



# The Nigerian Teacher

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE TEACHERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL OF NIGERIA / VOL. 1 NO. 3, MAY, 2026

## NATIONAL TEACHERS' SUMMIT 2026



**FG Honours 12 Outstanding Teachers With N350m, Unveils EduRevamp, At National Summit**



**Three Enugu Institutions' Graduates Join TRCN In Landmark Induction Ceremony**



**FG Convenes National Education Bootcamp In Jos To Tackle Out-of-School Crisis**

Inside Stories



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# OPENING SHOT

## Nigeria's Education Landscape Is Shifting—Decisively, Visibly And With A Renewed Sense Of Urgency.

By Dr. (Mrs.) Ronke Soyombo, Publisher & TRCN Registrar/CE.

From sweeping federal mandates to grassroots state interventions, the teaching profession is undergoing one of its most significant transformations in recent history. At the centre of this evolution is a bold push to professionalise teaching, digitise learning systems, and confront long-standing challenges that have defined the sector for decades.

This edition opens on a powerful note: a nation drawing a clear line on standards. The directive to tie school accreditation to TRCN certification is not just policy—it is a powerful expression of commitment to reform. It signals that the era of informal teaching structures is giving way to a regulated, accountable, and globally competitive profession. And with over 10,000 teachers already signing up through a revitalised digital portal, the response suggests a workforce ready to rise to the moment.

But beyond regulation, the momentum is expansive. Technology is becoming the backbone of reform, through learner identification systems, smart classrooms, and data-driven education tracking platforms. These are not isolated initiatives, they represent a coordinated effort to modernise how education is delivered, monitored, and improved.

Across states, the story deepens. From large-scale teacher recruitment in Kano to capacity-building partnerships in Bayelsa, welfare enhancements in Kwara, and infrastructure investments in Sokoto, sub-national governments are stepping forward with practical, targeted solutions. The message is clear: meaningful reform must be both national in vision and local in execution.

Yet, even as systems evolve, the human element remains the heartbeat of this transformation.

Thousands of newly inducted teachers across institutions, alongside experienced educators being recalled or retrained, reflect a profession in renewal—one that continues to attract, shape, and redefine those entrusted with the future of the nation.

Still, the challenges are stark. Millions of out-of-school children, particularly girls, remain a pressing concern. But with growing collaboration between government, development partners and the private sector, there is cautious optimism that access, equity, and quality can be advanced together.

This publication captures a sector not standing still, but pushing forward—layer by layer, reform by reform, teacher by teacher.

The story of Nigerian education is being rewritten. And at its core is a simple, enduring truth: the strength of any system will always depend on the strength of its teachers.



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# FG Honours 12 Outstanding Teachers With N350m, Unveils EduRevamp, At National Summit

The Federal Government has reinforced its commitment to transforming Nigeria's education sector with the unveiling of a new national teacher development platform, EduRevamp, and the disbursement of N350 million in prizes to outstanding educators across the country.

The announcement was made at the National Teachers' Summit 2026, held at the State House Banquet Hall in Abuja, where key stakeholders gathered under the theme "Empowering Teachers, Strengthening the System: A National Agenda for Education Transformation and Sustainability."

At the event, the administration of Bola Ahmed Tinubu reiterated its resolve to reposition teachers as the cornerstone of national development through strategic investments, recognition, and capacity building.

Delivering the keynote address, the First Lady, Sen. Oluremi Tinubu, described teachers as "quiet architects of great nations," stressing that no country can achieve meaningful progress without motivated and well-supported educators.

She reaffirmed that education remains central to the administration's Renewed Hope Agenda, which will drive inclusive growth, enhance human capital development, and equip learners with the skills needed to compete in a rapidly evolving global economy.

The Minister of Education, Maruf Tunji Alausa, disclosed that 12



H.E. Senator Oluremi Tinubu, CON, First Lady of Nigeria (3rd R); H.E. Prof. Babagana Zulum, CON, Governor of Borno State, (3rd L); Dr. Tunji Alausa, CON, Hon. Minister of Education (4th L); Prof. Suwaba Ahmed, Hon. Minister of State for Education (2nd R) at the unveiling of the EduRevamp Portal in Abuja.

exceptional teachers emerged through a rigorous, merit-based selection process spanning all 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory.

Each awardee received N25 million, while the overall best teacher, Taiwo Solanke, clinched the N50 million grand prize alongside additional contributions from state governments.

A major highlight of the summit was the launch of the EduRevamp Online Teacher Professional Development Portal - a digital platform designed to provide continuous, accessible, and inclusive training for teachers nationwide.

According to the Minister, the initiative will enhance teacher quality, strengthen professionalism, and improve career progression across the education sector.

The summit drew participation from a broad coalition of stakeholders, including the Nigerian Union of Teachers, development partners such as UNESCO, UNICEF, and the British Council, as well as state governments, policymakers, and private sector representatives.

In her remarks, the Minister of

State for Education, Prof. Sue Sahed Ahmed, emphasised that teachers remain the backbone of the nation's classrooms and critical drivers of societal progress. She noted that EduRevamp will equip educators with digital skills, modern pedagogical tools, and collaborative learning opportunities.

Voices from the classroom also featured prominently. A student, Sue Belu Aliu, shared how teachers inspire confidence and hope, while educator Dahiru Ibrahim Bama highlighted the need for inclusive education and assistive technologies, particularly for learners with special needs.

Goodwill messages from development partners and lawmakers echoed a shared consensus: no education system can rise above the quality of its teachers. The summit also spotlighted success stories such as Sarah Yusuf, reinforcing the importance of celebrating excellence in the profession.

The National Teachers' Summit 2026, which continues until January 28, stands as a landmark initiative aimed at elevating the teaching profession, fostering innovation, and setting a clear roadmap for sustainable education reform in Nigeria.



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# Editor's Note

Nigeria's education sector stands at a pivotal crossroads. This edition of Nigeria Teacher Magazine arrives at a time of profound transition—one in which policy direction, institutional reform, and technological innovation are beginning to converge around a single national imperative: the restoration and advancement of the teaching profession as the foundation of sustainable development.

Across the federation, the message is unmistakable. The future of education will be determined not merely by infrastructure or curriculum, but by the quality, competence, and professional standing of those entrusted with shaping minds. In this regard, the Federal Government's directive mandating Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) certification for all educators by 2027 represents far more than a compliance framework.

It is, fundamentally, a statement of national intent—an affirmation that teaching must once again command the dignity, recognition, and professional prestige it deserves.

Within these pages, readers will encounter a wide spectrum of reforms reshaping the education landscape. From the rollout of the Learner ID system, designed to strengthen pupil tracking and progression, to strategic interventions such as EduRevamp and the Hope-Edu Plan, the trajectory is increasingly clear. Government at multiple levels is no longer merely reacting to systemic deficiencies; it is attempting to re-engineer the future of learning itself. The rise of digital classrooms, smart learning environments, and technology-enabled governance frameworks underscores a decisive shift toward transparency, measurable outcomes, and long-term resilience.

As you turn these pages, you will find stories that speak to resilience, reform, and possibility. They reveal a sector still contending with deep structural challenges, yet unmistakably moving forward with purpose and resolve.

For when teachers flourish, education advances. And when education advances, nations prosper.

**Durotimi Adeboye**  
*Editor-in-Chief*



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For Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria

# FG Convenes National Education Bootcamp In Jos To Tackle Out-of-School Crisis

The Federal Government has intensified efforts to address Nigeria's out-of-school children challenge and improve foundational learning through a national education summit scheduled to hold in Jos, Plateau State.

The initiative, known as the 2026 Basic Education in Nigeria Bootcamp (BEN-B), is being organised by the Federal Ministry of Education in collaboration with development partners and the Plateau State Government.

The three-day programme, billed for April 28 to 30 at Crispan Hotel in Jos, will bring together policymakers, education administrators, and key stakeholders to develop practical strategies for expanding access to basic education and improving literacy and numeracy outcomes.

The Bootcamp will be led by the



Dr Tunji Alausa, CON, Hon. Minister for Education

Minister of Education, Maruf Tunji Alausa, alongside the Minister of State for Education, Suwaiba Sai'd Ahmad. The Governor of Plateau State, Caleb Mutfwang, is expected to deliver the keynote address.

According to the Ministry, the summit is designed to generate evidence-based solutions to reduce the number of out-of-

school children while strengthening foundational learning across states.

Officials noted that previous editions of the Bootcamp have contributed to measurable progress in areas such as the establishment of community learning centres, expansion of open schooling systems, and improved data tracking mechanisms.

The initiative is also aligned with ongoing national education reforms, including the Nigerian Education Data Initiative (NEDI), literacy-focused programmes, and the expansion of Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

The government emphasised that collaboration among federal, state, and development partners remains critical to ensuring that every Nigerian child has access to inclusive and quality education.



A Cross Section of Learners in Classroom. A place awaits every child.

