

NPQ suitability

This guidance is to support you in matching participants to the most appropriate NPQ.

(Note: these lists are not exhaustive)			
Specialist NPQs	Suitable for	Example roles	Not suitable for
Leading Teaching (NPQLT) In 12 months, you will discover what outstanding teaching looks like and use this knowledge to become a high performing leader of teaching	Must be a teacher who has, or is aspiring to have, responsibilities for leading teaching in a subject, year group, key stage or phase. Participants must be in, or have been in, a teaching role.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Year group leader Subject leader Key stage/phase leader Head of department Class teacher Head of Geography Head of Outdoor Learning Head of Phase > Those that directly manage a team of teachers and their work is focussed on supporting effective teaching across a school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Early Career Teachers (ECTs) > Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs) > Non-teaching staff
Leading Behaviour and Culture (NPQLBC) In 12 months, you will gain expertise in behaviour management and discover how to create a culture where staff and pupils can thrive.	Must be a teacher who has, or is aspiring to have, responsibilities for leading behaviour and/or supporting pupil wellbeing in your school. Participants do not have to be in a teaching role to do this NPQ.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Pastoral lead Head of behaviour Assistant/deputy head Headteacher SENDCO Head of Year Safeguarding Lead Head of House Class teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Early Career Teachers (ECTs) > Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs)
Leading Teacher Development (NPQLTD) In 12 months, you will gain the knowledge to become a teacher educator and successfully support teachers in your school to expand their skills.	Must be a teacher who has, or is aspiring to have, responsibility for leading other educators to develop. You might support the development of all teachers in your school, trainees or those early in their career. Participants must be in, or have been in, a teaching role.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Head of teaching development/CPD Year group leader Subject leader Key stage/phase leader Head of department Assistant/deputy head Headteacher Head of ITT Head of department Second in Maths Class teacher > May indirectly manage a team of mentors or coaches and their work is focussed on supporting ITT, ECTs as well as wider development of all colleagues across the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Early Career Teachers (ECTs) > Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs) > Non-teaching staff

Important notes:

- > Participants can also complete the NPQ if they are working across schools (i.e. they do not work in one particular school), however, they will not be eligible for DfE funding.
- > It is important to set expectations before participants apply: although we believe that all participants will benefit and gain value from completing an NPQ, the curriculum is designed based on participants being in a classroom. Therefore, participants not in a teaching role may need to do further reading or reflection to make the most of the content.
- > Participants do not need to have Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) to complete an NPQ; however, they must still meet the criteria above. If they are suitable, but don't have QTS, please follow [this guidance](#) to get a Teacher Reference Number (TRN).

(Note: these lists are not exhaustive)			
Leadership NPQs	Suitable for	Example roles	Not suitable for
Senior Leadership (NPQSL) This 18-month programme helps you develop your leadership knowledge and expertise to improve outcomes for teachers and pupils in your school.	Must be, or are aspiring to be, a senior leader with cross-school responsibilities . Participants must be at middle leadership or above currently.	> Assistant Headteacher/Associate Assistant Headteacher Deputy Headteacher/Vice Principal Head of Faculty/Department/Subject Head of Year Head of Early Years Second in Maths SENCO Head of ITT Head of primary key stage/Head of Early Years	> ECT > Class teacher > Headteacher > Executive headteacher
Headship (NPQH) Within 18 months, you will develop the knowledge that underpins expert school leadership and apply it to become an outstanding headteacher.	Must be, or aspire to be, a headteacher or head of school with a responsibility for leading a school . Participants must be at senior leadership level or above currently.	> Headteacher Head of School Director of Teaching School Deputy Headteacher/Vice Principal Assistant Headteacher / Vice Principal	> ECT Primary Teacher SENCO > Literacy coordinator/Class teacher/Maths subject lead/Specialist Leader of Education (Junior School) > Director of Learning for any subject/Head of department/Head of primary key stage/Head of Early Years
Executive Leadership (NPQEL) In 18 months, you will develop the expertise you need to become an outstanding executive leader, leading change and improvement across your group of schools or multi-academy trust.	Must be a school leader who is, or is aspiring to be, an executive headteacher or have a school trust CEO role with responsibility for leading several schools . Participants must be in a headteacher role or above currently.	> Executive Headteacher Headteacher/Principal CEO (in first year)	> Class teacher > Head of ITT > Deputy Head > Assistant head > ECT
Important notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Participants can also complete the NPQ if they are working across schools (i.e. they do not work in one particular school), however, they will not be eligible for DfE funding. > It is important to set expectations before participants apply: although we believe that all participants will benefit and gain value from completing an NPQ, the curriculum is designed based on participants being in a school. Therefore, participants not in a single school may need to do further reflection to make the most of the content. > Participants do not need to have Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) to complete an NPQ; however, they must still meet the criteria above. If they are suitable, but don't have QTS, please follow this guidance to get a Teacher Reference Number (TRN). 			