



**Ambition
Institute**

NPQ Application Guidance

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Application Guidance Document

This document contains useful information about our National Professional Qualifications (NPQs). Please refer to this document when completing your application.

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Delivery Partners

We're proud to be working with a network of exceptional delivery partners to offer National Professional Qualifications across England. To find delivery partners working in your area, please use the interactive map on [our website](#).

National Professional Qualification for Executive Leaders (NPQEL)

This programme follows the [Department for Education's National Professional Qualification \(NPQ\): Executive Leadership Framework](#)

Eligibility

- > Employed in a state-funded school in England
- > Must be in a headteacher role or above
- > Must have recently taken on, or aspire to take on, an executive leadership role (executive headteacher or school trust CEO role with responsibility for leading several schools)

Programme Overview

In this 18-month programme, you develop the expertise you need to become an outstanding executive leader, leading change and improvement across your group of schools or multi-academy trust. The programme uses the latest evidence-based school leadership methods and shows you how to put your findings into practice and drive change in your schools or multi-academy trust.

Application Form

Question: *'Using the guidance document, please explain briefly how your role allows you to access and practise the learning of the NPQ of your choice (Minimum 150 words).'*

When answering this question, please explain your role in the school and how this relates to the programme. If you are not currently in an executive leadership role, please explain how your school/trust will allow you to apply and practise the learning.

Question: *'I understand I am committing to take part in the NPQ which requires independent work, virtual and face to face delivery.'*

The programme consists of:

- > **2x 1-day Conference** - A face-to-face event which may require you to travel to the venue
- > **Insight and application modules** - A blend of independent work and working/meeting with a 'buddy,' which can be done virtually. You will need to commit to 50 minutes per week.
- > **4 clinics** - A 2hr virtual or face to face event. One per half term of your programme.
- > **5 Communities** – A 1.15hr virtual event. One per half term of your programme.
- > **4 coaching sessions** – 2hr per group coaching sessions, structured to support with application of insight and strategies to challenges of their context, motivation through accountability commitments.

Please consider the above to ensure you can commit to taking part in all aspects of programme delivery. You must achieve 90% attendance and engagement with all components of the programme to complete your qualification.

Question: *'I understand that if my Delivery Partner is outside of my region, I may need to travel outside of my region to attend events and sessions'*

Your Delivery Partner may arrange events and sessions in different locations including venues that are to accommodate the majority of participants but may require further travel for some participants. If you are completing the programme with Ambition, you will be invited to events in the nearest location to you but this may require some travel.

National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH)

This programme follows the [Department for Education's National Professional Qualification \(NPQ\): Headship Framework](#)

Eligibility

- > Employed in a state-funded school in England
- > Must be at senior leadership level or above
- > Must have recently taken on, or aspire to take on, a headship role

Programme Overview

In this 18-month programme, you develop the knowledge that underpins expert school leadership and apply it to becoming an outstanding headteacher. The programme uses the latest evidence-based school leadership methods and shows you how to put your findings into practice and drive change in your school setting. It also gives you the opportunity to focus on specific headship challenges in your school or trust.

Application Form

Question: *'Using the guidance document, please explain briefly how your role allows you to access and practise the learning of the NPQ of your choice.'*

When answering this question, please explain your role in the school and how this relates to the programme. If you are not currently in a headship role, please explain how your school/trust will allow you to apply and practise the learning.

If you are currently in a headship role, please state how many academic years you have been in post. If this is less than one academic year, please state in months.

Question: *'I understand I am committing to take part in the NPQ which requires independent work, virtual and face to face delivery.'*

The programme consists of:

- > **2x 1-day Conference** - A face-to-face event which may require you to travel to the venue
- > **Insight and application modules** - A blend of independent work and working/meeting with a 'buddy,' which can be done virtually. You will need to commit to 50 minutes per week.
- > **9 clinics** - A 2hr virtual or face to face event. One per half term of your programme.
- > **5 Communities** – A 1.15hr virtual event. One per half term of your programme.
- > **1 School Visit** – A visit to view the workings of a school beyond your own, with a focus on a particular aspect.

Please consider the above to ensure you can commit to taking part in all aspects of programme delivery. You must achieve 90% attendance and engagement with all components of the programme to complete your qualification.