# Portal Restored, Nationwide Access Set To Improve As TRCN Unveils New App Plan

The Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria has moved to reassure educators across the country, confirming that its digital portal is now fully stable following a brief outage in December caused by technical issues with a former service provider. Registrar of the Council, Dr. Ronke Soyombo, gave the assurance during a press conference in Abuja on Thursday, addressing concerns raised by teachers over access to the platform. She clarified that the disruption lasted only one week and was swiftly resolved after the Council disengaged the previous developer and migrated to a new provider.

“In December, we had some issues with the developer, so our portal was down for one week. We resolved it and switched to another developer,” she stated. Soyombo dismissed reports of prolonged system failures as “misleading and politically motivated,” stressing that the Council would not risk its operations, particularly teacher examinations on an unstable platform.

“As much as I am an educationist, I also have a responsibility to generate revenue for government. I would not announce an examination and have the portal down. That would be counterproductive,”

she added.

While affirming system stability, the Registrar acknowledged that some teachers still face access challenges due to limited digital literacy. To bridge the gap, she said TRCN continues to maintain physical registration channels at state offices nationwide.

“We still have teachers who cannot access the portal because of digital literacy issues. That is why our state offices remain open. At no time in January was the portal down,” she said.

She further disclosed ongoing efforts to improve inclusivity, particularly for teachers in rural and underserved areas, through help desk support in tertiary institutions, mobile outreach initiatives, and targeted sensitisation campaigns.

Dr. Soyombo noted that

collaboration with stakeholders such as the Nigeria Union of Teachers and education administrators has been critical in expanding access and strengthening implementation.

Looking ahead, she announced plans to roll out a mobile application before the end of April to further enhance user access, while discussions on offline integration remain under consideration.

Reiterating the Council’s regulatory mandate, Dr. Soyombo emphasised that all teachers from early childhood to tertiary level must be duly registered and certified.

“Whether you teach children or adults, you must be certified. The minimum qualification is the Nigeria Certificate in Education or a degree with relevant education training,” she said.



# TRCN, Police Education Directorate Move To Enforce Full Teacher Licensing By 2027

By Misbahu Bashir Ajumawa

The Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) and the Police Force Education Directorate have begun fresh collaboration efforts to enforce full teacher registration and licensing across schools under the police education system, as the Council pushes for 100 per cent compliance nationwide by 2027.

This followed a strategic meeting between the Registrar of TRCN, Dr. Ronke Soyombo, and senior officials of the Police Education Directorate at the Council's headquarters in Abuja.

At the meeting, Dr. Soyombo said all schools in the country must ensure that their teaching staff are duly registered and licensed, in line with ministerial directives requiring 75 per cent compliance by the end of this year and total compliance by 2027.

She said the Council, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Education and other stakeholders, is rolling out an accelerated teacher training programme to help unqualified teachers obtain professional certification and licences.

According to her, the initiative is designed for teachers without formal education qualifications such as NCE, B.Ed. or PGDE, and is expected to address the challenge of over one million unqualified teachers



From right- Acting Director, Certification and Licensing, TRCN, Mr Abimbola Hameed Okunola, Acting Director, Accreditation, Regulations and Teacher Development TRCN, Dr. Frances Alimigbe, Director, Directorate of Police Education, DCP Ibidapo Olubiyi, Registrar/CE TRCN, Dr. Ronke Soyombo and directors from the Directorate of Police Education, during a meeting at the TRCN Headquarters in Abuja.

nationwide.

She appealed to institutions and community stakeholders to support sponsorship for candidates, citing the Dangote Foundation's pledge to sponsor 100,000 teachers as a major boost to the programme.

The Registrar also stressed that all teacher training providers must obtain Council approval, warning that only certified institutions and qualified personnel should be allowed to conduct teacher development programmes.

Dr. Soyombo further disclosed that TRCN is working with the Nigeria Police Force to integrate criminal record checks into its online portal to prevent the employment of teachers with questionable backgrounds.

She added that the Council recently mobilised 60 experienced educators to develop over 5,000 lesson plans, which will soon be made available to teachers through

its digital platform.

Responding, the Director of the Police Education Directorate, Deputy Commissioner of Police Ibidapo Olubiyi, said the Directorate currently supervises 28 secondary schools and about 100 primary schools across the country.

He explained that the Directorate was established in 1986 to address the educational needs of children of police officers affected by frequent transfers.

Olubiyi said 60 per cent of teachers under the Directorate are already registered with TRCN, while the remaining 40 per cent are expected to comply by the end of next year.

He assured the Council that the Directorate would also enroll affected teachers in the accelerated training programme to enable them obtain the required professional qualifications...

# Unity Schools Go Digital As FG Partners Indigenous Firm On Smart Classroom Technology

Nigeria's push toward smart education has gained fresh momentum as the Federal Government expands its digital learning drive in Unity Schools, backed by the deployment of interactive classroom technology.

In a significant boost to the initiative, indigenous tech firm Wowbii Infrastructure has donated 20 units of interactive boards to the Unity Schools Old Students Association, marking a major step in modernising teaching and learning across Federal Unity Colleges.

The intervention aligns with the Federal Government's broader agenda to digitise public schools, strengthen digital infrastructure, and position Nigeria's education system for global competitiveness.

The presentation of the equipment, held in Lagos, brought together alumni leaders and key stakeholders in the education sector, underscoring growing collaboration between the public and private sectors.

Founder and Group Chief Executive Officer of Equipment Hall Limited and Wowbii Infrastructure, Gbolahan Olayomi, described the donation as a strategic investment in Nigeria's future,



**Dr. Tunji Alausa, CON, Hon Minister for Education** demonstrating the use of Smart-boards to students at Queens College, Yaba, Lagos.

noting the enduring importance of Unity Colleges in fostering academic excellence and national cohesion.

“Supporting USOSA with modern interactive learning technology is a strategic contribution toward improving classroom delivery, enhancing student engagement and aligning our schools with global digital learning standards,” he said.

According to a statement issued in Port Harcourt, USOSA under the leadership of its President-General, Mike Magaji has continued to play a pivotal role in supporting the growth and development of Unity Schools nationwide.

The association has maintained strong

partnerships with stakeholders to improve infrastructure, upgrade learning environments, and enhance academic outcomes across the colleges.

Wowbii Infrastructure also reaffirmed its commitment to deepening collaboration with federal and state governments, as well as institutional partners, to accelerate the adoption of interactive, hybrid, and virtual learning technologies across schools, universities, and training institutions.

Industry observers say the initiative signals a critical step in Nigeria's transition to a digitally enabled education system—one that leverages innovation to deliver more engaging, inclusive, and future-ready learning experiences.

# N1bn Education Intervention: 1,000 Nigerian Students Get Fully Funded Scholarships

In a major intervention set to expand access to higher education, the Tunji Olowolafe Foundation has launched a ₦1 billion scholarship programme to fully sponsor 1,000 Nigerian students at Miva Open University over the next five years.

The landmark initiative, named the Gbemisola Olowolafe Miva Scholarship, was unveiled by businessman and philanthropist Tunji Olowolafe to mark the first anniversary of the passing of his wife, Gbemisola Olowolafe, in whose honour the programme is established.

Described as a fully funded undergraduate scheme, the scholarship will cover 100 percent of tuition costs for beneficiaries, removing one of the biggest barriers to quality university education for talented but financially disadvantaged students.

Announcing the initiative, Olowolafe said the programme is designed to immortalise his late wife's passion for education and her belief in equal opportunity.

“Education as the ultimate equaliser is a tool that should be accessible to all, regardless of financial background. “By removing tuition barriers for 1,000 aspiring leaders, we are ensuring that her legacy of



*Tertiary Institution Students... Beneficiaries of the Gbemisola Olowolafe Miss Scholarships.*

kindness, excellence, and service lives on in the success stories of others” he said.

According to him, applications for the scholarship are now open, with the founder urging ambitious Nigerian students who lack the financial means to seize the opportunity.

“To the dreamers, innovators, and hardworking students of Nigeria—this opportunity is for you. Apply and take the first step toward a future of unlimited possibilities,” he added.

The foundation noted that the initiative aligns with its broader focus on education, empowerment, and community development, with a long-term vision of nurturing the next generation of leaders.

Miva Open University, a fast-growing technology-driven institution, offers flexible and accessible learning designed to reach students across Nigeria

and beyond—making it a strategic partner for scaling impact through digital education.

Education stakeholders say the scale of the investment signals a growing role for private sector-led philanthropy in addressing Nigeria's higher education funding gap and widening access to quality learning opportunities.



**Dr. Tunji Olowolafe**

# Over 10,000 Teachers Sign Up For TRCN Exam As Digital Portal Gains Nationwide Traction

No fewer than 10,000 teachers across Nigeria have registered for the forthcoming Professional Qualifying Examination organised by the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN), in a development that underscores growing confidence in the Council's digital transformation drive.

Disclosing this to the press, the Registrar and Chief Executive of TRCN, Dr. Ronke Soyombo, affirmed that the examination scheduled to hold from May 14 to 16, 2026 has recorded an impressive turnout, attributing the high number of registrations to the increasing adoption of the Council's digital registration portal.

