



# Historical Association

The voice for history

**The Historical Association**

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Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Registered charity 1120261.

Nick Gibb, MP  
Minister of State for Schools  
Department for Education  
Sanctuary Buildings  
20 Great Smith Street  
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Monday 25 January 2016

Dear Mr Gibb,

Thank you for your letter of 11 January 2016 in reply to our letter of 3 December 2015 to the Secretary of State regarding initial teacher training in secondary school history. We appreciate your detailed reply. We find no response, however, to the history-specific issues.

Reference to the 75% cap obscures the issue. History has been singularly disadvantaged in the allocation of HEI places. The combination of the 30% cuts in 2014 and the 75% cap in 2015 amounts to a 50% cut across two years. No other foundation subject has been subjected to HEI cuts at this level.

The subject-specific rigour of specialist history ITT courses, enacted by stable history mentor communities, is key to driving up standards in history in line with the aims of the NC and E-Bacc: helping more young people know more history. Capping these courses weakens system-wide capacity to secure these goals. We request a meeting to discuss this further.

We enclose a more detailed analysis of the situation which we hope your advisors will find useful.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Sullivan  
Chief Executive Officer  
Historical Association

Professor Peter Mandler  
President  
Royal Historical Society