

DRIVING FORWARD PROFESSIONAL
STANDARDS FOR TEACHERS



The General Teaching Council for Scotland Registration Rules

These Rules are available in alternative formats on request



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1 General

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 These Rules may be referred to as the General Teaching Council for Scotland Registration Rules 2027 (the 'Rules') and will come into force on XXXX 2028.
- 1.1.2 These Rules are made by the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTC Scotland) in accordance with The Public Services Reform (General Teaching Council for Scotland) Order 2011 and its statutory function to establish and keep a register (the Register) of those persons registered with it (the Registrants) and its statutory duty to maintain and develop the professional standards of its Registrants.
- 1.1.3 These Rules govern the operation of the Register, including the requirements for registration, the conditions under which Teachers may enter, remain on or to be restored to the Register and the recording of matters such as the achievement of professional standards.
- 1.1.4 The Registration and Standards Rules 2014 are revoked by these Rules.

1.2 Interpretation

- 1.2.1 In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires:
- ❖ “appeal” means an appeal made to the Court of Session against a decision made by GTC Scotland.
 - ❖ “application” means an application for registration with GTC Scotland (including any restoration application) and “applicant” will be construed accordingly.
 - ❖ “contact address” means the postal and email address and any other address provided by the Applicant or Registrant.
 - ❖ “Convener” means a convener of a panel.
 - ❖ “days” means calendar days.
 - ❖ “educational establishment” has the same meaning as in the Order.
 - ❖ “Fee Policy” means the document published by GTC Scotland that sets out how GTC Scotland’s fees, including the registration fee, are set, reviewed and amended.
 - ❖ “Fitness to Teach Panel” has the same meaning as in the Fitness to Teach Rules.
 - ❖ “Fitness to Teach Rules” means the GTC Scotland’s Fitness to Teach Rules that set out the procedure followed when GTC Scotland investigates and determines the fitness to teach of registrants and applicants.
 - ❖ “Framework for Additional Registration” means the document published by GTC Scotland that sets out the criteria for registrants to add further categories of registration.
 - ❖ “Legal Assessor” means a legal assessor appointed by GTC Scotland under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 of the Order.
 - ❖ “Memorandum on Entry Requirements for Courses of Initial Teacher Education in Scotland” means the document published by GTC Scotland that sets out minimum entry requirements for initial teacher education programmes in Scotland that lead to a recognised teaching qualification in the primary or secondary sector of registration.

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- ❖ “panel” means the panel appointed by GTC Scotland to adjudicate or consider the particular case or matter.
 - ❖ “parties” means GTC Scotland (or any person acting for it, or on its behalf) and the Respondent (as well as any appointed representative).
 - ❖ “Policy Statement: Professional Update” means the document published by GTC Scotland that sets out guidance on Professional Update for Registrants.
 - ❖ “Provisional Registration and Induction Policy” means the GTC Scotland document setting out its policy on the content, nature, duration and requirements more generally applicable to, the induction required of provisional registrants.
 - ❖ “Professional Standards for Lecturers in Scotland’s Colleges” means the standards prescribed and published to set out the professional competences that a further education teacher must demonstrate and maintain in order to become registered.
 - ❖ “Professional Update” means the system of ongoing professional learning and professional review and development required of Registrants.
 - ❖ “recognised teaching qualification” means a teaching qualification obtained in Scotland that has been either: (a) awarded following successful completion of a GTC Scotland accredited initial teacher education programme in the school teacher context; or (b) awarded following successful completion of a programme recognised by Scottish Ministers under Article 30 of the Order in the further education teacher context.
 - ❖ “Registrant” means a Teacher who is included in the GTC Scotland Register of Teachers and “registered” will be construed accordingly.
 - ❖ “Relevant Standard for Registration” means, as the context requires, the Relevant Standard for Provisional Registration or the Relevant Standard for Full Registration.
 - ❖ “Respondent” means the Applicant or Registrant responding in the particular case.
 - ❖ “Restoration Application” means an application for restoration to the register in terms of rule 12.5.
 - ❖ “SCQF” means the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (as prescribed and published by the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Partnership).
 - ❖ “Servicing Officer” means the person responsible for servicing the panel.
 - ❖ “Standard for Full Registration” means the professional standard published by GTC Scotland that sets the professional competences that a teacher must demonstrate and maintain in order to be fully registered in the primary education and secondary subject education categories of registration and the relevant parts of the Professional Standards for Lecturers in Scotland’s Colleges for the further education sector of registration.
 - ❖ “Standard for Headship” means the professional actions set out within The Standard for Headship published by GTC Scotland that a teacher must demonstrate in order to achieve the Standard for Headship.
 - ❖ “Standard for Provisional Registration” means the professional standard published by GTC Scotland that sets the professional competences that a teacher must demonstrate in order to be provisionally registered in the primary education and secondary subject education categories of registration and the relevant parts of the Professional Standards for Lecturers in Scotland’s Colleges for the further education sector of registration.
 - ❖ “Standards and Conditions for Recognised Teaching Qualifications in Scotland” means the GTC Scotland policy document on the content, nature and duration of programmes leading to teaching qualifications in Scotland.