She noted that the surge in users reflects the platform's efficiency in handling teacher registration, licensing, and certification processes nationwide, marking a significant shift from manual operations to a more seamless digital system.

The portal, launched in September 2025 with the support of the Minister of Education, Dr. Maruf Alausa, is widely regarded as a major milestone in Nigeria's ongoing efforts to modernise its education sector.

Dr. Soyombo explained that the platform has significantly improved access and operational efficiency, enabling teachers across the country to complete registration processes with greater ease.

Addressing earlier complaints



*The Hon. Minister of Education, Dr. Tunji Alausa, CON, 4thleft; flanked by the Honorable Minister of State for Education, Prof. Suwaba Ahmad, the TRCN Registrar/CE, Dr. (Mrs.) Ronke Soyombo and panel members at the TRCN Digital portal launch in Abuja*

about technical glitches, she clarified that the initial challenges were largely due to heavy user traffic following the nationwide rollout, alongside system upgrades and the learning curve associated with transitioning from manual to digital processes.

"The initial challenges experienced were largely attributable to high user traffic and increased demand following nationwide rollout, ongoing system upgrades, and user adaptation issues associated with transitioning from manual to digital processes," she said.

She, however, assured that the platform is now fully stabilised and operating smoothly, stressing that the successful registration of over 10,000 teachers is a clear indication of its reliability and capacity to support large-scale operations.

"The TRCN digital registration portal is running smoothly and continues to serve teachers nationwide without

interruption," Dr. Soyombo emphasised.

Reaffirming the Council's position, the TRCN boss emphasised that the digital portal remains the only authorised channel for teacher registration, licensing, and certification in Nigeria.

Dismissing claims of third-party involvement, she warned that the Council has not authorised any bank or external organisation to sell registration forms, adding that registration is exclusively conducted through the official TRCN portal to ensuring transparency and eliminating fraudulent practices.

Dr. Soyombo commended teachers for their patience during the transition period and assured that continuous improvements are underway to further enhance user experience.

She reiterated TRCN's commitment to strengthening Nigeria's digital education ecosystem through a transparent, efficient, and technology-driven system that meets the needs of educators nationwide.

# FG Moves Against Uncertified Teachers, Ties School Accreditation to TRCN by 2027

In a sweeping reform set to reshape Nigeria's secondary education system, the Federal Government has mandated that all teachers in public and private secondary schools must be fully registered and licensed by the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria or risk disqualification of their schools from major national examinations.

The directive, issued by Minister of Education Tunji Alausa, introduces strict compliance measures linking teacher certification to the accreditation of schools as examination centres for key public exams, including WASSCE, NECO, NABTEB, and SAISSCE.

Under the new policy, enforcement will begin in 2027, with schools required to meet a phased compliance target, achieving at least 75 percent TRCN-certified teachers by the end of 2026 and full compliance by 2027.

Schools that fail to meet the requirement risk losing their status as approved centres for national examinations, a move analysts say could significantly impact non-compliant institutions.

No teacher will stand before a Nigerian classroom without TRCN registration and licensing," the Minister declared, underscoring the government's resolve to eliminate unqualified personnel and restore integrity to the teaching profession.



**Dr. Tunji Alausa, CON, Hon. Minister of Education.**

The policy forms part of broader reforms aimed at strengthening professionalism, improving accountability, and raising the quality of instruction across the country's education system.

As part of the restructuring, the roles of key institutions have been clearly defined. While TRCN will focus on regulation, licensing, and enforcement of standards, the National Teachers' Institute (NTI) will drive in-service training and continuous professional development for educators.

To ease the transition, experienced teachers will be allowed to undergo a bridged

certification programmes through NTI to meet the new requirements within the stipulated timeframe.

The government has also upgraded the TRCN digital portal to streamline registration, licence renewal, and record management, making the process more accessible for teachers nationwide.

State governments have been called upon to support the implementation by ensuring that teachers in both public and private secondary schools comply within the two-year window.

With compliance monitoring set to intensify in the coming months, the directive signals a firm shift toward enforcing minimum professional standards, ensuring that every Nigerian child is taught by a qualified, certified teacher.



# Ogun Strengthens Public Education Leadership As SUBEB Inducts 104 Headteachers

The Ogun State Universal Basic Education Board has inducted 104 newly appointed headteachers to fill critical vacancies in public primary schools across Local Government Education Authorities, in a move aimed at strengthening leadership and improving learning outcomes in the state's basic education sector.

The induction and capacity-building ceremony, held at the Nigeria Union of Teachers Hall in Kuto, Abeokuta, brought together education stakeholders and marked a significant step in the state's ongoing education reform drive.

Delivering the keynote address, Chairman of the Board, Evangelist Olalekan Ifede, described the exercise as part of a broader transformation agenda to reposition basic education. He noted that the appointments reflect the confidence of the government in the professional competence, dedication, and leadership capacity of the new headteachers.

"Ifede emphasised that the quality of leadership at the school level would directly impact teaching standards and pupil performance, stressing that the success of any school system rests largely on the effectiveness of its headteachers."

He assured the inductees of the Board's continued support but stressed that such backing must be matched with commitment, accountability, and measurable results.



**Dr. Femi Majekodunmi**, Executive Chairman of Ogun State Universal Basic Education Board (M); Board Members, management staff of Ogun SUBEB and some of the newly inducted Headteachers.

In his goodwill message, Permanent Member IV of the Board, Hon. Akeem Balogun, urged the new headteachers to embrace innovation in school administration, noting that recent advancements in teachers' welfare, including the attainment of Grade Level 17, must translate into improved performance across schools.

Earlier, the Director of Administration and Supplies, Mr. Femi Fatade, described the elevation as both a recognition of service and a call to higher responsibility in shaping the future of learners and strengthening the foundation of basic education.

Also speaking, Headteacher-General of Egba Zone, Mr. Folake Onabajo, charged the inductees to see their new roles as platforms for service, urging them to lead with discipline, professionalism, and accountability while serving as mentors and role models to both teachers and pupils.

The State Chairman of the Association of Primary School Headteachers of Nigeria, Comrade Tajudeen Adeosun, described the programme as a

clear demonstration of the Board's commitment to capacity building and grassroots leadership development.

Highlighting the importance of effective school administration, guest speaker and former SUBEB Secretary, Mr. Olubori Akinleye, urged the new headteachers to prioritise discipline, maintain cordial relationships within the school community, and leverage basic digital skills for data management and administrative efficiency.

Responding on behalf of the inductees, Fausiyat Banmeke and Ojo Yekini expressed appreciation to the state government for the opportunity, pledging to justify the confidence reposed in them through improved performance and dedication to duty.

The state government recently engaged 448 OgunTeach interns and deployed them to public primary schools in rural communities as part of efforts to address the shortage of teachers across the state.

The engagement and posting letters were presented to the successful applicants at the SUBEB secretariat, Oke-Mosan, Abeokuta.

# PLAN International, TRCN Induct 359 Certified Teachers To Strengthen Education in Borno

In a major boost to education recovery efforts in North-East Nigeria, Plan International Nigeria and the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) have formally inducted 359 professionally certified teachers in Borno State, reinforcing ongoing initiatives to improve teacher quality and classroom delivery in communities affected by years of insurgency.

- The teachers were drawn from three key Local Government Areas in Maiduguri.
- They completed a rigorous training program meant to bridge humanitarian need and academic excellence.
- The induction ceremony was held at Muhammadu Indimi Conference Centre.

2. The induction was strongly endorsed by high-level Borno



education leadership to signal the state's prioritization of teacher quality.

- Attendees included the Permanent Secretary, Borno State Ministry of Education.

• Other representatives included the Honorable Minister of Education, SUBEB Executive Chairman, and BSSEB Executive Chairman.

3. Leaders framed the induction as a strategic response to teacher shortage worsened by years of regional instability, emphasizing transformation and professionalization.

- The Executive

Secretary of SUBEB highlighted that the teachers are equipped not only to teach but to transform.

- The BSSEB Executive Chairman stressed that TRCN certification elevates the teaching profession to its rightful status.

4. The program was presented as mission-driven quality education aimed at dismantling inequality and securing children's rights.

- Plan International's Director of Programme Quality and Influencing linked teacher certification to securing every child's future defined by opportunity rather than crisis.

• The focus aligned with the vision: "Until We Are All Equal."



Dr. Helen Nfom, Director of Programme Quality and Influencing, PLAN INTERNATIONAL



L - R: Mrs. Kyari Fati-Ali Coordinator, TRCN Borno State.; Mr. Okunola Abimbola Hammed, Director Certification and Licensing, TRCN Headquarters and Dr. Helen Nfom, Director of Programme Quality and Influencing, PLAN INTERNATIONAL.

5. The training approach was tailored to Borno’s socio-political climate and combined advanced teaching with student wellbeing and gender inclusion.

- Advanced Pedagogy: modern teaching techniques for diverse classrooms.
- Psychosocial Support: helping students navigate trauma of conflict.
- Gender-Responsive Instruction: ensuring girls’ equal access and safety in learning environments.

