

## **UCET 2017 ELECTION MANIFESTO**

### **TIME FOR A STEP CHANGE IN TEACHER TRAINING, SUPPLY AND RETENTION**

**Please forward a copy of this manifesto to your local parliamentary candidates and ask them to comment**

At a time of almost unprecedented teacher shortage, UCET is calling on all political parties to commit to measures that will ensure schools and colleges have the teachers they need and will boost the quality and status of the teaching profession.

#### **Quality and status of teachers**

- It is a scandal that increased numbers of pupils are being taught by unqualified teachers. The new government should reintroduce requirements that all teachers in schools and colleges are properly qualified
- All new teachers should receive structured early professional development that builds on and complements their initial training
- The government should commit to teaching becoming an all Master's qualified profession, something that would represent the biggest step change in quality and status since it became an all graduate profession in the 1970s
- All teachers should have access to up to date research findings and be equipped to be skilled practitioners and consumers of education research

#### **Recruitment of new teachers**

The government has failed to meet its target for the recruitment of student teachers for each of the last five years. This means that schools and colleges do not have the teachers they need to provide a good quality education for their pupils and students. Each year the target is missed the situation gets worse. UCET is therefore calling on the incoming government to:

- Simplify the routes into teaching so that potential teachers are not put off by what is at the moment an overly-complicated system
- Allow teacher education providers to recruit as many student teachers as are required in their partner schools and guarantee minimum levels of training places over, a 3-5 year period, to aid planning and match supply more closely to demand.
- Provide additional recruitment incentives in areas of social deprivation and acute teacher shortage

- Allow teacher education partnerships to switch training places across different routes to ensure that student teachers receive the training that is best for them and to target recruitment where it is most needed

### **Retention of teachers**

The retention of teachers is as serious a problem as the recruitment of new teachers. The new government should therefore:

- Introduce retention incentives – such as the staged writing off of student loans – to teachers remaining in the profession for periods of three, five and seven years, with all loans paid off after seven years
- Target additional retention incentives at schools and colleges in areas of deprivation
- Give all teachers an entitlement to career-long professional development

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### **Notes:**

**UCET is a registered charity (ref 275082) whose members are universities and others involved in teacher education and education research. Further information can be found at [www.ucet.ac.uk](http://www.ucet.ac.uk)**