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- ❖ “subsequent registration application” means an application made by an applicant subsequent to a Fitness to Teach Panel (or its historic equivalent) having directed either that (i) their name be removed from the Register; or (ii) an application made by them be refused.
 - ❖ “the Order” means The Public Services Reform (General Teaching Council for Scotland) Order 2011.
 - ❖ “UK ENIC” means the United Kingdom National Information Centre for the recognition and evaluation of international qualifications and skills.
 - ❖ “unfit to teach” has the same meaning as in the Order.
 - ❖ “witness” means a person who provides a panel with evidence.
 - ❖ Any reference to legislation, rules, standards, processes, publications, policies, schemes, frameworks, panels, or committees (or similar) will be construed as a reference to such legislation, rule, standard, process, publication, policy, scheme, framework, panel, or committee (or similar) as it may be supplemented, amended, substituted, re-named or replaced from time to time.
 - ❖ Any reference to (a) a numbered rule or Part refers to the rule or Part bearing that number in these Rules; (b) a numbered schedule refers to a schedule bearing that number in these Rules, and (c) a numbered paragraph refers to the paragraph bearing that number in these Rules.
 - ❖ Any reference to a committee, sub-committee or set of rules means the relevant GTC Scotland committee, sub-committee or set of rules.
 - ❖ Headings set out in these Rules will not affect the interpretation of the Rules themselves.

1.2.2 These Rules will be construed and applied in accordance with the Order and GTC Scotland’s obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998, the Data Protection Act 2018, UK General Data Protection Regulation (implemented by the Data Protection, Privacy and Electronic Communications (Amendments etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019) (UK GDPR) and the Equality Act 2010 together with any other relevant legislation that may be enacted from time to time.

1.3 Application

- 1.3.1 These Rules will apply to any application or case initiated or still awaiting determination after the coming into force of these Rules.
- 1.3.2 GTC Scotland or any of its appropriate committees or panels may relieve any party from the consequences of a failure to comply with a provision in these Rules where there is just cause to do so (for example, where it is shown to be due to a mistake or oversight) on such conditions, if any, as GTC Scotland thinks fit. In no event will this, or any delay or neglect in GTC Scotland enforcing (in whole or in part) any provision of these Rules, be or be deemed to be a waiver of that (or any other) provision.
- 1.3.3 For the avoidance of doubt, any determination that an applicant to the Register is to be refused registration or to be made subject to a conditional registration order as a result of a fitness to teach procedure, will be made in accordance with the Fitness to Teach Rules.

2 Application for Registration

2.1 General Requirements

- 2.1.1 An application for registration must be made in the form and manner prescribed by GTC Scotland. Application forms are available on GTC Scotland’s website and in alternative formats where required on request. Any application made under these Rules must be accompanied by the appropriate fee as prescribed by GTC Scotland, in line with the GTC Scotland Fee Policy.

2.1.2 As part of an application for registration, the applicant must provide to GTC Scotland, and to the satisfaction of GTC Scotland in such form as it may specify, any documents, information or evidence as GTC Scotland may reasonably require for the purposes of determining the application.

This includes but is not limited to:

- a. reference(s) as to good character in terms of their fitness to teach;
- b. details of any disciplinary or fitness to practise action taken (or pending) against the applicant by any employer or any other professional regulatory body and/or any reports that may have been made by such bodies (or any others) as part of any applicable disclosure or vetting scheme;
- c. any other documents, information or evidence from any person or source as GTC Scotland may reasonably require for the purposes of determining the application, including:
 - i. references related to fitness to teach and suitability for registration;
 - ii. references, reports or portfolios related to teaching service or employment as a teacher or lecturer; and
 - iii. certificates or other documents related to qualifications.

2.1.3 GTC Scotland may, for the purposes of determining the application, and acting reasonably, seek information additional to that provided by the applicant from any other person or source.

2.2 Provisional Registration

Subject to rules 2.4 (for registration in additional support needs categories of registration) and 12.5, GTC Scotland will grant provisional registration in a part of the Register provided that it is satisfied:

- (a) as to the applicant's good character and conduct in terms of their fitness to teach;
- (b) that the applicant is a member of, or is approved in terms of, such disclosure or vetting scheme as may be in place in Scotland in order to protect children and vulnerable groups;
- (c) that the applicant meets the Relevant Standard for Provisional Registration and has, in addition, met one of the following parts:
 - (i) obtained a recognised teaching qualification.
 - (ii) met the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for applicants who do not hold a recognised teaching qualification and have qualified as a teacher in a different way.
- (d) that it has received payment of the registration fee set by GTC Scotland.

Where an applicant meets the Relevant Standard for Provisional Registration but does not meet another part of the criteria stated at paragraph (c) above, GTC Scotland may grant them provisional (conditional) registration. This means that their registration is subject to specified condition(s) which must be met within the stated period of time. Should the condition(s) not be met, their registration will be removed in accordance with Rule 12.3.3 and they may only be restored to the register in terms of rule 12.5.3.

2.3 Full Registration

Subject to rules 2.4 (for registration in the additional support needs category of registration) and 12.5, GTC Scotland will grant full registration provided that it is satisfied that:

- (a) the requirements listed at rules 2.2(a) and (d) above are met;

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- (b) where the applicant holds provisional (conditional) registration, the condition(s) applicable has (or have) been met;
 - (c) the applicant has met one of the following parts:
 - (i) successfully completed the period of induction required by GTC Scotland;
been recommended for full registration in accordance with GTC Scotland's Provisional Registration and Induction Policy; and
achieved the Relevant Standard for Full Registration.
 - (ii) previously held full registration with GTC Scotland and GTC Scotland is satisfied that they continue to meet the Relevant Standard for Full Registration;
 - (iii) met the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for applicants who do not hold a recognised teaching qualification and have qualified as a teacher in a different way.; and
met and maintained the Relevant Standard for Full Registration. This will be determined with reference to the teaching service that the applicant has completed as well as GTC Scotland's Provisional Registration and Induction Policy.

