

Briefing Paper

EC-2787

TO:	Hon. Chris Hipkins
FROM:	Lesley Hoskin, CE Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand
DATE	14 March 2022
SUBJECT:	Reintroducing temporary changes to the Teaching Council's Initial Teacher Education Requirements in 2022
FOR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Minister of Education:

1. Notes the reintroduction of temporary changes to the Teaching Council's Initial Teacher Education Requirements in 2022 that were previously consulted on with you.
2. Notes that the reintroduction of the temporary changes to the Council's ITE Requirements in 2022 does not include the temporary change that allowed for a 25 percent reduction in Professional Experience Placement requirements, nor the enhanced induction and mentoring support, that was made available in 2020 and 2021.

Purpose

3. The Teaching Council (Council) wishes to inform the Minister of the reintroduction of temporary changes to our ITE policy, as required in the Education and Training Act 2020, section 479 (1) (h) (i).
4. Reintroducing the temporary changes aims to support ITE providers and student teachers in responding to the ongoing impacts of COVID-19. It reflects a proactive approach for student teachers unable to meet the Professional Experience Placement (PEP) requirements of their ITE qualification while ensuring graduates' readiness to teach.

Background

5. In 2020 the Council consulted with you [20 April 2020] about a Temporary COVID-19 Programme Change policy in response to the emergence of COVID-19, which would allow temporary changes to the ITE programme Requirements.
6. In 2021 we consulted again [3 March 2021 and 25 August 2021], and the policy was re-implemented with most of the temporary changes that were available in 2020. The re-implemented policy lapsed on 1 January 2022.
7. It was not intended to implement temporary change arrangements in 2022. However, the emergence of the Omicron variant and implications of the red traffic light phase are having major impacts on ITE providers, especially on their ability to provide for the required minimum amount of practical experience through Professional Experience Placements (PEP) arrangements within the short- to medium-term.
8. Therefore, we proposed to the Council's Governing Council that we update and publish the temporary COVID-19 Programme Changes policy for ITE providers to use when seeking approval for

programme changes or to notify the Council of designated temporary changes in response to Omicron.

9. The Governing Council approved the proposal on 09 March 2022.
10. The proposal **does not** provide for the temporary change that allows for a 25 percent reduction in Professional Experience Placement requirements, nor the enhanced induction and mentoring support, that was made available in 2020 and 2021.

Reintroducing temporary changes to our Initial Teacher Education (ITE) Policy for 2022

11. The changes include that the Council allow ITE providers to apply to us for approval for the following temporary changes:
 - i. proposed alternative practical experience or assessments – this includes micro teaching, simulated teaching, small group teaching, hybrid teaching, online teaching
 - ii. proposed change to teaching online for campus-based programmes who do not have a blended/online option
12. The changes include that the Council allow ITE providers to notify us if and when they use the following temporary changes:
 - i. use of documented minimum approved Professional Experience Placements (PEP) periods (this applies only to programmes which as currently approved, deliver **more than the minimum** PEP time as set out in the relevant *2010* or *2019 ITE Requirements*)
 - ii. movement of PEP to an alternative date
 - iii. removal of requirements for consecutive block of teaching practice (applies only to programmes approved under *2010 ITE Requirements*)
 - iv. removal of requirement of away teaching block
 - v. proposed use of assessed field/school-based PEP hours: employment- and field-based ECE ITE student teachers to be employed for a minimum of 12 hours per week at an ECE centre
 - vi. removal of mandatory hours for employment- and field-based practice (applies only to programmes approved under *2010 ITE Requirements*)
 - vii. change to lecturer visiting protocols for PEP

The changes will be cost neutral from a government perspective.

13. To ensure flexibility for ITE providers, they will be able to implement any of these changes across their 2022 calendar. However, we will review the temporary policy changes in June 2022. We may propose further measures at that point if these are required, but if the situation improves with regard to the COVID 19 pandemic, we may instead indicate to ITE providers that we will no longer accept new temporary change applications or permit notifications.
14. One of our areas of concern is that there is a cohort of teachers who have experienced disruption throughout the length of their three years of study. We will provide advice to you should further support for this cohort be necessary.