6. Experience sharing highlighted trainees’ journeys under challenging conditions and the role of certification in meeting global standards.

- Samuel Mamza of Plan International led a session on “Experience Sharing.”
- Certification was described as enabling trainees to excel with required standards.

7. TRCN leadership and development partners emphasized appreciation and the broader impact of education support in the North East.

- The Registrar and Chief Executive of TRCN (represented by Mr. Okunola A.H.) expressed deep appreciation for PLAN International’s holistic contributions.
- Support cited included

construction of schools, donation of essential learning materials, and certification, licensing, and induction of 359 teachers.

8. The ceremony’s formal induction and Oath of Allegiance marked the teachers’ legal recognition as TRCN practitioners committed to ethics and service.

- TRCN’s Director of Certification and Licensing, Mr. Okunola Abimbola, administered the Oath of Allegiance.

The oath emphasized professional ethics, dedication to duty, loyalty to the profession

and upholding TRCN standards.

9. Certificates were ceremonially presented to selected inductees, reinforcing partnership and motivating teachers as custodians of knowledge and agents of change.

- The certificate presentation was overseen by TRCN officials and witnessed by faculty representatives and development partners.
- The gesture reaffirmed professional status and commitment to ethics and teaching standards.

10. The event incorporated cultural heritage and celebratory elements, symbolizing resilience, unity, and the harmony between culture and education.

- A Kanuri Cultural Troupe performance added dances, songs, and drumming reflecting Kanuri heritage.
- The procession and cultural presentation emphasized partnership, dedication, and identity alongside formal proceedings.



Newly Certified and Registered Teachers Marching into the Hall for the Induction Ceremony.

# 274 LASU Graduates Take Teaching Oath

In a defining moment for Nigeria's education sector, 274 graduates of the Faculty of Education, Lagos State University (LASU), have formally taken the teaching oath under the authority of the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN), marking their official entry into the noble profession and a renewed commitment to upholding standards, ethics, and excellence in the classroom.

The induction ceremony at the Conference Hall of the 3-in-1 Complex, LASU Main Campus, Ojo, marked a significant transition for the graduates from academic preparation to professional practice.

Declaring the ceremony open, the Vice-Chancellor of LASU, Prof. Ibiyemi Olatunji-Bello, represented by Abayomi Adeleke, congratulated the inductees and urged them to embrace the responsibility of shaping future generations through quality education.

In his address, the Dean of the Faculty of Education, Prof. Olugbenga Akindoju, represented by Lateefat Yahya, described the induction as a defining milestone in the



L-R: Prof. Oludare Okikiola, Chairman, LASU/TRCN Committee; Prof. Lateefat Yahaya, Rep. Dean; Dr. (Mrs.) Ronke Soyombo, TRCN Registrar/Chief Executive; Dr. Olateju Adeleke, Representative of the Vice-Chancellor, LASU.

professional journey of the graduates. He reiterated that teaching remains a noble and impactful profession, calling on the new teachers to uphold the highest standards of integrity, dedication, and ethical conduct. He further emphasised the importance of strict compliance with TRCN's professional standards, while encouraging adaptability and innovation in response to the evolving demands of contemporary education.

Delivering her remarks, the Registrar and Chief Executive of TRCN, Dr. Ronke Soyombo, highlighted the relevance of the "4 Cs" — Creativity, Communication, Critical Thinking, and Collaboration as core competencies for effective

teaching in the 21st century.

She noted that the Council is leveraging digital tools to modernise teaching practices and urged the inductees to adopt innovative, learner-centred approaches that enhance educational outcomes.

Dr. Soyombo further underscored the pivotal role of teachers in national development, describing the profession as transformative and one that demands continuous learning, excellence, and commitment.

The induction proceedings were coordinated by the Registrar and Secretary to the Council, Emmanuel A. Fanu, represented by Modupe Obayomi-Davies.

A major highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of TRCN certificates and professional licences to the inductees, formally admitting them into the teaching profession and charging them to exemplify professionalism in their respective fields.

Dignitaries at the event included the Faculty Coordinator of TRCN at LASU, Oludare Olufowobi, alongside TRCN officials, Heads of Departments, and members of the Faculty of Education.



A cross section of LASU/TRCN Inductees taking the TRCN Professional Oath

# TRCN Inducts 929 LASUED Graduates, Reinforces Professional Standards In Nigeria's Teaching Sector

The Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN), in collaboration with Lagos State University of Education, has inducted 929 newly qualified teachers into the profession, underscoring renewed efforts to strengthen standards and professionalism in Nigeria's education sector.

The 2025 Second Diet Induction Ceremony, held simultaneously at the Oluremi Tinubu Hall, Oto/Ijanikin Main Campus and the Epe Campus, formally licensed the graduates—comprising PhD, Master's, PDE, PGDE, Degree, and NCE holders, to practice teaching both nationally and internationally.

The event attracted key stakeholders across the education ecosystem, including university management, academic staff, parents, and members of the public, highlighting its significance in shaping the future of teaching in Nigeria.

Speaking at the ceremony, Vice-Chancellor of LASUED, Prof. Bidemi Bilikis Lafiaji-Okuneye, described the induction as a critical intersection of academic accomplishment and professional responsibility. She reiterated the institution's commitment to producing educators who are not only academically sound but also ethically grounded and professionally competent.

According to her, the collaboration between LASUED and TRCN plays a pivotal role in safeguarding the integrity of the teaching profession.



*Cross Section of LASUED Graduates waiting for the administration of the TRCN Professional Oath. An important process of being recognized as a qualified teacher.*

“While the university prepares educators academically, TRCN ensures that only qualified and competent individuals are licensed to practice. This partnership is essential in maintaining standards in the sector,” she said.

She further charged the inductees to uphold the highest standards of integrity, professionalism, and lifelong learning, stressing that contemporary educators must evolve into mentors, innovators, and digital leaders capable of driving national development in a rapidly changing world.



*Prof. Bidemi Bilikis Lafiaji-Okuneye, Vice Chancellor, LASUED (C); Dr. Mary Abba, representing TRCN Registrar/Chief Executive Officer (l) and Princess Adaobi Ekwuno, TRCN Lagos State Coordinator at Induction Ceremony at LASUED.*

Also addressing the gathering, TRCN Registrar/Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Aderonke Soyombo, represented by Dr. Mary Aba, emphasized the strategic importance of teaching in national development. She urged the newly inducted teachers to embrace their roles as nation-builders and role models shaping future generations.

The Council also highlighted ongoing reforms aimed at enhancing quality assurance within the profession. These include the strengthening of the Professional Qualifying Examination (PQE), the deployment of digital registration systems, and stricter regulatory enforcement to curb unqualified practice.

In her remarks, the Director, Directorate of Teaching Practice at LASUED, Dr. Akinkotu Foluke Abimbola, congratulated the inductees, describing the ceremony as a defining moment in their transition from trainees to fully certified professionals.

The induction marks not just the culmination of years of academic pursuit, but the beginning of a lifelong commitment to excellence, integrity, and service in Nigeria's education sector.

# 2026 NATIONAL TEACHERS



**Name:** Solanke, Francis Taiwo  
**Award Category:** Best Performing Teacher (Basic Education) South-West I / Best Performing Teacher (National)  
**School:** Ansar-Ud-Deen School 1 Pry. Kemta-Ilawo, Abeokuta North State  
**State:** Ogun State.  
**Job Experience:**



**Name:** Gilamdo Yohanna Kwem  
**Award Category:** Best Teacher Senior Secondary, North-East  
**School:** Government Girls' Secondary School, Yola  
**State:** Adamawa State  
**Job Experience:** 19 Years (2007 - till date)



**Name:** Mallam Musa Abubakar Garba  
**Award Category:** Best Performing Teacher in the North West  
**School:** Government Secondary School (GSS) Richifa, Kaduna South  
**State:** Kaduna State.  
**Job Experience:**



**Name:** Ikoni Blessing Samuel  
**Award Category:** Best Teacher Basic Education Primary, South South  
**School:** St Joseph's Primary School, Itigidi  
**State:** Cross River State  
**Job Experience:** 1999-2026 (27 years)  
**Phone Number:** 08130163808



**Name:** Khadijah Galadima  
**Award Category:** North Central  
**School:** IBB Basic School  
**State:** Niger State  
**Phone Number:** 08104025129



**Name:** Gilamdo Yohanna Kwem  
**Award Category:** Best Teacher Senior Secondary, North-East  
**School:** Government Girls' Secondary School, Yola  
**State:** Adamawa State  
**Job Experience:** 19 Years (2007 - till date)

# SUMMIT HONOURS ROLL



**Name:** Ifetike Chekwube Hope  
**Award Category:** Best Performance Teacher, Senior-East Secondary  
**School:** Government Technical College Onitsha  
**State:** Anambra Geopolitical zone: South East  
**How long in service:** 2010-date (16 years)  
**Phone number:** 08062608637



