



2018-0042978POGibb

Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP

Minister of State for School Standards

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Dr Peter Gregory, President
Dr Rachel Payne, President Elect
National Society for Education in Art and Design
3 Mason's Wharf
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23 November 2018

Dear Dr Gregory and Dr Payne,

Thank you for your letter of 23 October, addressed to the Secretary of State, regarding initial teacher training (ITT) in creative subjects. I am replying as the Minister of State for School Standards.

I note your concerns about the Get Into Teaching website and have passed your letter to officials at the team in the Department responsible for the website. They have agreed to amend the website to make a clearer distinction between the subjects by creating their own individual pages. Should the NSEAD wish to work with officials to ensure the pages reflect the unique offering of each subject, they have asked that a point of contact at the organisation be provided.

The ITT bursaries offered by the Department are designed to incentivise higher applications for ITT courses. As you note, art and design does not attract a bursary despite recruiting less well against its target than other subjects, including music. However, the total number of art and design trainee teachers has remained stable in recent years, and has been consistently higher than the number of music trainee teachers. For this reason, and because resources are limited, we consider it appropriate to continue to provide bursaries for music.

Art and design trainee teachers are able to access student finance for their ITT course. In addition to the tuition fee loan, which means that trainees do not have to pay fees upfront, a maintenance loan of up to £11,354 is available to support the living costs of trainee teachers. Trainee teachers taking out student loans for their ITT course will only start repaying these once they earn over £25,000 per year. More information is available at: tinyurl.com/aJ4G88a.

Potential art and design trainee teachers are also now eligible for individual, tailored support from a teacher training adviser. This support can be accessed by registering with Get Into Teaching.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ruth Galt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R' and a long, sweeping tail.