



**Baroness Delyth Morgan**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children, Young People and Families

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Baroness Garden of Frognal  
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Dear Susan

During our debate in the House on 4 March about “the significance for society and the economy of policies to provide and support teaching excellence in schools, colleges and universities”, you raised the important issue of the transferability of teaching staff between further education and schools, and I said that I would write to you.

I agree that we need to achieve the right balance in the workforce and draw on teachers with a range of backgrounds and skills. As noted in the Skills Commission report *Teacher Training in Vocational Education*, to which you referred in the debate, the continuing growth in Diplomas and other applied and vocational provision in schools makes this issue all the more important. An unprecedented level of collaboration between the schools and further education sectors is now required.

To support this collaboration, there are already ways for staff with a background in FE to teach school children. Many schools successfully collaborate with local colleges and training providers, mixing school-based and college-based teaching to make best use of teachers with a range of skills and experience from both sectors. That model is already working well in the teaching of the new Diploma qualifications.

There are also measures to support an FE teacher in moving to teach in a school:

- FE qualified teachers without Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) can teach in schools in England as instructors, if they have qualifications and skills relevant to the subject they are teaching. As in the FE sector, the level of pay for a school-based instructor is determined by the school as employer, and




department for  
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- instructors can earn substantially more than the unqualified teacher minimum pay level.
- We have recently regulated to enable a new provision allows someone with a first Degree equivalent qualification and significant experience of teaching to demonstrate that they meet the standards for qualified teacher status QTS quickly via an assessment-only route. The Training and Development Agency for Schools is currently finalising the implementation details and requirements for this.
  - FE trained teachers - with first Degree equivalents - can join one of the employment-based training programmes which allow them to teach in a school and study for QTS at the same time. On the Graduate Teacher Programme QTS can be awarded within three months.

Officials from this Department and from BIS are looking together at the options for increasing mobility between the two sectors even further. This includes considering how vocational or professional qualifications and experience of teaching in the FE sector may be assessed as an alternative route to teaching in schools.

I am sure we will be able to make progress with this issue.

I will place a copy of this letter in the library.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Delyth Morgan'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'D' and a long, sweeping tail.

**DELYTH MORGAN**