**Name:** Bashar Hantsi  
**Award Category:** JuniorNorth West  
**School:** Argungu Emirate Model Primary School  
**Job Experience:** 18years in service



**Name:** Ituma Chinwe Emelda  
**Award Category:** Best Performing Teacher, Basic Education Primary  
**School:** New layout Primary School  
**State:** Ebonyi State, South East  
**Phone Number:** 08030473096  
**Period of Service:** 2001 till date(25 years)



**Name:** Lawal Obafemi Peter  
**Award Category:** Best Performing Teacher, Senior School, South-West Nigeria  
**School:** Oriwu Senior Model College, Ikorodu,  
**State:** Lagos State  
**Job Experience:** 15yrs



**Name:** Okhide Eugene Oziegbe  
**Award Category:** Best teacher senior secondary, South-South zone  
**School:** Imaguero College  
**State:** Edo State  
**Job Experience:** 20 yrs (2006 - till date)



**Name:** David kachollom Joseph  
**Award Category:** Best Teacher Senior Secondary, North-Central  
**School:** Government Senior Secondary School Nyango Gyel  
**State:** Plateau  
**Job Experience:** 19 Years (2007-till date)

# Nasarawa City College Of Education Graduates Join TRCN, Dr. Soyombo Charges New Teachers

**Inductees Urged To Drive National Development, Uphold Professional Ethics**  
By Misbahu Bashir Ajumawa

The Registrar of the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN), Dr. Ronke Soyombo, has declared that teachers remain central to national development, describing them as key drivers in shaping knowledge, skills, and character in society.

She made the assertion on Saturday at the induction ceremony of education graduates of City College of Education, Mararaba, Nasarawa State, where newly qualified teachers were formally admitted into the teaching profession under TRCN.

Dr. Soyombo stressed that effective teaching goes beyond knowledge delivery, noting that educators play a critical role in producing skilled human capital, promoting moral values, and strengthening national productivity.

She said teachers must adapt to global changes in education by embracing modern, knowledge-driven approaches rather than traditional content-based methods.

“Teaching is now one of the most demanding professions in a rapidly evolving knowledge economy. Teachers must stand at par with other professionals



Acting Director, Certification and Licensing, TRCN, Mr Abimbola Hameed Okunola, (4th from right), and lecturers flanked by inductees at the Induction Ceremony of City College of Education, Mararaba, Nasarawa State on 14th February 2026

in competence, innovation, and relevance,” she said.

The TRCN Registrar further urged educators to embrace continuous learning, especially in the use of emerging technologies in teaching and learning processes, noting that modern classrooms require more interactive and learner-centred approaches.

She highlighted global recognition of the teaching profession, citing countries such as Finland, Japan, France, Korea, Germany, and the United States, where teachers enjoy high social status and strong institutional support due to their role in national development.

Dr. Soyombo commended City College of Education for sustaining the TRCN induction tradition, describing it as vital to maintaining professional standards and aligning teacher preparation with global best practices.

She also warned inductees to strictly adhere to the teachers’ code of conduct and oath of practice, stressing that any breach would attract sanctions, as the oath formally admits candidates into the profession.

With the induction, she declared the graduates officially qualified as professional teachers in Nigeria.

# TRCN Inducts Meadow Hall Graduates, Welcomes A New Generation Of Nation-building Educators

The Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) formally inducted graduates of Meadow Hall College of Education into the teaching profession, charging them to take active roles in transforming Nigeria's education sector and contributing to national development. The ceremony, held at the College Auditorium in Lekki, marked an important milestone as the graduates transitioned from students to professionally certified educators entrusted with shaping future generations.

During the event, keynote speaker Prof. Emmanuel Amoo emphasized the evolving role of teachers in the 21st century, describing them as mentors, motivators, and architects of society



L-R; Mrs. Bunmi Ojeshina, Registrar; Sir. Andy Nwani, Chairman, Board of Trustees; Dr. (Mrs.) Kehinde Nwani, Provost; Dr. (Mrs.) Ronke Soyombo, Registrar/CE, Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN); Engr. Ibikunle Ogunbayo, Chairman, Meadow Hall College of Education Governing Council

whose influence extends beyond the classroom. TRCN Registrar and Chief Executive, Dr. Ronke Soyombo, described the induction as both a celebration of achievement and a call to greater responsibility, reaffirming the Council's commitment to continuous professional development and

high teaching standards.

In her remarks, the Provost of Meadow Hall College of Education, Dr. Kehinde Nwani, encouraged the graduates to see teaching as a lifelong identity and a calling that requires critical thinking, adaptability, and human connection. Speaking on behalf of the graduating class, Valedictorian Tolulope Frazer reflected on the challenges, resilience, and growth that defined their academic journey, while expressing confidence in the graduates' readiness to lead with integrity, professionalism, and excellence.

The ceremony concluded with a renewed call for innovation, dedication, and unwavering commitment to the teaching profession as a key driver of national progress.



Cross Section of Meadow Hall College of Education Graduates waiting to be admitted to the league of professional teachers.

# Abia Moves To Data-Driven School Reforms With New Digital Tracking System

The Abia State Government has taken a major step toward modernising its education sector with the introduction of a comprehensive Education Management and Information System (EMIS) and a unique learner tracking framework, the Abia State Learning Identity Number (ABSLIN).

The initiative, unveiled after the State Executive Council meeting in Umuahia, is designed to strengthen data management, improve planning, and monitor students' academic progression across schools.

Disclosing this in a statement, the Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, Goodluck Ubochi, said the reforms would address longstanding challenges, including poor data coordination and the unregulated movement of pupils between schools.

According to him, the EMIS platform will serve as a centralised database for all education-related information in the state, while ABSLIN will assign each learner a unique identification number, enabling authorities to track academic progress from entry through completion of basic education.

“With a unique identification number, the progress of every child can be monitored from the point of entry until completion. It will also help us track



Dr. Alex Otti, OFR, Governor of Abia State.

movement across schools, whether public or private,” Ubochi explained.

He added that the system would empower the Ministry to regulate student transfers, ensuring continuity in learning records and eliminating gaps caused by frequent, undocumented school changes. Beyond data reforms, the state government is also ramping up efforts to strengthen the education workforce. Commissioner for Information, Okey Kanu, disclosed that 36,415 applications were received in the second phase of the teacher recruitment exercise, with 24,023 candidates shortlisted for a computer-based test. He noted that the state had already employed 5,394 teachers and is targeting an additional 4,000 recruits.

In a parallel effort to expand access to education, the government has resumed its Mass Literacy, Adult and Non-

Formal Education Programme for the 2025–2026 academic session across all local government areas. The programme is accompanied by a statewide sensitisation campaign aimed at re-enrolling out-of-school children, traders, and artisans.

The state's recent academic achievements also came to the fore, with officials highlighting Abia's emergence as overall best at the National Basic Education School Sports Games, clinching eight gold medals, as well as its top ranking in National Examinations Council examinations for three consecutive years.

The rollout of EMIS and ABSLIN signals Abia's shift toward a technology-driven, data-backed education system, with stakeholders optimistic that the reforms will enhance accountability, improve learning outcomes, and ensure no learner is left behind.

# Katsina Intensifies Safe Schools Drive Ahead Of Policy Approval

The Katsina State Government has intensified efforts to strengthen safety in schools with the ongoing domestication of the National Policy on Safety, Security and Violence-Free Schools, aimed at creating safer and more inclusive learning environments across the state.

The initiative is being coordinated by the Katsina State Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education in collaboration with development partners, including Save the Children International, under the Education Cannot Wait First Emergency Response Project.

Speaking during a policy review meeting in Katsina recently, the Director of Planning, Research and Statistics in the Ministry, Mr. Nasir Ahmed, said the exercise is focused on adapting the national framework to reflect local realities and emerging safety concerns in schools across the state.

He explained that the review committee has carried out extensive consultations, including focus group discussions and interviews with key stakeholders, to ensure broad-based input into the draft policy.

According to him, the contributions gathered have significantly strengthened the document by addressing implementation challenges and incorporating community perspectives on school safety.

Ahmed added that the next phase will involve finalising the



Dr. Dikko Umaru Radda, Governor of Katsina State.

draft policy, followed by a validation exercise before it is submitted for government approval. He also noted plans for statewide dissemination and structured implementation to ensure effective adoption across all schools.

In his response, the Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, Mr. Yusuf Suleiman-Jibia, commended the committee for its progress and described the initiative as critical to safeguarding learners and improving the overall quality of education in the state.

He urged the committee to

conclude the validation process before the end of the month to enable timely approval and rollout of the policy.

Suleiman-Jibia reaffirmed the ministry's commitment to the reform, noting that the engagement has strengthened collaboration between stakeholders and established a clear timeline for completion.

The initiative underscores Katsina State's renewed commitment, alongside its development partners, to ensuring safe, secure, and violence-free schools that support learning and protect every child in the education system.



