Challenges in practice experienced by school- and university-based teacher educators

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Teacher educators have been working in partnerships between schools and higher education institutions, to provide initial teacher education, for many years. The context for these partnerships is
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Dr Elizabeth White is a Principal Lecturer at the University of Hertfordshire. Her responsibilities include research lead in initial teacher education and professional lead for the School Direct Route into teaching. She currently co-chairs the Association for Teacher Education in Europe Research and Development Community for the Professional Development of Teacher Educators, and is secretary for the International Professional Development Association (England). Her research focuses on teacher educators, especially those who are based in their workplace, alongside their learners. She is interested in their pedagogical choices, their professional development needs and how they can be nurtured in a professional learning community to support their emerging identity.

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Dr Miranda Timmermans is working as researcher (applied professor) at Avans University of Applied Sciences, Breda, The Netherlands. Her PhD was on the Quality of Professional Development Schools (teaching schools). Although she still is engaged in the quality question, her research and work is now focused on workplace learning and teaching and school-based teacher education – trying to find critical characteristics of a workplace pedagogy. Next to her job as a researcher she is the chair of Velon, the Dutch Association of Teacher Educators. The aim of Velon is to contribute to the quality of teacher educators and of the profession as a whole.

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