2.4 Additional Support Needs (ASN)

2.4.1 Provisional Registration

Subject to rule 12.5, GTC Scotland will grant provisional registration in the ASN category provided that it is satisfied that:

- (a) the requirements listed at rule 2.2 above are met; and
- (b) the applicant meets the Relevant Standard for Provisional Registration and has, in addition, met one of the following parts:
 - (i) previously held provisional registration with GTC Scotland in the ASN category of registration;
 - (ii) completed teacher education related to teaching learners with additional support needs at a Scottish teacher education institution or institutions bearing a minimum of 60 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 9 (or above) and that GTC Scotland is satisfied includes professional and pedagogic studies with a sufficiently broad and general content. These requirements may be met cumulatively through more than one programme of teacher education or top-up provision; or
 - (iii) met the criteria for provisional registration for ASN registration set out in Schedule 2 for applicants who do not hold a recognised teaching qualification and have qualified as a teacher in a different way.

Where an applicant meets the Relevant Standard for Provisional Registration but does not meet another part of the criteria stated at paragraph (b) above, GTC Scotland may grant them provisional (conditional) registration. This means that their registration is subject to specified condition(s) which must be met within the stated period of time. Should the condition(s) not be met, their registration will be removed in accordance with Rule 12.3.3 and they may only be restored to the register in terms of rule 12.5.3.

2.4.2 Full Registration

Subject to rule 12.5, GTC Scotland will grant full registration in the ASN category provided that it is satisfied that:

- (a) the requirements listed at rule 2.2 above are met; and
- (b) the applicant has either:
 - (i) successfully completed the period of probationary service required by GTC Scotland;
been recommended for full registration in accordance with GTC Scotland's Provisional Registration and Induction Policy; and
achieved the Relevant Standard for Full Registration;
 - (ii) met the criteria for full registration in the ASN category set out in set out in Schedule 2 for applicants who do not hold a recognised teaching qualification and have qualified as a teacher in a different way; and

met and maintained the Standard for Full Registration in respect of the ASN category of registration. This will be determined with reference to the teaching service that the applicant has completed as well as GTC Scotland's Provisional Registration and Induction Policy; or
 - (iii) previously held full registration with GTC Scotland in the ASN category.

3 Induction

- 3.1 Where provisional registration or provisional (conditional) registration is granted, the Registrant will remain provisionally registered until they are either (i) granted full registration in accordance with rule 2.3; or (ii) removed from the Register in terms of rule 12.3.
- 3.2 Provisional Registrants must complete successfully a period of induction in accordance with GTC Scotland's Provisional Registration and Induction Policy in order to be considered for full registration in terms of rule 2.3.
- 3.3 The period of induction that must be completed will be determined in accordance with GTC Scotland's Provisional Registration and Induction Policy and may subsequently be extended by GTC Scotland for a further period determined in accordance with that same policy.

4 Repeat Registration Applications

Where an applicant has made an unsuccessful application for registration, GTC Scotland will not consider any further applications from that applicant until the expiry of a minimum of two years from the date of that unsuccessful application unless, in the opinion of GTC Scotland, acting reasonably, there has been a material change in circumstances or a Fitness to Teach Panel has prescribed otherwise for the applicant concerned.

5 Additional Registration

- 5.1 GTC Scotland will grant additional registration provided that:
 - (a) the applicant currently holds full registration with GTC Scotland;
 - (b) the applicant meets the requirements set out in GTC Scotland's Framework for Additional Registration;

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- (c) to date the applicant has maintained their registration in accordance with Rule 6; and
 - (d) the applicant is not subject to an order of a Fitness to Teach Panel and there are no unresolved (or pending) matters relating to the applicant that are (or will likely be) subject to GTC Scotland's fitness to teach procedures.

6 Maintaining Registration

- 6.1 A Registrant must meet the requirements set out below to maintain registration.
- 6.2 Should a Registrant fail to maintain their registration as required by these Rules, they may be removed from the register under rule 12.3.
- 6.3 In order to maintain registration, a registrant must:
 - a) pay any registration fee due to GTC Scotland;
 - b) participate in ongoing professional learning and professional review and development in accordance with the terms of GTC Scotland's Policy Statement: Professional Update;
 - c) be and remain a PVG Scheme member;
 - d) notify GTC Scotland, without delay, that another professional and/or regulatory body has made a finding in respect of their registration as a result of fitness to practice procedures (or an equivalent);
 - e) notify GTC Scotland immediately of a change of employer;
 - f) provide a contact address, including any email address held by the Registrant, for all correspondence from GTC Scotland;
 - g) notify GTC Scotland of any change in name or contact address without delay; and
 - h) notify GTC Scotland as soon as reasonably possible on identifying any other changes to, or errors in, the registration information set out in Schedule 1 that is held in the Register in relation to them.

7 Professional Standards and Awards

7.1 Standard for Headship

- 7.1.1 An application for the professional achievement of the Standard for Headship must be made in the form and manner prescribed by GTC Scotland at that time. Application forms are available on GTC Scotland's website and in alternative formats where required on request.
- 7.1.2 As part of such an application, and where GTC Scotland so requires, the applicant must provide, to GTC Scotland's satisfaction:
 - (a) a certificate of achievement (or similar) in order to evidence achievement of The Standard for Headship and
 - (b) any other documents, information or evidence as GTC Scotland may reasonably require for the purposes of determining the application.