Cross Section of Learners in Katsina State, beneficiaries of the Safe School Drive Policy

# From Classroom to Career: Why Student Induction Matters

By: OKUNOLA Abimbola Hammed  
*Director, Certification and Licensing*

Graduation ceremonies are more than a celebration of academic achievement. They are a symbolic bridge between the classroom and the wider world of work, a ritual that has endured for centuries and continues to evolve with society. At their heart lies the induction of graduating students—a tradition that blends history, protocol, and cultural identity into a powerful rite of passage.

From Medieval Oaths to Modern Commencements

The roots of induction ceremonies stretch back to medieval Europe. At the University of Bologna in 1088 and the University of Paris in the 12th century, scholars participated in *inceptio* ceremonies, pledging allegiance to their institutions and donning robes that marked their scholarly status. These rituals were deeply religious, reflecting the Church's dominance in education, and symbolized not just personal achievement but communal affirmation of knowledge and authority.

The Renaissance brought humanist ideals into the fold. Universities such as Oxford and Cambridge introduced elaborate processions, speeches, and the formal conferral of degrees. By the



*A large number of graduates at a TRCN Induction Ceremony..... A testament to the strong drive of the Council to professionalize teaching in Nigeria.*

Enlightenment, ceremonies had shifted toward secular values, emphasizing rational inquiry, civic responsibility, and intellectual freedom.

In the 19th and 20th centuries, the American model of commencement blended European regalia with democratic ideals, creating ceremonies that were both formal and accessible. Post-colonial nations later infused their own cultural traditions—songs, dances, indigenous languages—into graduation rituals, making them uniquely reflective of local identity. Even in the digital age, the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the adaptability of these traditions, with virtual graduations ensuring continuity despite global disruption.

The Role of Protocol: Order, Tradition, and Inclusivity  
 Protocol is the invisible architecture of induction ceremonies. It ensures order, dignity, and meaning through carefully choreographed sequences:

- **Order and Dignity:** Seating arrangements, processional entries, and recessional exits maintain decorum. A well-planned agenda prevents disruption and ensures smooth proceedings.

- **Preserving Tradition:** Academic regalia, oaths, and symbolic gestures—such as moving the tassel or passing a torch—connect graduates to centuries of heritage.

- **Inclusivity:** Modern ceremonies embrace diversity by inviting speakers from underrepresented groups,

*Cont'd on Pg. 26*

## From Classroom to Career: Why Student Induction Matters

*Cont'd from Pg. 25*

incorporating indigenous languages, and adopting gender-neutral titles.

· **Enhancing Experience:** Music, cultural performances, and digital engagement add emotional resonance, while clear etiquette guidelines ensure guests contribute to the atmosphere respectfully.



*Acting Director, Certification and Licensing, TRCN, Mr Abimbola Hameed Okunola, (m) with Dr Helen Mfon Obong Idiong, Director of Programmes Quality and Influencing presenting TRCN Certificate to an Inductee.*

personal significance.

· **Reinforcing Identity:** Graduates become part of an institutional legacy, joining alumni networks that extend across generations. A well-executed ceremony enhances the institution's reputation and reinforces its mission—whether service, innovation, or leadership.

· **Fostering Belonging:** Shared experiences, from group photographs to chants, create bonds that last a lifetime. Public recognition validates years of effort, while the presence of family and

Protocol is not mere formality—it is the framework that transforms a gathering into a meaningful rite of passage.

**Beyond Ceremony: The Essence of Induction**

Induction ceremonies are more than ritualized protocol; they carry profound cultural and

peers amplifies the emotional impact.

· **Preparing for the Future:** Speeches often emphasize civic responsibility, professional ethics, and lifelong learning. Some institutions integrate career advice, mentorship opportunities, or networking sessions, ensuring the ceremony is not just symbolic but practical.

In essence, induction ceremonies remind graduates that education is not an end but a beginning—a launchpad into professional and societal

roles.

**Why These Ceremonies Still Matter**

In a fast-changing world, some may question the relevance of traditional ceremonies. Yet their endurance speaks volumes. They provide continuity in times of change, grounding students in values that transcend generations. They also adapt—embracing technology, inclusivity, and cultural diversity—while preserving their core purpose: celebrating achievement and preparing graduates for responsibility.

Graduation ceremonies are not relics of the past; they are living traditions. They remind us that education is both personal and communal, both achievement and obligation. They are the bridge between the classroom and the world of work, between youthful aspiration and adult responsibility.

**Conclusion**

The induction of graduating students is a timeless rite of passage. Rooted in medieval traditions yet constantly evolving, it remains a powerful symbol of transition. It celebrates achievement, reinforces identity, fosters belonging, and prepares graduates for the challenges ahead. In honoring graduates, institutions reaffirm their mission to shape citizens, professionals, and leaders for the future.

As caps are tossed and tassels turned, the ceremony reminds us: education is not just about knowledge—it is about legacy, responsibility, and the journey beyond the classroom.

# Teacher Shortage Crisis: FG Plans Return of Retired Educators, Volunteer Deployment Nationwide

In a bold move to confront Nigeria's deepening education workforce gap, the Federal Government has proposed the temporary recruitment of retired teachers and skilled volunteers to bridge critical shortages across schools nationwide.

The measure, captured in the newly released National Teacher Policy by the Federal Ministry of Education, signals an urgent shift in strategy to stabilise a sector grappling with acute staffing deficits, declining teaching quality, and low retention rates.

According to the policy document, state ministries of education are empowered to engage experienced retirees and qualified volunteers, particularly in crisis-affected and underserved areas to immediately plug manpower gaps.

"In case of crisis areas where retired teachers and highly



Dr. Tunji Alausa, CON, Hon. Minister of Education. (l) with Comrade Titus Amba, President, National Union of Teachers (Right)

skilled volunteers are available, state ministries of education shall consider recruitment temporarily to fill existing human resource shortages," the document stated.

Beyond stop-gap measures, the policy outlines broader reforms aimed at strengthening the teaching profession, including prioritising the recruitment of educators from local communities to improve retention and curb persistent turnover.

The document paints a stark picture of the current system,

highlighting widespread teacher attrition, inadequate subject mastery, and the continued engagement of unqualified personnel factors it says are undermining learning outcomes nationwide.

It also raises concerns over weak enforcement of professional standards, noting that the proliferation of non-certified teachers has further strained the system, increasing workloads and stress levels among qualified educators.

Adding to the challenge are poor infrastructure, limited access to teaching materials, and low digital capacity among teachers in an increasingly technology-driven world.

"There is a low level of ICT penetration and utilisation among teachers, alongside limited competencies in digital technology and artificial intelligence," the policy noted. The government also identified poor motivation as a key issue, citing delayed career progression, weak incentives, and negative societal perceptions of the teaching profession — problems that are even more pronounced in rural communities where shortages are most severe.

Despite the daunting challenges, authorities say the policy is designed to reset the system, elevate the status of teachers, and align Nigeria's education

**Cont'd on Pg. 31**



Members of the National Union of Teachers on parade at Eagle Square, Abuja.

# FG Rolls Out Learner ID System To Track Pupils, Bridge School Transition Gap



**Dr. Tunji Alausa CON, Hon. Minister of Education.**

with state authorities to expand school infrastructure to accommodate growing enrolment, while also considering the revival of the national school feeding programme to boost retention in public schools.

The initiative aligns with the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, which prioritises human capital development and technology-driven governance.

Education stakeholders say the introduction of LIN marks a significant step toward building a transparent, data-driven, and accountable education system capable of addressing long-standing challenges and improving learning outcomes across Nigeria.

The Federal Government has unveiled an ambitious reform to transform Nigeria's education system with the introduction of a nationwide Learner Identification Number (LIN), a digital tracking system designed to monitor pupils' academic journeys and tackle the country's low transition rate from primary to secondary education. The initiative, spearheaded by the Federal Ministry of Education Nigeria, will assign a unique identification number to every child from the primary school level, creating a permanent academic record that follows each learner across schools and educational stages.

Speaking during an interactive session with journalists in Lagos, the Minister of Education, Maruf Tunji Alausa, described the policy as a critical intervention to address the widening gap between enrolment and progression in the basic education system.

Nigeria currently has over 50,000 public primary schools with more than 23 million pupils. However, only slightly above three million transitions to junior secondary school within the public system - figures that have raised serious concerns about access, retention, and continuity.

Alausa explained that the LIN system will enable education authorities to track each pupil's progress in real time, identify dropouts, and design targeted interventions to keep children in school. He added that the platform is integrated into the national

education database, providing policymakers with reliable data to drive planning and reforms.

In a major shift, the government also announced plans to phase out the traditional common entrance examination, replacing it with a Continuous Assessment (CA) model that evaluates pupils based on cumulative academic performance rather than a one-off test. The new system is expected to ensure smoother transitions and more holistic learner assessment.

The Minister further disclosed that over 1.9 million candidates sitting for the 2026 examinations conducted by the West African Examinations Council and the National Examinations Council have already been issued Learner Identification Numbers in the first phase of implementation.

Beyond tracking, the LIN system is also expected to strengthen examination integrity by curbing impersonation and malpractice through verified student identities.

