**Headship Qualifications**

Holding the Standard for Headship by completing a Headship Qualification is a prerequisite for teachers taking up their first permanent headteacher post in Local Authority and grant-aided schools in Scotland.

This became a prerequisite on **1 August 2020**, under the Head Teachers Education and Training Standards (Scotland) Regulations, 2019.

There are two exemptions:

1. Permanent headteachers who were appointed to a position in a school on, or prior to, 1 August 2020.
2. Education authorities, or the managers of grant-aided schools, can appoint a person to a headteacher post, who has not attained the Standard for Headship, on a temporary basis for a period **not exceeding 30 months** after 1 August 2020.

The Scottish Government has no plans **at present** to require that teachers appointed to headteacher posts in independent schools should hold the Standard for Headship.

Regulations relating to the independent sector will be brought in after the requirement for all teachers in independent schools to be registered with GTC Scotland had become embedded.

[Headship Qualifications - The General Teaching Council for Scotland (gtcs.org.uk)](https://www.gtcs.org.uk/professional-standards/headship-qualifications/)