

## Briefing: NQT Induction - The impact of COVID-19 on induction

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In response to concerns regarding the potential disruption of Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT) statutory induction in due to the COVID-19 outbreak causing extended NQT absence or school closures, please see the following advice from the TRA/DfE:

*NQTs absent for reasons related to the current COVID-19 public health emergency will **not** have their induction period automatically extended. Current arrangements state that ad-hoc absences totalling 30 days or more automatically extends induction by the aggregate number of days absent. However, the DfE intend to amend the regulations to ensure that any absence related to the current COVID-19 public health emergency, including school closures, sickness or self-isolation, will not count towards this limit. This means that NQTs who are currently undertaking statutory induction can complete their induction this academic year as expected, provided they meet the Teachers' Standards.*

*Headteachers and Appropriate Bodies should continue to judge whether a NQT has met the Teachers' Standards upon completion of the induction period, which for most, will be the end of the academic year. If there are concerns that a NQT has not achieved the standards by the end of their induction period, headteachers and Appropriate Bodies will exercise their discretion to recommend an extension, allowing the NQT further time and opportunity to demonstrate their ability to meet the standards.*

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**This means that we will be able to sign off all NQTs at the end of the academic year, as long as they have met Teacher Standards and have not had non-COVID-19 related absences totalling over 30 days.**

*In summary - NQTs and their Mentors/Professional Tutors should continue with the school processes as best they can in the circumstances. Please submit your report for this term as usual. Electronic signatures will be acceptable.*

*If your NQT has given any cause for concern over the first two terms please contact Dave Cookson to discuss further. In certain cases we may expect the NQT to complete a further term or two once schools return to normal.*

We will support schools in whatever way we can, do contact Carol Green or I. If the TRA/DfE provide any update we will contact you.

**Dave Cookson**