7.1.3 GTC Scotland will grant the professional achievement of the Standard for Headship provided that:

- (a) the applicant currently holds full registration with GTC Scotland;
- (b) it has received payment of any fee, as it may have set;
- (c) the applicant has not been subject to an order of a Fitness to Teach Panel that is still current and there are no unresolved (or pending) referrals relating to the applicant that are (or will likely be) subject to GTC Scotland's fitness to teach procedures;
- (d) it is satisfied that the applicant is a member of, or is approved in terms of, such disclosure or vetting scheme as may be in place in Scotland in order to protect children and vulnerable groups;
- (e) it is satisfied that either the applicant:
 - has successfully completed a GTC Scotland accredited programme of teacher education that leads to the achievement of the Standard for Headship or
 - qualified as a headteacher outside Scotland and meets the equivalency criteria

7.2 Accredited Specialism

7.2.1 An application for Accredited Specialism must be made in the form and manner prescribed by GTC Scotland. Application forms are available on GTC Scotland's website and in alternative formats where required on request.

7.2.2 As part of such an application, and where GTC Scotland so requires, the applicant must provide, to GTC Scotland's satisfaction any documents, information or evidence as GTC Scotland may reasonably require for the purposes of determining the application.

7.2.3 GTC Scotland will award Accredited Specialism provided that:

- a. the applicant holds full registration;
- b. the applicant has demonstrated a depth of professional knowledge, understanding, skill and ability through achievement of the qualification(s) prescribed in the Accredited Specialism Framework;
- c. it has received payment of any fee prescribed by GTC Scotland; and
- d. the applicant is not subject to an order of a Fitness to Teach Panel and there are no unresolved (or pending) matters relating to the applicant that are (or will likely be) subject to GTC Scotland's fitness to teach procedures.

8 Notice of Decisions

GTC Scotland registration decisions will be provided by written notice. Where the decision is to refuse the registration sought (whether in whole or in part) or to refuse any other application made under these Rules, the notice will set out reasons for the refusal decision as well as any right of review in terms of these Rules or right of appeal to the Court of Session.

9 Right of Review

9.1 Where GTC Scotland has:

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- (a) removed an individual from the Register in terms of rule 12.3.3;
 - (b) granted an application for registration but not to the extent wished; or
 - (c) refused to grant the achievement of the Standard for Headship in terms of rule 7;
 - (d) refused to make an award of Accredited Specialism.

the applicant or Registrant may, within 28 days from the date of service of notice of any such decision, send to GTC Scotland a written request (in such form as GTC Scotland may reasonably prescribe) for that decision to be reviewed by a panel in accordance with the procedures set out in Schedule 3.

- 9.2 Any request for review may only be made, and will only be considered, where there are grounds for the decision to be reviewed (which are properly specified in the request) in terms of GTC Scotland having either:

- (a) failed to act in accordance with these Rules; or
- (b) made an error,

that has had a significant impact on the decision made.

If no such request is made, the decision will stand and be considered final.

10 Right of Appeal

In accordance with Article 24 of the Order, an applicant has the right to appeal to the Court of Session where a decision has been made to refuse an application for registration and not enter their name on the Register. Any such appeal must be made within 28 days of the date of service of the notice of the decision.

11 Certificates

GTC Scotland may issue, in a form and manner determined by it, certificate(s) of registration and a certificate of the achievement of any standard to a Registrant. Duplicates of such certificate(s) may also be issued to a Registrant. GTC Scotland will prescribe separately any fee that must be paid in connection with the issuing of any such certificate or duplicate.

12 The Register

12.1 The Form of the Register

- 12.1.1 The Register will contain the information set out in Schedule 1 in respect of each Registrant and any other information which GTC Scotland considers material to their registration.
- 12.1.2 A Registrant will be entered on the Register in order to reflect the registration that they hold.
- 12.1.3 Register entries may be organised into such categories or parts as GTC Scotland reasonably sees fit.

12.2 Security and Integrity of the Register

- 12.2.1 The Register will be kept securely in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR.

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- 12.2.2 The information contained in the Register that is set out in Part A of Schedule 1 may be accessed by the public and will be published on GTC Scotland's website.
- 12.2.3 Access to the information contained in the Register that is set out in Part B of Schedule 1 will be restricted and access will only be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018.
- 12.2.4 The Register will be amended as required in order to maintain its accuracy and integrity. This will include:
- a. updating the contact details or other Schedule 1 registration information held in respect of a Registrant;
 - b. giving effect to any order made by a Fitness to Teach Panel;
 - c. removing or correcting registration where GTC Scotland becomes aware that a Registrant has been Registered incorrectly whether as a result of an accidental clerical mistake or the provision of false or misleading information;
 - d. where GTC Scotland amends its registration categories and a Registrant's registration requires to be amended to ensure their registration best reflects their qualifications and teaching service; or
 - e. reflecting any other information which comes to the attention of GTC Scotland and which GTC Scotland considers requires an amendment to be made to the Register in order to maintain its accuracy and integrity.
- 12.2.5 GTC Scotland will amend the Register as soon as reasonably practicable. GTC Scotland will provide a Registrant with prior notice of the amendment to the Register.
- 12.2.6 Before making any amendment under this rule, GTC Scotland may make such further enquiries or require such further evidence from the Registrant concerned as appears to GTC Scotland to be appropriate.

