

# Initiatives in Chemistry Teacher Training in Ireland

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# Secondary Initial Teacher Education

‘In order to advance further in its national teacher education system, Ireland needs to invest more in

the continuous improvement of the quality of teaching,

*the role of research in teacher education,*

and international cooperation in all of its teacher education institutions’

Sahlberg Report, July 2012

# Secondary Initial Teacher Education

‘the key characteristics of internationally recognised teacher education systems include high quality instruction on both pedagogy and pedagogical content knowledge,  
*a strong focus on research as a basis of teaching and learning,*  
a close and systematic engagement with schools ‘

Sahlberg Report, July 2012

# Modes of Initial Teacher Education

## Concurrent

- Subject and Pedagogical Content Knowledge in tandem
- Professional studies
- Foundation studies
- School placement
- Minimum 240 ECTS credits

# Modes of Initial Teacher Education

## Consecutive

- Primary degree in Subject area of at least one approved curricular subject
- Minimum 180 ECTS credits
- Followed by Postgraduate Pedagogical Studies – minimum 60 ECTS credits

# Qualification to teach Chemistry

- Applicants must hold a degree level qualification (or equivalent), with Chemistry studied up to and including third year level (or modular equivalent);
- Qualifying degree must be equivalent to at least Level 8 and with a pass result in all examinations pertinent to the subject of Chemistry;
- The qualifying degree must carry at least 180 ECTS credits (or equivalent) with the specific study of Chemistry modules comprising at least 60 ECTS credits with not less than 15 ECTS credits (or equivalent) studied at third year level (or modular equivalent).

# Qualification to teach Chemistry

- The study of Chemistry during the degree must show that the holder has acquired sufficient knowledge and understanding to teach the Chemistry syllabus to the highest level in post-primary education.
- To meet this requirement the degree must include the study of all of the following: Organic Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry and Analytical Chemistry.
- Laboratory practical work in chemistry must have been completed throughout the degree programme

# Newly Qualified Teachers - to achieve professional accreditation from the Teaching Council.....

## PROBATION

- 300 hours teaching
- Relevant subject areas.....
- Minimum 14 students per class group
- Reach total within 3 years

## INDUCTION

- Within a 3 year period
- Must attend 10 Education Centre sessions of 2 hours length





# In-service Supports

## Induction Course for Chemistry Teachers



Chemistry for non-specialists course

Create your own website

Junior Science Support

Schoolology

*iChemistry*: annually updated CD of resources

# And now to hear more about In-service training....