

# Appointments to new teacher training accreditation board announced

The Education Workforce Council: Teacher Education Accreditation Committee, which will be known as 'the board', will accredit individual Initial Teacher Education (ITE) programmes.

The newly appointed Chair is Professor John Furlong, Emeritus Professor of Education, Oxford University Department of Education, and Emeritus Fellow of Green Templeton College, Oxford.

Professor Olwen Mcnamara, Professor of Teacher Education, University of Manchester and Dr Aine Lawlor, former CEO of the Teaching Council Ireland will be Deputy Chairs. These appointments will run from 12 June 2017 to 31 May 2022.

The Welsh Government has announced new rules for the courses that train teachers as part of the drive to attract the best talent to the profession. The changes for ITE include strengthening how schools and universities work together and increasing the role of research.

The latest accreditation criteria are part of the Welsh Government's national mission to reform education and include:

- an increased role for schools
- a clearer role for universities
- structured opportunities to link school and university learning
- a greater emphasis on research.

The changes build on the new professional teaching and leadership standards and link to the wider education reforms taking place in Wales. Pivotal to success is this very different approach to the professional education of the teaching workforce.

Kirsty Williams said:

"I am delighted to announce Professor John Furlong as Chair and Professor Olwen Mcnamara and Dr Aine Lawlor as Deputy Chairs of the new Teacher Education Accreditation Committee.

"This new board will allow more specific consideration of how ITE programmes will raise the quality of provision – attracting the right people with the right qualifications and an aptitude for teaching, to enter the profession.

"These changes and the new accreditation standards are part of our national mission to raise the standards and standing of the profession."

The [EWC is currently recruiting](#) (external link) members to join the Board.