12.3 Removal from the Register

- 12.3.1 A Registrant will remain on the Register unless and until GTC Scotland either receives notice of their death or they are removed in terms of rules 12.3.2, 12.3.3, 12.3.4 or 12.3.5 below.
- 12.3.2 Provided that GTC Scotland is satisfied that there are no unresolved (or pending) matters relating to the Registrant that are (or will likely be) subject to its fitness to teach procedures, where a Registrant has requested in writing that they be removed from the Register in such form as GTC Scotland may specify, GTC Scotland will so remove them as soon as reasonably practicable.
- Where there is an unresolved (or pending) matter relating to the Registrant that is (or will likely be) subject to GTC Scotland's fitness to teach procedures, the Registrant may be retained on the Register to the extent required for that process to be concluded.
- 12.3.3 Provided that GTC Scotland is satisfied that there are no unresolved (or pending) matters relating to the Registrant that are (or will likely be) subject to its fitness to teach procedures, a Registrant's name may be removed from the Register by GTC Scotland at such time as it sees fit where the Registrant:
- (a) has failed to pay any registration fee due to GTC Scotland;
 - (b) has failed to notify GTC Scotland of any change in their name or contact address without just cause;
 - (c) is no longer a member of the PVG scheme;

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- (d) fails to notify GTC Scotland, without delay, that another professional and / or regulatory body has made a finding in respect of their registration as a result of fitness to practice procedures (or an equivalent)
 - (e) fails to notify GTC Scotland immediately of a change of employer
 - (f) fails to notify GTC Scotland as soon as reasonably possible on identifying any other changes to, or errors in, the registration information set out in Schedule 1 that is held in the Register in relation to them.
 - (g) fails, when requested by GTC Scotland so to do, to evidence to GTC Scotland's satisfaction that they are (as required by rule 6) participating in a system of ongoing professional learning and professional review and development in accordance with the terms of GTC Scotland's Guidance on Professional Update; or
 - (h) holds provisional or provisional (conditional) registration and has not gained full registration and/or met the condition(s) specified on or before expiry of the time limit prescribed by GTC Scotland for doing so.

Where there is an unresolved (or pending) matter relating to the Registrant that is (or will likely be) subject to GTC Scotland's fitness to teach procedures, the Registrant may be retained on the Register to the extent required for that process to be concluded.

- 12.3.4 A Registrant's name will immediately be removed from the Register on GTC Scotland receiving notice that the Registrant is barred from regulated work with children in terms of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 (and any related legislation).
- 12.3.5 A Registrant's name may be removed from the Register by order of a Fitness to Teach Panel in accordance with the Fitness to Teach Rules (or the relevant historic equivalents).
- 12.3.6 Where a Registrant is removed from the Register, and is known by GTC Scotland to be employed in an educational establishment, GTC Scotland will notify the relevant employer of the removal.

12.4 Reinstatement to the Register

- 12.4.1 Where a Fitness to Teach referral that relates to a person's activities while they were included on the Register enters GTC Scotland's fitness to teach process within 2 years of their removal from the Register in terms of this rule 12.4, GTC Scotland may reinstate that person to the Register in order (and to the extent) that the referral may be duly processed in accordance with the Fitness to Teach Rules in the public interest.

12.5 Restoration to the Register

- 12.5.1 Any Registrant whose name has been removed from the Register at any time in the circumstances described in rules 12.3.3(a), (b), (d), (e) or (f) and who wishes to be restored to the Register must do so in accordance with the GTC Scotland Restoration to the Register Policy.
- 12.5.2 Any Registrant whose name has been removed from the Register at any time in the circumstances described in rule 12.3.3(g) and who wishes to be restored to the Register must do so in accordance with the terms of GTC Scotland's Policy Statement: Professional Update.
- 12.5.3 Any Registrant whose name has been removed from the Register at any time in the circumstances described in rule 12.3.3(h) and who wishes to be restored to the Register must do so in accordance with the terms of GTC Scotland's Provisional Registration and Induction Policy.
- 12.5.4 Any Registrant whose name has been removed from the Register at any time in the circumstances described in rules 12.3.3(c) or 12.3.5, and who wishes to be restored to the Register must do so in

accordance with the appropriate subsequent registration application provisions set out in the Fitness to Teach Rules.

13 Fees

13.1 Application Processing Fee

The application processing fee will be prescribed and published by GTC Scotland separately. This fee is non-refundable, even where the application is ultimately refused.

13.2 Registration Fee

- 13.2.1 The registration fee to be paid by an applicant for entry on the Register and then annually thereafter in order to remain on the Register, will be prescribed and published by GTC Scotland separately, in line with the GTC Scotland Fee Policy.
- 13.2.2 The annual registration fee payment date will be prescribed and published by GTC Scotland separately. Once paid, the registration fee is non-refundable.
- 13.2.3 GTC Scotland will prescribe and publish separately when, and in what circumstances, employers must deduct amounts in respect of registration fees from a registrant's salary payment and remit those amounts to GTC Scotland.

13.3 Other Fees

GTC Scotland may charge other fees in connection with the achievement of standards, certificates or other matters as it reasonably sees fit. Any such fees will be prescribed and published by GTC Scotland separately, in line with the GTC Scotland Fee Policy.

13.4 Waiver of Fees

GTC Scotland may choose to waive any fees to be charged to a Registrant where that Registrant has been prevented from having their name removed from the Register (or has been reinstated to the Register) because there is an unresolved referral relating to them that is subject to GTC Scotland's fitness to teach procedures.

Schedule 1

The Register - Registration Information

Note: information is only held where it is relevant and applicable to the Registrant

PART A

1	Full name (Forename(s) and Surname)
2	Registration number
3	If employed as a teacher, current employer details
4	Registration status (or status' where applicable)
5	Registration category / categories
6	Details of any order/measure imposed by a Fitness to Teach Panel
7	Details in relation to the achievement of any standards or the provision of any GTC Scotland awards

PART B

1	Any former name(s) or other name(s) known by
2	Contact postal address
3	Contact telephone number
4	Date of birth
5	Contact email address
6	Date(s) of registration and any removal/lapsing history
7	If employed as a teacher, full employment details and any former employer details
8	Qualification(s) which have led to registration
9	Registration fee payment status
10	Where notified, ability to teach in the Gaelic-medium
11	Where notified, denominational teaching status

12	Where notified, details of the school/establishment at which employed
13	Details of progress and outcomes in relation to any period of induction and any related time limits
14	Details of participation in a system of ongoing professional learning, review and development (Professional Update).
15	In relation to provisional (conditional) registration, the conditions applying and any time limits
16	GTC Scotland Council election category
17	Fitness to teach/conviction information (or similar) and any disclosure/vetting information obtained in addition to that set out in Part A above. Details of any restriction, order or reprimand for the time being in force in relation to the teacher as a result of action taken by a similar or equivalent regulatory body.