As part of broader reforms, the Federal Government is working



*Young Learners in the classroom.... ultimate beneficiaries of the Digital Initiative*

# Three Enugu Institutions' Graduates Join TRCN In Landmark Induction Ceremony

By Misbahu Bashir Ajumawa

**N**ew Teachers Charged to Embrace Innovation, Uphold Professional Ethics

In a moment that blended dignity with national purpose, the induction ceremony of newly qualified teachers from three institutions in Enugu State — Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Federal College of Education, Eha-Amufu, and University of Nigeria, Nsukka — stood as a defining milestone in their professional journey.

Held on April 22, 23 and 24, 2026, the ceremony marked the formal induction of the graduates into the teaching profession under the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) and reaffirmed the critical role of educators in shaping Nigeria's future.

The event was presided over by the Registrar/Chief Executive of TRCN, Dr. Ronke Soyombo, who described the induction as more than a ceremonial exercise, noting that it represents a solemn commitment to national development through quality education.

She emphasized that teachers remain the foundation upon which the nation's social, moral, and economic growth rests, stressing that the quality of education in Nigeria is directly tied to the dedication and competence of its teachers.



University of Nigeria, Nsukka Inductee receiving her Professional License from Dr. (Mrs.) Ronke Soyombo, Registrar/CE, TRCN. She's flanked by Dr. (Mrs.) Nneka Onyebuchi, South East Zonal Coordinator, TRCN (r) and Prof. Godfrey Nji, Dean of Education, UNN.

In her address, Dr. Soyombo highlighted the evolving landscape of education in the 21st century, urging the newly inducted teachers to embrace innovation and adapt to emerging trends in teaching and learning.

She specifically encouraged them to integrate technology into classroom practice, adopt learner-centred methods, and

remain flexible in the face of rapid global change.

According to her, the future of education in Nigeria depends not only on government policy and infrastructure but, more importantly, on the quality, commitment, and professionalism of teachers.

At the high point of the ceremony, the inductees took their professional oath, collectively pledging to uphold the code of conduct and ethical standards of the teaching profession in Nigeria.

The oath formally admitted them into the profession and underscored their responsibility to serve as role models, mentors, and nation-builders.

The three-day induction ceremony was widely regarded as a significant step in strengthening teacher professionalism and advancing education standards in Enugu State and beyond.



Oath-taking of the inductees of UNN

# Babcock University Hosts TRCN Induction For New Cohort Of Teachers

The Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria has formally inducted a fresh cohort of qualified educators at the 6th Induction Ceremony of Babcock University, strengthening efforts to enforce professional standards and ethics in the teaching profession across the country.

The ceremony, held recently at the university auditorium in Ilishan-Remo, Ogun State, marked the official admission of newly trained teachers into the profession in line with the TRCN Act, Cap. T3 of 2004, granting them legal authorization to practise as certified educators in Nigeria and beyond.

The event attracted top university administrators and a high-level delegation from TRCN, led by Registrar and Chief Executive, Dr. Ronke Soyombo, underscoring the growing collaboration



L - R: Ms. Daniel-Alpheaus Irene, an inductee, with Prof. Afolarin Olatunde Ojewole, Vice Chancellor, Babcock University, and Dr. (Mrs.) Ronke Soyombo, Registrar/CE, Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria.

between regulatory bodies and teacher training institutions.

Among university representatives were President/Vice Chancellor, Prof. Afolarin Olatunde Ojewole; Senior Vice President/Deputy Vice Chancellor, Prof. Jonathan C. Nwosu; Registrar, Dr. Patience Nemezu C.; Dean of the School of Education and Humanities, Prof. Olubunmi Idowu; and Head of the Department of Education, Dr. Ngozi C. Uwannah, alongside other principal officers.

The TRCN delegation included Ogun State Coordinator Otun Akeem Olajide, Lagos II Coordinator Princess Ekwuno Adaobi, and other officials from the Ogun State office, as well as members of the Council's media team led by Durotimi Adeoye.

A key highlight of the ceremony was the formal administration of the Oath of Allegiance, where inductees pledged to uphold the ethics, standards, and Code of Conduct of the teaching profession before being officially admitted into the register of certified teachers. Dr. Ronke Soyombo, while presenting certificates of registration and practising licences, described the induction as a defining milestone in the journey of every professional teacher, stressing that certification



A cross section of graduands at the School of Education and Humanities, Department of Education, Babcock University at the 6th TRCN Induction Ceremony.

## Babcock University Hosts TRCN Induction For New Cohort Of Teachers *Cont'd from Pg. 30*



L - R: Prof. Johnathan Nwosu, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics and Research); Prof. Afolarin Olatunde Ojewole, Vice-Chancellor of Babcock University; and Dr. (Mrs.) Soyombo, Registrar/CE, Teacher Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN).

remains a legal and ethical requirement for teaching practice.

The certificates were presented to the Vice Chancellor, who received them on behalf of the inductees and subsequently handed them over to the University Registrar for distribution.

The Vice Chancellor reaffirmed the institution's

commitment to excellence, announcing that TRCN certification would henceforth be a mandatory requirement for all teaching staff, in alignment with national regulatory standards.

The well-attended ceremony was described as seamless, with no technical challenges recorded. Parents, guardians, and well-wishers also graced the occasion, turning it into a

celebration of academic achievement and professional transition.

University officials reiterated their resolve to produce morally sound, professionally trained educators capable of contributing meaningfully to national development.

Education stakeholders say the induction reflects growing institutional alignment with TRCN's mandate to professionalise teaching in Nigeria, ensuring that only qualified, certified practitioners are entrusted with shaping the nation's future learners.

The ceremony concluded with renewed commitments from both TRCN and Babcock University to deepen collaboration in strengthening teacher education, ethics, and standards across the country.

## Teacher Shortage Crisis: FG Plans Return of Retired Educators, Volunteer Deployment Nationwide *Cont'd from Pg. 27*

sector with global best practices.

"The National Teacher Policy will bring about a common understanding, transformation and elevation of the teaching profession," the document stated.

Nigeria's education sector has long battled a shortage of qualified teachers, overcrowded classrooms, and overstretched personnel — issues driven by rapid population growth, limited



Prof. Suwaba Ahmad, Minister of State for Education

investment in teacher training, and inconsistent policy implementation.

The Teachers Registration

Council of Nigeria had previously flagged the shortage of qualified teachers as a major contributor to declining learning outcomes, underscoring the urgency of reforms now being proposed.

Education analysts say the success of the initiative will depend on how effectively the government balances short-term interventions like re-engaging retirees with long-term investments in teacher training, welfare, and professional standards.

# Sokoto NUT Commends Teachers' Resilience, Praises Government's Education Reforms

The Chairman of the Nigerian Union of Teachers (NUT), Sokoto State Chapter, Comrade Murtala Mohammed, has praised teachers across the State for their resilience, dedication, and unwavering commitment to shaping future leaders despite persistent challenges in the education sector.

Speaking during the 2025 World Teachers' Day celebration held in Sokoto on Sunday, Mohammed described teachers as the foundation of societal development, urging them to remain united and steadfast in their collective mission to improve learning outcomes across schools in the State.

"Our students look up to us. We are the foundation of their knowledge and growth. Therefore, we must stay committed to delivering quality education that will produce responsible citizens," he said.

The NUT chairman also commended the administration of Governor Ahmed Aliyu for what he described as a "remarkable turnaround" in the welfare of teachers, noting that recent policy interventions have significantly boosted morale within the education sector.

He highlighted the implementation of long-overdue promotions and the upward review of the minimum wage from ₦18,000 to ₦70,000 as key reforms that have rekindled motivation among teachers.



Prof. Ahmad Ladan Ala, Sokoto State Commissioner for Basic & Secondary Education

"We used to face serious challenges in the past, but this administration has changed the narrative. Salaries have been improved, and long-pending promotions have been implemented. This has restored confidence and renewed our dedication," he stated.

Comrade Mohammed further disclosed that the union is engaging the State Government on efforts to address the uneven distribution of teachers across the 23 Local Government Areas. According to him, plans are underway to recruit additional qualified teachers to balance staffing gaps between rural and urban schools.

He also noted the union's continued engagement with private school operators, revealing that there has been a recent upward review of salaries for teachers in private institutions. Discussions, he added, are ongoing to

harmonise welfare standards across both public and private education sectors in the State.

"We have no friction with private schools. Instead, we are working to strengthen collaboration and ensure fairness and improved welfare for all teachers, regardless of their place of service," he explained.

As part of activities marking the celebration, the NUT leadership also distributed welfare packages, including refrigerators, sewing machines, farm inputs, and cash gifts to outstanding teachers in recognition of their commitment and excellence in service.

Mohammed urged teachers to see World Teachers' Day as a moment of reflection and renewed dedication to their noble profession, emphasizing the critical role they play in shaping society.

"This day is about us—the men and women shaping the future. Let us continue to teach with passion and sincerity so our children can acquire the knowledge and values needed to build a better nation," he charged.

The 2025 World Teachers' Day celebration featured goodwill messages, recognition awards, and tributes to educators whose contributions have significantly impacted teaching, learning, and human development across Sokoto State.

