

SUFFOLK AND NORFOLK



ACCREDITED PROVIDER

Suffolk & Norfolk Graduate Teacher Programme
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Dear Headteacher

I am writing to update you on the development of the Suffolk and Norfolk GTP as a high quality employment based route into the teaching profession in East Anglia. Evidence from the first GTP Assessment Board for this academic year indicates that the large majority of our primary and secondary trainees have made a very good start to their training and are on track to achieve a 'good' or 'outstanding' grade at the end of the year. I am very much aware that the success of the programme and of our trainees each year is dependent upon the high quality of mentoring which is provided in so many of our partnership schools across the two counties and this was acknowledged by Ofsted following last summer's inspection of the GTP.

You will be pleased to know that more than 49% of last year's GTP cohort achieved an 'outstanding' grade at the end of their training with more than 85% graded 'good' or above. The large majority of our trainees obtained posts within Suffolk and Norfolk schools with a significant number being appointed to a post within the school where they had undertaken their training. Figures from the last two years indicate that the GTP has played a particularly important part in attracting a wide range of new entrants to the profession and in filling vacancies within shortage subjects. My meetings with mentors and with professional tutors in the course of the year have confirmed that supporting a GTP trainee within a school/department brings with it many benefits including a unique CPD opportunity for those staff who become mentors for our trainees. There is no doubt that the challenge of supporting a trainee causes a mentor, and often a whole department, to look again at their own professional practice and to reflect on what constitutes high quality teaching and learning. GTP trainees bring with them energy, enthusiasm and a range of effective teaching and learning strategies derived from their core training and in so-doing make a positive contribution to the development of their placement school.

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SNITT

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As GTP Leader, I am eager to develop further the productive partnerships which have been established between the GTP and a large number of schools across Norfolk and Suffolk in order to provide high quality teacher training. My main purpose in writing is to seek your willingness to provide a placement for one or more of our trainees from September 2011. Through the SNITT partnership, the GTP has advertised our employment-based route into the teaching profession more widely than ever this year and we have received a record number of applications across both phases. Within the past few days the Suffolk and Norfolk GTP has received confirmation of its allocation of places for next year with a small increase in places allocated for both primary and secondary phases. With the support of a number of our partnership schools, we are currently involved in the interview and selection process and we will be in a position to make offers of placements to successful candidates in April.

I attach a 'quick guide' to the GTP route which outlines the key points of GTP training provision. Please note particularly the requirement, that trainees in receipt of a TDA salary grant must be treated as supernumerary and not timetabled for their own classes. As you may be aware, the TDA salary grant does not cover the full cost of taking on a trainee including 'on-costs' and as a result the Suffolk and Norfolk GTP has moved to a ten month training contract which will commence on 5 September 2011 and end on 30 June 2012. This will serve to minimise any shortfall in salary funding. Please note also that in addition to the salary grant, the GTP will continue to pay a training grant to placement schools in order to offset the costs associated with training.

I very much hope that you will be able to offer a placement for one or more GTP trainees from September 2011. In order to help us begin the process of planning our placements for next year, I would be grateful if you could complete the attached pro forma and return it to the GTP office **by Monday, 4 April**. It is particularly helpful if you can indicate the maximum number of trainees you are able to provide a placement for together with details of the key stage or subject department within which training can be provided. I recognise, of course, that this pro forma is indicative only at this stage and that circumstances within a particular department or key stage may change over the next few months.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Law', with a stylized flourish underneath.

Paul Law
Suffolk and Norfolk Graduate Teacher Programme Leader