



4 Year QTS Programmes



The Way Ahead

Workshop January 2006

12 4Yr QTS Primary Programme Leaders representing 10 providers met in January to discuss issues and challenges for 4 year programmes. The day was a great success and all who attended enjoyed the opportunity to work together. The results are presented here as a SWOT analysis.





Strengths

- There is time for ITE rather than ITT
- QTS and academic standards in 3 yrs is very difficult
- There is an extra year to help students meet the standards
- There is time for a more enriching experience
- Students have more time to become reflective

More Strengths

- Students enjoy studying their specialism
- It is more of a career route because of the specialism
- There are opportunities for leadership training
- The 4th year can move students to think about CPD
- If 'M' level credits are included students will be equivalent to PGs



Even More Strengths

- More time on placements makes students better teachers
- There is opportunity for more variety of placements
- There is more opportunity to respond to change e.g. ECM
- Mature students often like to pace themselves over 4 years
- A long thin course gives students more time to have a job as well
- Each student secures funding to the Institution for 4 years





Weaknesses

- From an educational view we did not identify any weaknesses



Opportunities

Due to the 4th year different providers have been able to put more time into the following areas:

- MFL
- Creativity
- Working with other adults
- Collaborative mentoring e.g. 4th years working with 1st years
- Curriculum update module in the 4th year
- Primary strategy – cross-curricular work



Threats

- TDA policy
- Recruitment – however none of the providers reported this as a problem
- Fees – students will incur greater debt but this does not seem to be deterring applications

Survey Summer 2006

- 8 HEIs involved
- 492 primary teachers responded



Survey Results

No. of yrs teaching	3 year course	4 year course	PGCE
0-9 Years	29	83	91
10 – 19 years	8	80	51
20 – 29 years	32	27	9
30 years +	56	21	5





Survey of Headteacher views by Professor Anne Campbell and Ian Kane for Liverpool Hope University

- Just over 200 schools responded
- When recruiting teachers 30% were significantly or positively influenced if a student had done a 4 yr degree. 62% were neutral
- 36% agreed or agreed strongly that a BA QTS course should take 4 yrs. 50.5% were neutral

The Future

We are meeting again on Friday 2 February 2007 to explore issues further and share ideas to improve our programmes. If you are a 4 Yr Programme Leader and would like to join us please contact:

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