

Secondary schools and untrained teachers

In most secondary school pupils are being taught by teachers not trained in the subject.

A survey of around 885 school by the Association of School and College Leaders, which represents secondary school heads reveal that school have to put untrained teachers in the subject they teach. Its because of the teacher shortage, which makes heads put untrained teachers in classes.

78% of schools are having to use staff untrained in the subject. In science they have 78% of teachers not trained in the subject and in English it is 57%.

Last month, the National Audit Office revealed that the Department for Education has failed to meet its recruitment targets for trainee teachers for the past four

years. The Chief Inspector of Schools, Sir Michael Wilshaw, also warned last week of a “brain drain” as teachers opt for jobs in satellite schools abroad, set up by many of the country’s leading independent schools.

A spokeswoman for the Department for Education said: “We are committed to raising the status of teaching and want to work with the ASCL and the profession to make it an attractive career choice.”



Students busy at work