

Native-speaking English Teacher (NET) Scheme in Primary Schools

Appointment of Temporary NET

Under special circumstances, schools not being able to find a suitable teacher to fill the vacant NET post after considering all the candidates referred by the EDB and/or conducting their own recruitment exercise may apply to their respective Senior School Development Officer (SSDO) for permission to appoint a temporary NET. *Schools are reminded that such employment should be a temporary measure only.*

Appointment Procedures

1. For schools which have opted to recruit NET directly but not being able to find a suitable NET, they may apply to their respective SSDO for permission to appoint a temporary NET with the following:
 - (a) Records of the recruitment exercise conducted, including advertisement placements, interview board composition, selection procedures and results, etc.;
 - (b) Documents regarding the qualifications of the prospective temporary NET for consideration before offering appointment; and
 - (c) Evidence showing the schools are still actively looking for fully qualified teachers to fill the NET posts.

2. For schools having entrusted EDB to recruit NET but with no NET appointed for the time being, they may apply to their respective SSDO for permission to employ a temporary NET with the documents regarding the qualifications of the prospective temporary NET for consideration before offering appointment.

Appointment Requirements

3. The requirements for appointment of a temporary NET are as follows:
 - (a) Candidates should be native-speaker of English or possess native-speaker English competence#.
 - (b) They should also possess:
 - i. a bachelor's degree majoring in English Language or Linguistics or English Literature or English Studies or a Modern Language from a Hong Kong university or its equivalent; **OR**
 - ii. a bachelor's degree in any subject from a Hong Kong university or its equivalent; **OR**
 - iii. a recognized teacher's certificate obtained after at least 2 years' full-time study or its equivalent.

Terms of Appointment

4. These temporary NETs should initially be appointed on a day-to-day basis and, for continuous appointment of 90 days or above, they will be paid monthly salary at the

Assistant Primary School Master/Mistress (APSM) or Certificated Master/Mistress (CM) rank. **They will not be eligible for the fringe benefits under the NET Scheme in Primary Schools.**

Native speakers of English are people who acquire the language in infancy and develop the language through adolescence and adulthood within a community where English is spoken as the first language. Native-speaker English competence refers to the ability to use English fluently and spontaneously, to give grammatically accurate responses in communication and to write or speak creatively.

Non-native speakers of English, i.e. people who have not acquired the language in early childhood, are also suitable for employment as NETs if their English competence is not different from that of native-speakers in terms of fluency, accuracy and creativity in language use.