

Revised Headteacher standards January 2015

The DfE has published revised standards for Headteachers: [National standards of excellence for headteachers \(DfE 2015\)](#)

The review of headteacher standards, chaired by Dame Dana Ross-Wawrzynski, was launched by the Department for Education on 17 April 2014. It brought together a group of respected professionals, including headteachers, middle leaders and a National Leader of Governance to review the 2004 National Standards for Headteachers.

The review group's aim was to define leadership standards that are applicable to all headteacher roles in the current educational landscape and a self-improving school system. They wanted these standards to inspire public confidence in headteachers, drive aspiration and excellence, and empower the profession.

The review group decided that the best way to achieve their aim would be to create aspirational standards of excellence, rather than standards to be used as a minimum baseline. They want the standards to provoke thought and inspire all headteachers to consider how they could improve, as well as acting as a useful tool for governing boards.

The standards are intended as guidance to underpin best practice and are different from 'The Teachers' Standards' in that they are non-mandatory and do not set a baseline for expected performance.

The standards are published with useful guidance for application and it is strongly advised that those involved in applying the standards read the supporting guidance.