Question: *'I understand that if my Delivery Partner is outside of my region, I may need to travel outside of my region to attend events and sessions'*

Your Delivery Partner may arrange events and sessions in different locations including venues that are to accommodate the majority of participants but may require further travel for some participants. If you are

completing the programme with Ambition, you will be invited to events in the nearest location to you but this may require some travel.

Early Headship Coaching Offer

Eligibility

- > Employed in a state-funded school in England
- > Must be a current headteacher in their first 5 years of headship
- > Must be completing, or have already completed, an NPQH

Programme Overview

In this 12-month programme, you will get support to settle in to your new post by giving you access to coaching and toolkit of resources to help you thrive as a leader. Ambition has designed this new support offer to accompany the new NPQ for Headship. We've distilled all the latest evidence to help you put it into practice in your school setting.

Application Form

Question: *'Using the guidance document, please explain briefly how your role allows you to access and practise the learning of the NPQ of your choice.'*

If you are currently in a headship role, please state how many academic years you have been in post. If this is less than one academic year, please state in months.

Question: *'I understand I am committing to take part in the NPQ which requires independent work, virtual and face to face delivery.'*

The programme consists of:

- > 3 x 1-hour coaching sessions
- > Pre- and post-coaching activities
- > Shadowing opportunities
- > Access to peer communities of practice

Please consider the above to ensure you can commit to taking part in all aspects of programme delivery. We recommend completing at least 90% attendance and engagement with all components of the programme to make the most of its offer. Please be aware that if you withdraw from the programme, you will no longer be eligible for funding in later cohorts.

Question: *'I understand that if my Delivery Partner is outside of my region, I may need to travel outside of my region to attend events and sessions'*

Your Delivery Partner may arrange events and sessions in different locations including venues that are to accommodate the majority of participants but may require further travel for some participants. If you are completing the programme with Ambition, you will be invited to events in the nearest location to you but this may require some travel.

National Professional Qualification for Senior Leaders (NPQSL)

This programme follows the Department for Education's [National Professional Qualification \(NPQ\): Senior Leadership Framework](#)

Eligibility

- > Employed in a state-funded school in England
- > Must be at middle leadership level or above
- > Must be in, or preparing to take on, a senior leadership role with cross-school responsibilities

Programme Overview

In this 18-month programme, you develop your leadership knowledge and expertise to improve outcomes for teachers and pupils in your school. The programme uses the latest evidence-based learning and shows you how to put your findings into practice in your school setting. It also gives you the opportunity to focus on specific leadership challenges in your school or trust.

Application Form

Question: *'Using the guidance document, please explain briefly how your role allows you to access and practise the learning of the NPQ of your choice.'*

When answering this question, please explain your role in the school and how this relates to the programme. If you are not currently in a senior leadership role, please explain how your school will allow you to apply and practise the learning.

Question: *'I understand I am committing to take part in the NPQ which requires independent work, virtual and face to face delivery.'*

The programme consists of:

- > **2x 1-day Conference** - A face-to-face event which may require you to travel to the venue
- > **Insight and application modules** - A blend of independent work and working/meeting with a 'buddy,' which can be done virtually. You will need to commit to 50 minutes per week.
- > **7 clinics** - A 2hr virtual or face to face event. One per half term of your programme.
- > **5 Communities** – A 1hr virtual event. One per half term of your programme.

Please consider the above to ensure you can commit to taking part in all aspects of programme delivery. You must achieve 90% attendance and engagement with all components of the programme to complete your qualification.

Question: *'I understand that if my Delivery Partner is outside of my region, I may need to travel outside of my region to attend events and sessions'*

Your Delivery Partner may arrange events and sessions in different locations including venues that are to accommodate the majority of participants but may require further travel for some participants. If you are completing the programme with Ambition, you will be invited to events in the nearest location to you but this may require some travel.

National Professional Qualification for Leading Behaviour and Culture (NPQLBC)

This programme follows the Department for Education's [National Professional Qualification \(NPQ\): Leading Behaviour and Culture Framework](#)

Eligibility

- > Employed in a state-funded school in England
- > Must have, or aspire to have, responsibility for leading behaviour and/or supporting pupil wellbeing across a school or year group

Programme Overview

In this 12-month programme, you will gain expertise in behaviour management and discover how to create a culture where staff and students can thrive. The programme uses the latest evidence-based learning and shows you how to put your findings into practice in your school setting. You will learn alongside other teachers from schools with similar challenges and circumstances.

