

## Guidance To Schools Providing A Dual-Subject Placement 2

For each dual-subject placement, the following requirements should be met to give dual-subject students sufficient experiences to allow for a valid and fair assessment. Ideally, dual-subject students should:

- have a designated supervisor in both of their subjects.
- have opportunities to observe teaching in both subjects.
- be involved in department meetings and other similar activities in both of their subjects.

For a placement to count as dual-subject, schools are asked to construct a timetable that meets the following minimum requirements:

- At least 50% of the timetabled teaching hours must be in the student's Main subject.
- At least 30% of the timetabled teaching hours must be in the student's Second subject.

As the actual hours are dependent on the stage of the placement, the minimum hourage for Main and Second subjects and the total hourage for [placement 2](#) are shown in the table below. Any timetable questions can be discussed with the Dual Subject Co-Ordinator, Dr Andrina Inglis ([Andrina.Inglis@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Andrina.Inglis@ed.ac.uk)).

Placement 2	Timetabled Teaching and Observation	Teaching
Main	≥ 7 hrs 40 mins	≥ 6 hrs 40 mins
Second	≥ 4 hrs 35 mins	≥ 4 hrs
Total Max.	15 hrs 15 mins	13 hrs 15 mins

Once a Dual-subject placement has been confirmed, the university will communicate with the school's Regent (in the first instance) the following information:

1. Confirmation of which subject is the student's Main subject (as recorded with the GTCS).
2. Contact details of both subject tutors and Dual Subject Co-Ordinator.

## Assessment of Dual-Subject Placements

It is recognised that assessment can be a complex issue. Under normal circumstances, all dual-subject placements will require two subject tutor visits, one for each subject area. Where the Subject Tutor is the same for both subject areas, such as Language Education, there is the possibility that observations for both languages could be combined in one single visit. There is no fixed order that subject tutors will use to schedule their visit.

Each visit will involve:

- a lesson observation, followed by a feedback discussion on the observed lesson with the student and
- a meeting with the subject supervisor to review student progress in preparation for the Joint Report.

The **Joint Report** will:

- a. assess both subject areas in one report.
- b. be the responsibility of the Main Subject Tutor.
- c. should have input from both subjects (tutor and supervisor) using evidence drawn from both subject areas
- d. record a 'U' outcome for a given SPR standard if the evidence indicates that (by the end of placement) a student is assessed as 'U' by one subject area even if assessed as 'S' by the other subject area.
- e. indicate if any 'U' outcome relates to a Subject-specific fail or a Non-subject specific fail.

There are 3 possible categories for each 'U' grade that falls into:

- ⇒ **'Subject specific fail'**: Whether this 'U' grade relates to an element of teaching practice that is sufficiently subject-specific that it can **only** be retrieved as part of a placement in which a specific subject area is taught (for example concerns over subject knowledge; or health and safety issues that exist in only one of the two subject areas).
- ⇒ **'Non-subject specific fail'**: Whether this 'U' grade relates to an element of teaching practice that could potentially be retrieved as part of a placement in which any combination of the two subjects is taught. (For example, a 'U' for professionalism or for lesson planning might be felt to be sufficiently holistic that it could potentially be retrieved in the next placement *regardless* of subject focus).
  - If the 2 subjects cannot reach agreement, this would be categorised as **non-subject specific** to enable the student to ensure that they work on this element in both their subjects, therefore strengthening their future practice. (This is the equivalent situation of a single subject student demonstrating an aspect of practice with one class but not another but being expected to do so)
- ⇒ In either situation, the comments box on the Report form should be used to state the details of the situation

Any issues in regards dual-subject students should be communicated to the Dual Subject Co-Ordinator, ([Andrina.Inglis@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Andrina.Inglis@ed.ac.uk)), who will liaise with relevant staff as necessary.