

Appropriate Body reform - overview and rationale

The following information has been adapted by the partners above from information to be shared with schools provided by the Department for Education (DfE).

Appropriate Bodies (ABs) play a vital statutory role quality assuring induction, ensuring Early Career Teachers (ECTs) receive statutory entitlements during induction, and are fairly and consistently assessed against the Teachers' Standards.

It is essential to the successful delivery of induction reforms that ABs are fit for purpose and accountable, and that there is greater consistency of quality in the AB services that schools receive. It is recognised that many ABs have significant experience and expertise and show great commitment to their ECTs and schools. However, the [responses to the consultation](#) provided further evidence that variation in quality and approach is currently an issue across ABs. Key within these reforms is the need to find a cost-effective way to introduce greater quality assurance of the AB sector.

The Department has a formal agreement in place with each TSH and holds them to account against key performance indicators. This relationship with TSHs provides an existing mechanism through which to introduce robust quality assurance without the need to set up a costly and duplication quality assurance or accreditation system.

The Department recognises that schools provided a variety of responses to the consultation, some of which raised their concerns about local authorities losing the AB role. The Department is grateful to all respondents who took the time to share their views and highlight potential issues, particularly around minimising the impact on ECTs. **The phased transition that has been agreed in response is intended to ensure that for the majority of ECTs, schools have the option not to move those who already began induction in September 2022 to a new AB during their induction.**

The DfE is committed to ensuring ABs are supported to collaborate during this transition period to help schools make a smooth transition to new ABs where this is necessary.

A separate document with answers to some common questions is linked [here](#).

Key Appropriate Body contacts within Suffolk

Appropriate body name	Contact name	Contact details and websites
Inspiration Teaching School Hub	Carmel Greene	inspirationteachinghub@inspirationtrust.org inspirationteachingschoolhub.org
Unity Teaching School Hub	Celia Moore	cmoore@unitysp.co.uk unityteachingschoolhub.net
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Suffolk Local Authority	Celia Moore	Celia.Moore@suffolk.gov.uk