Schedule 2

Other Registration Criteria

The criteria set out in this Schedule are prescribed with reference to Article 17(b) of the Order. These criteria apply to those applicants who do not hold a recognised teaching qualification and have qualified as a teacher in a different way. These criteria will apply principally to applicants who have qualified as teachers outside Scotland and further education teachers who have qualified inside Scotland through other routes.

In this Schedule 2, the teaching qualification requirements may be met cumulatively through more than one programme of teacher education or top-up provision. For the academic education requirements, whilst the minimum credit points requirement may be met cumulatively through a range of recognised qualifications, this must include a degree relative to the subject for which the applicant's teacher education is held.

1. Primary

1.1 Teacher Education Requirements

For registration in the primary school sector, an applicant must have either:

- completed primary teacher education equivalent to one academic year of full-time study (with any part-time study normally being extended over a period of not more than 3 years); or
- if academic and teacher education have been undertaken concurrently (for example, a Bachelor of Education), have completed a course of not less than 3 years in duration (with any part-time study normally being extended over a period of not more than seven years).

The teacher education must have been awarded by an institution that is listed by UK ENIC as a recognised higher education institution and must have borne the equivalent of SCQF credit points at SCQF level 9 (or above).

The organisation and content of the teacher education undertaken must result in the individual having substantially the same knowledge and skills, to substantially the same standard as the Standard for Provisional Registration. This will be evaluated with reference to GTC Scotland's policy related to recognised teaching qualifications in Scotland and the Standard for Provisional Registration. Programmes must include professional and pedagogical studies, subject studies and assessed professional practice through placement experience to ensure that the Standard for Provisional Registration is achieved and assured.

1.2 Academic Education Requirements

There is a separate academic education requirement for registration in the primary school sector of registration only where an applicant has not undertaken a combined academic and teacher education programme in accordance with paragraph 1.1 above. Where such a combined academic and teacher education programme has **not** been undertaken, the academic education requirement is as set out below.

An applicant must hold a United Kingdom degree or an academic qualification which is equivalent to a United Kingdom degree. An academic qualification will be regarded as equivalent to a United Kingdom degree if it is a programme or programmes of academic study which have been undertaken at an institution that is recognised by UK ENIC and GTC Scotland is satisfied that either it:

- (i) is recognised as equivalent to a United Kingdom degree by UK ENIC; or
- (ii) has borne the equivalent of a minimum of 360 SCQF credit points with 120 credit points at SCQF level 7 (or above), 120 credit points at SCQF level 8 (or above) and 120 credit points at SCQF level 9 (or above).

2. Secondary

2.1 Teacher Education Requirements

For registration in the secondary school sector, an applicant must have either:

- completed teacher education equivalent to one academic year of full-time study (with any part-time study normally being extended over a period of not more than 3 years); or
- if academic and teacher education has been undertaken concurrently (for example, a Bachelor of Education), have completed a teacher education course of not less than 3 years in duration (with any part-time study normally being extended over a period of not more than 7 years).

The teacher education must have been awarded by an institution that is listed by UK ENIC as a recognised higher education institution and must have borne the equivalent of SCQF credit points at SCQF level 9 (or above).

The teacher education completed must be subject specific and correlate to the subject (or subjects) in which academic education has been completed in terms of paragraph 2.2 below.

The organisation and content of the teacher education undertaken must result in the individual having substantially the same knowledge and skills, to substantially the same standard as the Standard for Provisional Registration. This will be evaluated with reference to GTC Scotland's policy related to recognised teaching qualifications and the Standard for Provisional Registration. Secondary teacher education must be subject specific. Programmes must include professional and pedagogical studies, subject studies and assessed professional practice through placement experience to ensure that the Standard for Provisional Registration is achieved and assured.

2.2 Academic Education Requirements

The academic education requirements for registration in the secondary school sector are set out below.

- (a) An applicant must hold a United Kingdom degree or an academic qualification which is equivalent to a United Kingdom degree. An academic qualification will be regarded as equivalent to a United Kingdom degree if it is a programme or programmes of academic study which have been undertaken at an institution that is recognised by UK ENIC and either:
 - (i) is recognised as an undergraduate degree by UK ENIC; or
 - (ii) has borne the equivalent of a minimum of 360 SCQF points with 120 credit points at SCQF level 7 (or above), 120 credit points at SCQF level 8 (or above) and 120 credit points at SCQF level 9 (or above) and if evidence is produced to GTC Scotland by the applicant to satisfy it as such.
- (b) An applicant must have a minimum of the equivalent of 80 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7 (or above) relative to the subject for which the applicant's teacher education is held, the equivalent of 40 of which must be at SCQF level 8 (or above). Whilst the minimum credit points requirement may be met cumulatively through a range of recognised qualifications, this must include a degree relative to the subject for which the applicant's teacher education is held.
- (c) Credit from a masters level degree or doctoral programme may be considered in terms of the above provided that evidence is produced to GTC Scotland by the applicant to satisfy it that it is of direct relevance to the subject for which the applicant's teacher education is held.
- (d) An applicant must meet any secondary education subject specific requirements (academic or otherwise) published in the Memorandum on Entry Requirements for Programmes of Initial Teacher Education in Scotland relative to the subject for which the applicant's teacher education is held.