Application Form

Question: *'Using the guidance document, please explain briefly how your role allows you to access and practise the learning of the NPQ of your choice.'*

When answering this question, please explain your role in the school and how this relates to the programme. If you do not currently have responsibility for leading behaviour, please explain how your school will allow you to apply and practise the learning.

Question: *'I understand I am committing to take part in the NPQ which requires independent work, virtual and face to face delivery.'*

The programme consists of:

- > **1-day Conference** - A face-to-face event which may require you to travel to the venue
- > **Insight and application modules** - A blend of independent work and working/meeting with a 'buddy,' which can be done virtually. If you have teaching experience, you will need to commit to 50 minutes per week.
If you do not have any teaching experience, this programme is still very relevant to you. However, it will require an additional 18 hours of additional independent work across the programme. The additional work will develop foundational knowledge which will enable a richer understanding of the course materials. Participants who are qualified teachers will have developed this knowledge in most areas through their teacher training - but they may also decide to access the recommended pre-reading if it's an area they feel less confident in.
- > **6 clinics** - A 2hr virtual or face to face event. One per half term of your programme plus 1 additional clinic to attend in-person.
- > **3 Communities** – A 1.15hr virtual event. One per half term of your programme.

Please consider the above to ensure you can commit to taking part in all aspects of programme delivery. You must achieve 90% attendance and engagement with all components of the programme to complete your qualification.

Question: *'I understand that if my Delivery Partner is outside of my region, I may need to travel outside of my region to attend events and sessions'*

Your Delivery Partner may arrange events and sessions in different locations including venues that are to accommodate the majority of participants but may require further travel for some participants. If you are completing the programme with Ambition, you will be invited to events in the nearest location to you but this may require some travel.

National Professional Qualification for Leading Teacher Development (NPQLTD)

This programme follows the [Department for Education's National Professional Qualification \(NPQ\): Leading Teacher Development Framework](#)

Eligibility

- > Employed in a state-funded school in England
- > Have, or aspire to have, responsibilities for leading the development of other teachers in their school. They may have responsibilities for the development of all teachers across a school or specifically trainees or teachers who are early in their career.
- > Must be in, or have been in, a teaching role

Programme Overview

In this 12-month programme, you will gain the knowledge to become a teacher educator and successfully support teachers in your school to expand their skills. The programme uses the latest evidence-based learning and shows you how to put your findings into practice in your school setting. You will train alongside other teachers with similar responsibilities.

Application Form

Question: *'Using the guidance document, please explain briefly how your role allows you to access and practise the learning of the NPQ of your choice.'*

When answering this question, please explain your role in the school and how this relates to the programme. If you do not currently have responsibility for leading teacher development, please explain how your school will allow you to apply and practise the learning (e.g. Contributing to the development to a small group of teachers).

Question: *'I understand I am committing to take part in the NPQ which requires independent work, virtual and face to face delivery.'*

The programme consists of:

- > **1-day Conference** - A face-to-face event which may require you to travel to the venue
- > **Insight and application modules** - A blend of independent work and working/meeting with a 'buddy,' which can be done virtually. You will need to commit to 50 minutes per week.
- > **6 clinics** - A 2hr virtual or face to face event. One per half term of your programme plus 1 additional clinic to attend in-person.
- > **3 Communities** – A 1.15hr virtual event. One per half term of your programme.

Please consider the above to ensure you can commit to taking part in all aspects of programme delivery. You must achieve 90% attendance and engagement with all components of the programme to complete your qualification.

Question: *'I understand that if my Delivery Partner is outside of my region, I may need to travel outside of my region to attend events and sessions'*

Your Delivery Partner may arrange events and sessions in different locations including venues that are to accommodate the majority of participants but may require further travel for some participants. If you are completing the programme with Ambition, you will be invited to events in the nearest location to you but this may require some travel.

National Professional Qualification for Leading Teaching (NPQLT)

This programme follows the Department for Education's [National Professional Qualification \(NPQ\): Leading Teaching Framework](#)

Eligibility

- > Employed in a state-funded school in England
- > Have, or aspire to have, responsibility for leading teaching across a subject, year group, key stage or phase
- > Be in, or have been in, a teaching role

Programme Overview

In this 12-month programme, you will discover what outstanding teaching looks like and use this knowledge to become a high performing leader of teaching. The programme uses the latest evidence-based learning and shows you how to put your findings into practice in your school setting. You will learn alongside other teachers from schools with similar challenges and circumstances.

