor will notify you of the time and date for this.

Further information will follow regarding the *viva* and poster process. If you have any questions about changes to assessment dates, please contact Dr Alison Morgan (A.J.Morgan@warwick.ac.uk) or Dr John Thornby (John.Thornby@warwick.ac.uk)

With my very best wishes,



Professor Kate Ireland,
Director of CTE

For information, if you have not yet seen them, the below are just two examples of recent DfE publications that we are taking in to consideration:

NQTs and Induction [Published 1st April]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/induction-for-newly-qualified-teachers-nqts>

Temporary version of the Initial Teacher Training Criteria in light of Covid-19 [Published 27th March]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-training-criteria>