

TEACHING COUNCIL

NEW ZEALAND | Matatū Aotearoa

18 December 2018

Tēnā Koe Mr

Response to your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You asked:

1. *Was the Education Council involved with the approval process for the overseas applicants? If so, what documentation was required from applicants to be submitted? Was there a committee formed to vet all applicants?*
2. *What induction course will they be given before starting in a NZ classroom?*
3. *Will they be required to do a TER course?*
4. *What level of teaching experience did they require to be approved suitable for teaching in NZ schools?*
5. *Will overseas teachers be required to have a 1 year period of observation, mentoring and portfolio presentation before receiving full registration?*

My response to your questions are as follows:

Q 1. The Teaching Council was not involved in the approval process for overseas applicants. This was managed by the Ministry of Education.

Q 2. The Teaching Council supports efforts to make sure teachers new to New Zealand understand the unique cultural context in which we live and in which our teachers teach, in early childhood centres and services, schools and kura in both English and Māori medium. We are supporting the Ministry with its support package for overseas teachers that includes information videos on New Zealand's teaching context. The videos include information about our Code of Professional Responsibility and Standards for the Teaching Profession which place expectations on teachers to demonstrate a commitment to tangata whenuatanga and Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership in the learning environment.

The package of supports being led by the Ministry of Education will enhance the existing induction and mentoring programmes that new teachers are required to successfully complete to meet the professional requirements for teaching in New Zealand. This includes the requirement to demonstrate that the teacher has met all the Standards for the Teaching Profession.

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As part of our refresh of the teacher registration and certification policy, we are looking at what information we provide to new teachers about committing to strengthen Te Reo Māori and tikanga capability, as well as committing to the Code of Professional Responsibility.

Q 3. In answer to your question about the TER course, this will depend on a number of factors, including recency of teaching. Essentially, teachers from overseas will be subject to the same assessment on this as New Zealand Teachers. Further information can be found on our website at <https://www.educationcouncil.org.nz/content/teacher-education-refresh-ter-programme>

Q 4. The level of teaching experience applicants require to be considered suitable for teaching in New Zealand schools will be the same as that for a New Zealand teacher in that they will be required to meet the requirements for registration and a practising certificate. These requirements are explained on our website at www.educationcouncil.org.nz

Q 5. All teachers accepted for employment in New Zealand schools will be required to undergo a one or two-year period of observation and mentoring (depending on their experience), before being able to attain full certification.

I hope that this information is sufficient for your purposes. However, you have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman who can be contacted by writing to: The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143, or emailing: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz. A complaint to the Ombudsman can also be made online at <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/make-a-complaint/make-a-complaint-now>

Nāku noa, nā



Lesley Hoskin
Deputy Chief Executive

