

School Direct Initial Teacher Training (ITT)

**To: Members of the Centre for Teacher Education (CTE) Steering Group;
All current School Direct Lead School Partners**

Subject: Notice of change to payments and charges for School Direct Lead School Partners with effect from September 2020

1. Context - Commitment to Partnership

1.1 Since November 2011, the Government's policy position and drive to create a school-led, market driven competitive Initial Teacher Training (ITT) environment has resulted in university providers developing a partnership PGCE programme. The University of Warwick's commitment to high quality teacher education, in partnership with schools is the Centre for Teacher Education's core mission and is part of Warwick's history. We have invested considerable resource in developing an effective and Outstanding (as judged by Ofsted, 2015) School Direct (SD) partnership delivery model. Over recent years, we have worked with SD lead schools to plan the delivery of training jointly and collaboratively to ensure an equitable student experience for each trainee whilst on programme. Throughout this period, we have not changed or reassessed the fee paid to our SD lead partner schools.

2. Rationale for change

2.1 We have researched Russell Group University SD funding allocations to lead schools for SDT and have identified a range of rates, all of which were equal to or less than £2600. We are therefore compelled to bring our SD funding model closer to market rate.

2.2 To ensure financial sustainability for the Centre for Teacher Education given the rising annual costs of being a department within a Russell Group University.

2.3 In order to be able to continue to train the highest quality teachers at a Russell Group university, to be recruited to our partnership schools and the wider teaching profession.

3. School-based Training payments and fees to School Direct Lead Partner Schools

3.1 Since the inception of SD, the University of Warwick has developed the delivery model of both Primary and Secondary SD PGCE programmes to enable growth in student recruitment numbers and to ensure high quality provision. The fee paid to schools for SDT has remained constant at £3,600 and the invoice amount from schools to Warwick for SDS has remained at £3,400.

3.2 We are now in a position where we need to reassess the SD financial model to ensure that we apportion a competitive but fair sum to our partner schools whilst preserving the quality teacher training that our partnerships deliver. **Please refer to table 1.**

Table 1.

	2018/19 and 2019/20			2020/21		
	Trainee fee paid to Warwick	Warwick pay Lead School	Lead School pay Warwick	Trainee fee paid to Warwick*	Warwick pay Lead School	Lead School pay Warwick
SD Tuition Fee	£9250	£3600	n/a	£9250	£3100	n/a
SD Salaried	£2000	n/a	£3400	£2000	n/a	£3900

**University course fees have not yet been confirmed for 2020/21 and trainee fees may therefore be subject to change.*

4. In development: *Leading and Supported* School Direct Model

4.1 A task and finish group has been established with CTE senior colleagues and representatives from SD Lead Schools to co-develop a document to build on the contractual expectations specified in the Partnership Agreement for each training year. This will be used to self-assess and self-regulate against a set of agreed quality marks so that all are clear of the responsibilities of the school, university and trainee. Trainees' success, parity of experience and quality of training is at the heart of this work. At this point in time there is no intention to establish a differentiated payment system.

5. Approval

5.1 The changes to school-based training payments and fees to SD Lead Partner Schools have been approved by the University Provost and the Chair of the Faculty of Social Sciences.

5.2 These changes and this communication have been approved by the Centre for Teacher Education's Wider Senior Leadership Team.

6. Timeline for communication of this document

6.1 **Friday 9th Nov** –Circulated to all CTE staff (cc. Faculty Chair and Provost).

6.2 **Friday 9th Nov** – Emailed to CTE Partnership Steering members (in confidence, to allow for feedback and time for CTE to respond).

6.3 **Monday 26 Nov** – Emailed to each SD Lead School with the opportunity to meet with the Director and Head of Operations to discuss at 12 noon Thurs 6th Dec prior to the Partnership lunch.

7. Next Steps

7.1 The new SD rates will be applied for trainees commencing (or restarting) in August/September 2020 but will not apply for trainees returning to complete their course following temporary withdrawal.

Further investigation into costing school and University delivery of School Direct components should follow in the 2019/20 calendar year, to investigate future desirability and feasibility of making payments proportionate to the distribution of responsibilities shared between the University and the specific lead school partner in particular.