Application Form

Question: *'Using the guidance document, please explain briefly how your role allows you to access and practise the learning of the NPQ of your choice.'*

When answering this question, please explain your role in the school and how this relates to the programme. If you do not currently have responsibility for leading teaching, please explain how your school will allow you to apply and practise the learning.

Question: *'I understand I am committing to take part in the NPQ which requires independent work, virtual and face to face delivery.'*

The programme consists of:

- > **1-day Conference** - A face-to-face event which may require you to travel to the venue
- > **Insight and application modules** - A blend of independent work and working/meeting with a 'buddy,' which can be done virtually. You will need to commit to 50 minutes per week.
- > **6 clinics** - A 2hr virtual or face to face event. One per half term of your programme plus 1 additional clinic to attend in-person.
- > **3 Communities** – A 1.15hr virtual event. One per half term of your programme.

Please consider the above to ensure you can commit to taking part in all aspects of programme delivery. You must achieve 90% attendance and engagement with all components of the programme to complete your qualification.

Question: *'I understand that if my Delivery Partner is outside of my region, I may need to travel outside of my region to attend events and sessions'*

Your Delivery Partner may arrange events and sessions in different locations including venues that are to accommodate the majority of participants but may require further travel for some participants. If you are completing the programme with Ambition, you will be invited to events in the nearest location to you but this may require some travel.

National Professional Qualification for Early Years Leadership (NPQEYL)

This programme follows the Department for Education's [National Professional Qualification \(NPQ\): Early Years Leadership Framework](#)

Eligibility

- > Qualified to at least level 3
- > Are or aspiring to be
 - > Managers of private, voluntary and independent nurseries
 - > Staff in school-based or maintained nurseries or with leadership responsibility
 - > Childminders with leadership responsibilities

Programme Overview

In this 18-month programme, you will develop expertise in early years leadership, helping to give all children up to the age of five the best possible start in life. The programme uses the latest evidence-based learning and shows you how to put your findings into practice in your early years setting. You will learn alongside other leaders from settings with similar challenges and circumstances.

Application Form

Question: *'Using the guidance document, please explain briefly how your role allows you to access and practise the learning of the NPQ of your choice.'*

When answering this question, please explain your role in the school and how this relates to the programme. If you do not currently have responsibility for leading teaching, please explain how your school will allow you to apply and practise the learning.

Question: *'I understand I am committing to take part in the NPQ which requires independent work, virtual and face to face delivery.'*

The programme consists of:

- > **2x 1-day Conference** – A face-to-face event which may require you to travel to the venue
- > **Insight and application modules** - A blend of independent work and working/meeting with a 'buddy,' which can be done virtually. You will need to commit to 50 minutes per week.
- > **8 clinics** - A 2hr virtual or face to face event. One per half term of your programme.
- > **5 communities** – A 1hr virtual event. One per half term of your programme.

Please consider the above to ensure you can commit to taking part in all aspects of programme delivery. You must achieve 90% attendance and engagement with all components of the programme to complete your qualification.

Question: *'I understand that if my Delivery Partner is outside of my region, I may need to travel outside of my region to attend events and sessions'*

Your Delivery Partner may arrange events and sessions in different locations including venues that are to accommodate the majority of participants but may require further travel for some participants. If you are completing the programme with Ambition, you will be invited to events in the nearest location to you but this may require some travel.

National Professional Qualification for Leading Literacy (NPQLL)

This programme follows the Department for Education's [National Professional Qualification \(NPQ\): Leading Literacy Framework](#)

Eligibility

- > Have, or is aspiring to have, responsibilities for leading literacy across a group of schools, school, year group, key stage, subject or phase.

Programme Overview

In 12 months, you will learn the essential knowledge and skills to effectively lead high quality, literacy development and teaching in your school.

Application Form

Question: *'Using the guidance document, please explain briefly how your role allows you to access and practise the learning of the NPQ of your choice.'*

When answering this question, please explain your role in the school and how this relates to the programme. If you do not currently have responsibility for leading literacy, please explain how your school will allow you to apply and practise the learning.

