

## Appropriate Body reform - overview and rationale

The following information has been adapted by the partners listed in key contacts below from information provided by the DfE to be shared with schools.

Appropriate Bodies (ABs) play a **vital statutory role quality assuring induction**, ensuring Early Career Teachers (ECTs) **receive statutory entitlements during induction**, and are **fairly and consistently assessed** against the Teachers' Standards.

It is essential to the successful delivery of induction reforms that ABs are fit for purpose and accountable, and that there is **greater consistency of quality in the AB services that schools receive**. It is recognised that many ABs have significant experience and expertise and show great commitment to their ECTs and schools. However, the [responses to the consultation](#) provided further evidence that variation in quality and approach is currently an issue across ABs. Thus, **the key rationale for the reforms is based on the need to find a cost-effective way to introduce greater quality assurance of the AB sector**.

The Department has a **formal agreement in place with each teaching school hub (TSH) and holds them to account against key performance indicators**. This relationship with TSHs provides an existing mechanism through which to introduce **robust quality assurance** without the need to set up a costly and duplicative quality assurance or accreditation system.

The Department recognises that **schools provided a variety of responses to the consultation**, some of which raised their concerns about local authorities losing the AB role. The Department is grateful to all respondents who took the time to share their views and highlight potential issues, particularly around **minimising the impact on ECTs**. The **phased transition** that has been agreed in response is intended to ensure that **for the majority of ECTs, schools have the option not to move those who already began induction in September 2022 to a new AB during their induction**.

The Department is committed to ensuring ABs are supported to collaborate during this transition period to **help schools make a smooth transition to new ABs** where this is necessary.

Key contacts

Appropriate body name	Contact name	Contact details
Inspiration Teaching School Hub	Carmel Greene	<a href="mailto:inspirationteachinghub@inspirationtrust.org">inspirationteachinghub@inspirationtrust.org</a> <a href="https://www.inspirationteachingschoolhub.org/">https://www.inspirationteachingschoolhub.org/</a>
The Julian Teaching School Hub	Ben Serruys	<a href="mailto:julian-tsh@ndhs.org.uk">julian-tsh@ndhs.org.uk</a> <a href="https://www.thejulian-tsh.org.uk/">https://www.thejulian-tsh.org.uk/</a>
Norfolk Local Authority	Denise Beckett	<a href="mailto:denise.beckett@norfolk.gov.uk">denise.beckett@norfolk.gov.uk</a> <a href="https://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/school-administration/hr/ect-induction-support">https://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/school-administration/hr/ect-induction-support</a>