3. Further Education

3.1 Teaching Qualification Requirements

For registration in the further education sector, an applicant must have been awarded a teaching qualification following completion of a programme of teacher education at an institution that is recognised by UK ENIC. The programme must have borne the equivalent of a minimum of 60 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 9 (or above).

The organisation and content of the teacher education undertaken must result in the individual having substantially the same knowledge and skills, to substantially the same standard as the Standard for Provisional Registration. This will be evaluated with reference to any requirements issued by the Scottish Government on programmes in Scotland that lead to a teaching qualification in the further education sector (and any other relevant or related guidance made with reference to Article 30 of the Order).

3.2 Academic or Vocational Qualification Requirements

The academic or vocational qualification requirements for registration in the further education sector relate to the area of subject specialism to be taught. An applicant must hold the highest level of qualification available in the United Kingdom for their particular subject specialism taken from the following:

- (a) A relevant United Kingdom undergraduate degree or an academic qualification which is equivalent to a United Kingdom undergraduate degree. An academic qualification will be regarded as equivalent to a United Kingdom undergraduate degree if it has been awarded by an institution that is listed by UK ENIC as a recognised higher education institution and either:
 - (i) is recognised as an undergraduate degree by UK ENIC; or
 - (ii) has borne the equivalent of a minimum of 360 SCQF credit points with 120 credit points at SCQF level 7 (or above), 120 credit points at SCQF level 8 (or above) and 120 credit points at SCQF level 9 (or above) and if evidence is produced by the applicant to satisfy GTC Scotland as such.
- (b) A relevant associateship or diploma from a United Kingdom higher education institution, or an equivalent associateship or diploma from an institution recognised by UK ENIC;
- (c) A relevant Higher National Diploma (HND) or Diploma of Higher Education which has borne the equivalent of a minimum of 240 SCQF points with 120 credit points at SCQF level 7 (or above) and 120 credit points at SCQF level 8 (or above), or the equivalent;
- (d) A relevant Higher National Certificate (HNC) or certificate of higher education which has borne a minimum of 96 SCQF points at SCQF level 7 (or above) or the equivalent; or
- (e) A part III, full technological certificate, licentiate or other Senior Award from the City and Guilds of London Institute or the equivalent.

3.3 Headteachers Qualified Outside Scotland- Equivalency Criteria

For a headship qualification obtained outside Scotland to be considered equivalent to a recognised headship qualification, the programme awarding the qualification must:

- have been awarded by an institution listed by UK ENIC as a recognised higher education institution;
- have been accredited by a national education body in relation to the post and specificity of the role of headteacher/principal;
- have borne the equivalent of a minimum of 60 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 11 (or above) include content that focuses on developing as a strategic educational leader and leading strategic educational change.

4. Additional Support Needs (ASN)

For registration in the ASN registration category, an applicant must meet the teacher education requirements for registration in either the primary, secondary or further education sectors of registration (as set out above).

In addition, an applicant must have successfully completed ASN teacher education at an institution that is listed by UK ENIC as a recognised higher education institution that has borne the equivalent of a minimum of 60 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 9 (or above).

GTC Scotland must be satisfied that the ASN teacher education undertaken includes professional and pedagogic studies with a sufficiently broad and general content to cover learners with a range of additional support needs.

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Schedule 3

Panel Procedures

1 Objective

- 1.1 This Schedule 3 has the overriding objective of enabling panels to deal with cases fairly and justly.
- 1.2 Dealing with a case fairly and justly includes dealing with the case in ways which:
 - (a) are proportionate to the complexity of the issues;
 - (b) seek informality and flexibility in proceedings;
 - (c) seek to ensure that parties are able to participate fully in proceedings; and
 - (d) avoid delay, so far as compatible with the proper consideration of the issues.
- 1.3 Panels will give effect to this overriding objective when interpreting and applying this schedule.

2 Notice

- 2.1 Notice will be provided to the Respondent no fewer than 28 days before the date on which their case is to be considered. This notice period may be reduced if the Respondent consents.
- 2.2 The Notice will specify the date on which the case will be considered. If a hearing has been arranged in the case, the Notice will also inform the Respondent:
 - (a) of the date, time and venue of the hearing;
 - (b) that they have the right to attend the hearing and be represented;
 - (c) that they have the right to make representations at the hearing; and
 - (d) of the right of the panel to proceed in their absence.
- 2.3 Any Notice that requires to be served in terms of this schedule will be served either by:
 - (a) email to the address held by GTC Scotland for the Respondent;
 - (b) post in which delivery or receipt is recorded; or
 - (c) hand delivery by or on behalf of GTC Scotland.

Alternatively, if the Respondent is represented by a solicitor or trade union/defence organisation and has informed GTC Scotland that they may be used as an address for communications, the notice may be served instead to that party using any of the methods outlined above.
- 2.4 Notice will be taken to have been served on the day of emailing, on the day after posting or on the day of hand delivery.
- 2.5 The service of the Notice may be proved by:
 - (a) a signed statement from any person serving the notice by hand or by email;
 - (b) confirmation of receipt by (or on behalf of) the Respondent; or
 - (c) confirmation of posting issued by or on behalf of the Post Office (or other postal operator or delivery service).
- 2.6 Where, before a hearing begins or at any stage of a hearing, it appears that a Notice is defective the panel will, on cause shown, allow the Notice to be amended. If the panel considers that the nature of the amendment is such as to require that the amended Notice should be re-served on the Respondent, it will so direct and the hearing shall be postponed or adjourned accordingly.

