



2023-0025190NGPO

The Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister for Schools

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Ms Michele Gregson
General Secretary, National Society for Education in Art & Design
By email: michelegregson@nsead.org

1 August 2023

Dear Ms Gregson,

Thank you for your letter of 6 July, addressed to the Secretary of State, regarding art and design teachers. I am replying as the Minister for Schools and I should be grateful if you would share this response with your co-signatories.

The Department reviews funding for Initial Teacher Training (ITT) before the start of each annual recruitment cycle. As part of this, we take account of several factors when considering bursaries in each subject, including historic recruitment, forecast economic conditions, and teacher supply need in each subject. This ensures the Department provides funding where it is needed the most.

In academic years 2020/21 and 2021/22 we exceeded the postgraduate ITT recruitment targets in art and design, recruiting 132 per cent and 134 per cent of the respective targets. We recognise that ITT recruitment has become more challenging since then due to the highly competitive graduate labour market. As a result, art and design recruitment fell slightly below the postgraduate ITT target in academic year 2022/23, to 90 per cent, after the two years in which targets were exceeded.

I can assure you that we will be reviewing the need for ITT bursaries across all subjects, informed by latest recruitment for academic year 2023/24 and our detailed workforce modelling, prior to announcing the bursaries available for ITT applicants this Autumn.

Yours sincerely,

The Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
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