# Kwara Builds Future-Ready Teachers Through AI and Digital Innovation Training



**Dr. Lawal Olohungbebe**, Kwara State Commissioner for Education & Human Capital Development addressing teachers at a Digital Capacity Building Event.

In a bold move to future-proof education and align with global learning trends, the Kwara State Government has trained over 50 teachers in digital entrepreneurship, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and STEAM education to enhance curriculum delivery and equip students with 21st-century skills.

The intensive four-day capacity-building programme, held in collaboration with Digital Innovation Schools Nigeria and the Tech2Grassroots Africa Pilot Programme, brought together selected teachers from both public and private schools across the State.

Speaking at the training held at the Ministry of Education and Human Capital Development's Educational Resource Centre (ERC), Tanke, Ilorin, the Commissioner for Education and Human Capital Development, Dr. Lawal Olohungbebe, described the initiative as a strategic intervention aimed at repositioning the State's

education system for global competitiveness.

Represented by the Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Olanrewaju Rebecca Bake, the Commissioner noted that integrating digital tools and emerging technologies into teaching is critical to delivering a dynamic and relevant entrepreneurship curriculum. He added that the training would not only enhance teachers' capacity but also significantly improve learning outcomes across schools in the State.

"This initiative is designed to empower our teachers with practical, future-ready skills that will enable them to effectively engage learners, foster innovation, and prepare students to thrive in an increasingly digital world," he stated.

Also speaking, the Chief Executive Officer of KwaraTech Academy, Mr. Ayobami Oludele, lauded the Kwara State Government under the

leadership of Governor Mallam AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq for its sustained investment in education reform. He urged participants to fully leverage the training to drive innovation and contribute meaningfully to societal development.

Throughout the programme, participants were exposed to hands-on sessions covering the practical application of digital tools, AI-driven teaching methods, entrepreneurship frameworks, and STEAM-based instructional strategies. The training is expected to enhance classroom innovation, broaden students' access to technology-driven learning, and strengthen the overall quality of education delivery in Kwara State.

The initiative underscores the State Government's commitment to building a digitally competent teaching workforce and nurturing a new generation of learners equipped to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving global economy.

# Education Reform: Bayelsa Teams Up With British Council For Teacher Development

The Bayelsa State Government, in partnership with the British Council, has commenced the training of public school teachers under its ambitious capacity-building programme aimed at transforming education delivery across the State.

The initiative, spearheaded by the Bayelsa State Education Development Trust Fund (EDTF) in collaboration with the Teachers Training, Registration and Certification Board (TTRC), is part of a broader effort to train 1,000 teachers, alongside education managers and resource personnel, in modern teaching methodologies and digital learning practices.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the five-day training programme in Yenagoa, the State Commissioner for Education, Dr. Gentle Emelah, reaffirmed the government's commitment to strengthening teaching quality and enhancing learning outcomes in public schools.

He noted that the State's sustained investment in teacher development is already yielding tangible results, citing the emergence of a Bayelsa student as the overall best in the 2025 West African School Certificate Examination.

"This is a clear testament that when we invest in our teachers, we invest in the future of our children and the progress of our



*Dr. Gentle Emelah, Bayelsa State Commissioner for Education (l) with Prof. Ebimiowei Etebu, Executive Secretary, EDTF at the Capacity Building Event for teachers*

State," he said.

In his remarks, the Executive Secretary of EDTF, Professor Ebimiowei Etebu, underscored the importance of continuous professional development, describing teachers as critical drivers of educational success.

"Just as a farmer sharpens his tools for optimal performance, our teachers must be equipped with the right skills and knowledge to deliver effectively in the classroom," he stated, adding that the programme is designed to directly improve learning outcomes in both primary and secondary schools. Professor Etebu commended the British Council for its strategic partnership, which has supported the training of 1,000 teachers, 50 education managers, and 60 resource persons who will cascade the knowledge to a wider pool of educators across the State.

Also speaking, the Chairman of the EDTF Board, Fidelis Agbiki, described the initiative as a bold and forward-thinking

investment in human capital, urging participants to maximise the opportunity to enhance their professional competence.

The Chairman of the EDTF Development Partners Committee, Dr. Alice Atuwo, highlighted the widespread support the programme has received, attributing its success to strong collaboration among stakeholders, particularly the media.

On his part, the Head of English and Schools at the British Council, Mr. Fwanshishak Daniel, noted that the State government's strong political will has been instrumental in driving rapid progress. He disclosed that the British Council has deployed expert facilitators, relevant learning materials, and trained resource persons to ensure the sustainability of the programme.

According to him, the training curriculum focuses on contemporary teaching techniques, integration of

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# Ekiti Promotes Over 5,000 Primary School Teachers

In a landmark move set to redefine the teaching profession in Ekiti State, the state government has promoted over 5,000 primary school teachers, with 231 head teachers attaining Grade Level 16 for the first time in its history. The unprecedented elevation fulfills a key promise by Governor Biodun Oyebanji to align the status of primary school head teachers with their counterparts in the core civil service—marking a significant shift in the recognition of educators at the foundational level.

Presenting the promotion letters over the weekend, Chairman of the Ekiti State Universal Basic Education Board, Prof. Femi Akinwumi, described the exercise as a defining moment for the state's education sector and a clear demonstration of the administration's commitment to quality basic education.

"This monumental event underscores the unwavering commitment of Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyebanji's administration to enhancing the quality of education in Ekiti State," he said.

Akinwumi noted that the promotions were a reward for dedication, professionalism, and outstanding service, urging beneficiaries to sustain high standards in the classroom. He reiterated that education remains a core legacy of Ekiti, with the government continuing to invest in teacher welfare, infrastructure, and capacity development.



His Excellency, Mr. Biodun Oyebanji, Governor of Ekiti State

He further highlighted that the promotion of head teachers to Grade Level 16 represents a historic breakthrough in the state's public service structure, positioning Ekiti as a pacesetter in education reform nationwide. According to him, sustained investments in the sector have also contributed to one of the lowest out-of-school children's rates in Nigeria, driven by improved learning environments and strong policy direction. The development has been

widely welcomed by beneficiaries, many of whom described the gesture as unprecedented and morale-boosting, pledging renewed commitment to delivering quality education across the state.

Analysts say the move is expected to significantly boost teacher motivation, strengthen classroom delivery, and ultimately improve learning outcomes in public primary schools across Ekiti.

## Education Reform: Bayelsa Teams Up With British Council For Teacher Development

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digital tools in education, self-development, and strategies to expand access to quality learning.

The Acting Chairman of TTRC, Dr. Peremoboere Ugolo, further commended the initiative, describing it as a model for leveraging global expertise to strengthen local education systems.

He added that newly recruited teachers in the State are also

undergoing structured training at the University of Africa, Toru-Orua, as part of efforts to institutionalise quality assurance in teacher development.

With the commencement of the final batch, Bayelsa State moves closer to achieving its target of building a highly skilled, motivated, and future-ready teaching workforce—positioning its education sector for sustained excellence and global relevance.

# Kano Expands Education Workforce With Recruitment Of 4,000 Teachers, Engagement Of 3,688 Others

The Kano State Government has approved the recruitment of 4,000 teachers on permanent and pensionable appointments under the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB), alongside the engagement of 3,688 additional teachers on a nine-month temporary basis under the Abba Gida-Gida BESDA Cohort Five intervention programme.

The announcement was made by the State Commissioner for Education, Gwani Dr. Ali Haruna Abubakar Makoda, during a press briefing held at the Ministry's Headquarters in Gidan Murtala, Kano.

Dr. Makoda disclosed that the exercise followed a competitive aptitude test involving over 16,000 applicants, describing the process as transparent, merit-driven, and designed to strengthen the quality of teaching in public basic schools across the State.

He explained that the first batch of 4,000 successful candidates had been approved by Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf for permanent and pensionable employment, based on their outstanding performance in the recruitment examination.

In addition, he said the Governor also approved the engagement of 3,688 qualified



Alhaji Abba Kabir Yusuf, Executive Governor of Kano State

applicants on a temporary basis under the BESDA Cohort Five intervention, popularly known as the Abba Gida-Gida initiative. The arrangement, he noted, is targeted at addressing the shortage of teachers in public schools while responding to the growing demand for quality basic education.

According to the Commissioner, the dual-track recruitment strategy is also aimed at creating employment opportunities for qualified graduates in the State, while simultaneously improving manpower capacity in the education sector.

Dr. Makoda congratulated all successful candidates and

described the development as a significant milestone in the administration's efforts to reposition basic education in Kano State. He emphasized that the initiative reflects a strategic

investment in human capital development and a commitment to improving teaching and learning outcomes.

He further commended Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf for expanding the recruitment drive, noting that the decision demonstrates the administration's resolve to prioritize education and provide meaningful opportunities for young professionals to contribute to the growth of the sector.

The latest recruitment exercise is expected to significantly boost teacher availability in public schools across the State, enhance classroom delivery, and strengthen the overall quality of basic education in Kano.



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