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- 2.7 A Respondent who appears at any hearing will not be entitled to state any objection to the regularity of the execution of service or intimation of the Notice on them, and their appearance will remedy any defect in such service, intimation or Notice.

3 Evidence

- 3.1 The Respondent must submit any information that they wish the panel to consider no fewer than 14 days before the date on which their case is to be considered.
- 3.2 Copies of all of the information submitted to the panel that are to be considered by it as part of determining the case will be provided to the Respondent (and may also be provided to other parties concerned with the case) no fewer than 7 days before the date on which the case is to be considered.
- 3.3 The panel may admit and consider any information (oral, documentary or other) from any party that it considers relevant to its determination of the case. The panel may *itself* (acting through the Servicing Officer as is seen fit) ask any person to provide information that it considers relevant and may then admit and consider that information in determining the case.
- 3.4 The panel may admit and consider information where such information has not been disclosed in advance in accordance with the provisions set out above where either (i) the Respondent consents to this; or (ii) the panel is satisfied that the admission of the information is necessary to ensure the fairness of the proceedings and, where there is possible prejudice to the Respondent, that this is outweighed.
- 3.5 Where facts advanced in a case are in dispute, the burden of proving such facts rests with the party advancing those facts and the required standard of proof will be on the balance of probabilities.

4 Consideration of Cases by Written Submission or Hearing

- 4.1 Unless the panel determines that a hearing should be arranged in a particular case, it will consider cases by means of written submission.
- Where a case is considered by written submission, a panel will conduct its proceedings as it sees fit.
- 4.2 Where a case does not fall to be considered by means of written submission in terms of the above, a hearing will be arranged and will be conducted in terms of paragraph 5 below.

5 Hearing Proceedings

- 5.1 Unless the Respondent requests that the hearing be held in public, the hearing will be conducted in private and no-one may be present save from the parties to proceedings, those involved in administering proceedings and those person(s) that have been asked or permitted to attend the hearing by the panel.
- 5.2 Where a hearing is held in public, the panel may, of its own volition or upon the application of any witness or party, determine that the public be excluded from all or part of the proceedings where they consider that this would cause no prejudice to the Respondent.
- 5.3 The panel may exclude from the whole or any part of a hearing, any person whose conduct, in the opinion of the panel, has disrupted (or is likely to disrupt) the hearing.
- 5.4 Where good cause is shown, the panel may adopt such measures as it considers necessary to enable the Respondent or their representative to appear at, and participate in, the hearing. These measures may include, but are not limited to, the use of video links; telephone conferencing; and the use of interpreters.

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- 5.5 Where the Respondent is neither present nor represented at the hearing without any known good cause, the panel may proceed to determine the matter in their absence provided that it is satisfied that notice of the hearing has been duly served or that all reasonable efforts have been made to do so. Should the panel proceed in this way, it may conduct proceedings as it sees fit.
- 5.6 Unless the panel determines otherwise as the circumstances may require, following the general introduction to proceedings by the Convener, the order of hearing proceedings will be as follows:
- (a) the Convener will ask the parties present, or their representatives, to identify themselves;
 - (b) the Convener or Servicing Officer of the panel will outline the case;
 - (c) the Respondent (or representative) will make their submission;
 - (d) the panel will be invited to question the Respondent;
 - (e) where the panel see fit, the panel will seek information from any other person and will question them accordingly;
 - (f) the Respondent (or representative) will be invited to provide any concluding remarks;
 - (g) any Legal Assessor participating in proceedings will be invited to provide the panel/committee with advice on any applicable law or procedure;
 - (h) the panel will make their decision; and
 - (i) the decision will be announced to those present.
- 5.7 Hearing proceedings may be adjourned, and the panel may consider matters in private, at any time.
- 5.8 In any such private session, only the Servicing Officer, any appointed Legal Assessor and members of the panel may be present. The Servicing Officer and Legal Assessor will not take part in any decision making. Any procedural (or other) advice provided by the Servicing Officer and/or Legal Assessor will be repeated in the resumed hearing session.
- 5.9 The panel may itself, or upon the application of any party, postpone a hearing provided that there is good cause for so doing.
- 5.10 The Respondent will be informed as soon as reasonably practicable when a hearing will be resumed or will be notified of a re-scheduled date.
- 5.11 Hearing proceedings will be recorded. An electronic copy of the recording will be made available to the Respondent on request.

6 Decision

- 6.1 Where appropriate in the particular case circumstances with reference to the relevant criteria set out elsewhere in these Rules, the panel may:
- (a) grant accredited specialism;
 - (b) grant the achievement of the Standard for Headship;
 - (c) cancel accredited specialism;
 - (d) refuse an application for professional recognition or the Standard for Headship; or
 - (e) grant or refuse provisional or full registration in part or parts of the Register.

Where the panel:

- (a) refuses an application for accredited specialism;
- (b) removes accredited specialism,

it may also direct that the person be prohibited from submitting a second or subsequent application within a specified period of time (which will be not less than one year from the date of the panel decision).

- 6.2 Notice of the decision of the panel (including reasons for that decision and confirmation of any right of appeal) will be sent in writing to the Respondent within 14 days of the date on which their case was considered.

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GTC Scotland aims to promote equality and diversity in all its activities

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Direct weblinks

Main site:
www.gtcs.org.uk

Probation department:
www.gtcs.org.uk/probation

Probation site for teachers:
www.in2teaching.org.uk

Registration department:
www.gtcs.org.uk/registration

Professional Update:
www.gtcs.org.uk/professional-update

Professional recognition:
www.gtcs.org.uk/professional-recognition

Fitness to Teach:
www.gtcs.org.uk/fitness-to-teach

Research:
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