Question: *'I understand I am committing to take part in the NPQ which requires independent work, virtual and face to face delivery.'*

The programme consists of:

- > **1-day Conference** - A face-to-face event which may require you to travel to the venue
- > **Insight and application modules** - A blend of independent work and working/meeting with a 'buddy,' which can be done virtually. You will need to commit to 50 minutes per week.
- > **6 clinics** - A 2hr virtual or face to face event. One per half term of your programme plus 1 additional clinic to attend in-person.
- > **3 communities** – A 1.15hr virtual event. One per half term of your programme.

Please consider the above to ensure you can commit to taking part in all aspects of programme delivery. You must achieve 90% attendance and engagement with all components of the programme to complete your qualification.

Question: *'I understand that if my Delivery Partner is outside of my region, I may need to travel outside of my region to attend events and sessions'*

Your Delivery Partner may arrange events and sessions in different locations including venues that are to accommodate the majority of participants but may require further travel for some participants. If you are completing the programme with Ambition, you will be invited to events in the nearest location to you but this may require some travel.

National Professional Qualification for Leading Primary Maths (NPQLPM)

This programme follows the Department for Education's [National Professional Qualification \(NPQ\): Leading Primary Mathematics Framework](#)

Eligibility

- > Employed in a state-funded school in England
- > Must be teachers and leaders with responsibility for leading maths or those who want to have this responsibility.
- > Must be teachers and leaders with responsibility for educating a primary aged key-stage or primary school.
- > Must have a secure understanding of mastery approaches to teaching maths from the Teaching for Mastery programme or equivalent programme.

Overview

In this 12-month programme, you'll benefit from our evidence-informed curriculum to help you build your knowledge as a leader of mathematics. The programme uses the latest evidence-based learning and shows you how to put your findings into practice in your school setting. You will learn alongside other teachers from schools with similar challenges and circumstances.

Role Information

Question: *Have you completed at least one year of a Maths Hubs Teaching for Mastery programme (coordinated by the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics)?*

You can find out more about the [Teaching for Mastery programme here](#). If you have not done this programme, don't worry, you'll have the opportunity to explain your maths mastery training in the next question.

Question: *If you have answered No to the above question, you will be asked to explain the teaching for mastery programme equivalent or maths mastery training you have accessed (150 words minimum)*

Please provide the name of training you have engaged with and explain the features of maths mastery you have a good understanding of. This may include (but is not limited to):

- An understanding of how to design curriculum that is coherent and sequences essential content to support sustained progression over time.
- Lesson design that links to prior learning to ensure pupils can access the new learning and can identify carefully sequenced steps in progression to build a secure understanding.
- Teaching through questioning, tasks, explanations, demonstrations and discussions enables pupils to think, reason and apply their knowledge to solve problems.
- Use of precise mathematical language to enables all pupils to communicate their reasoning and thinking effectively.
- If a pupil fails to grasp a concept or procedure this is identified quickly and gaps in understanding are addressed systematically to prevent them falling behind.

Application Form

Question: *'Using the guidance document, please explain briefly how your role allows you to access and practise the learning of the NPQ of your choice.'*

When answering this question, please explain your role in the school and how this relates to the programme, i.e. what does leading maths look like for you currently or what are your aspirations to become a leader of mathematics?

Question: *'I understand I am committing to take part in the NPQ which requires independent work, virtual and face to face delivery.'*

The programme consists of:

- > **1-day Conference** - A face-to-face event which may require you to travel to the venue.
 - > **Insight and application modules** - A blend of independent work and working/meeting with a 'buddy,' which can be done virtually. You will need to commit to 50 minutes per week.
 - > **6 clinics** - A 2hr virtual or face to face event. One per half term of your programme plus 1 additional clinic to attend in-person.
 - > **3 Communities** – A 1.15hr virtual event. One per half term of your programme. Please consider the above to ensure you can commit to taking part in all aspects of programme delivery.
- You must achieve 90% attendance and engagement with all components of the programme to complete your qualification.

Question: *'I understand that if my Delivery Partner is outside of my region, I may need to travel outside of my region to attend events and sessions'*

Your Delivery Partner may arrange events and sessions in different locations including venues that are to accommodate the majority of participants but may require further travel for some participants. If you are completing the programme with Ambition, you will be invited to events in the nearest location to you, but this may require some travel.