

National Professional Qualifications (NPQs)

Easter 2025 Cohort (Register Your Interest Now—Applications Open February 10th 2025)

Blend of Fully Funded & DfE Scholarship Bursaries available for qualifying settings

Evidence informed, practical and network focused nationally recognised qualifications to support the professional development of teachers, leaders and associate professionals at all levels, and deliver improved outcomes for young people.

Learners First is delighted to be a delivery partner of the University College London's (UCL), 'outstanding' Institute of Education. As a successful NPQ Delivery Partner, Learners First is committed to continuing to deliver the highest quality professional development and networking opportunities for leaders, teachers and associate professional colleagues through the DfE's golden thread. The Specialist qualifications offer career routes for those colleagues who want to develop their expertise in specialist areas of teaching practice and pastoral care and Leadership qualifications for school, early years and system leadership (see below for details).

I unexpectedly stepped in to the role of Acting Headship and without clear direction. Without my NPQ training, I would simply not have been in a position to apply for the permanent role, The course content is so clear, concise and relevant. Meeting and talking to colleagues has been such an invaluable opportunity and I really relish this time. In addition, the course materials proved essential when preparing for interview and writing my presentation. Special thanks go to the facilitators for being so generous with their time, experience and helping me prepare. N. Walker NPQH, Derbyshire 2024

Our NPQ Offer Available for Spring (April) 2025

Specialist NPQs Click Here for More Info		Suitable for teachers and leaders currently or aspiring to specialise in a domain area of expertise. <i>Not suitable for ECTs.</i>
12 months duration plus assessment	NPQ Leading Teacher Development (NPQLTD)	learn how to become a teacher educator to successfully support teachers in your area of responsibility or whole school , to expand their skills (suitable for mentors)
	NPQ Leading Teaching (NPQLT)	learn how to develop and lead subject curriculum, pedagogy and assessment within a subject, year group or phase

Leadership NPQs Click Here for More Info		Suitable for teachers, current or aspiring school/trust leaders who are or aspire to operate at a level commensurate with the NPQ standard. NB, NPQSEND can be accessed by participants without Qualified Teacher Status
18 months duration plus assessment	NPQ Senior Leadership (NPQSL)	develop your leadership knowledge and expertise in different domain areas to improve outcomes for teachers, the wider workforce and pupils across your school
	NPQ Headship (NPQH)	develop the knowledge that underpins expert school leadership , including working in partnership and organisational management and apply it to become an outstanding headteacher
	NPQ Executive Leadership (NPQEL) Delivered via UCL only	develop the expertise you need to become an outstanding executive leader, leading sustainable change and improvement at scale across a group of schools or MAT. NB this course is delivered directly by UCL for April 2025

<p>Free Online NPQ Information Briefing</p> <p>Register here</p> <p>If you have any questions, or want to find out more before applying for an NPQ, please choose a date and time to suit you</p>	<p>Why study an NPQ with Learners First Schools Partnership and UCL?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learners First NPQ pass rate is consistently above national averages. • Great networking opportunities with peers and expert facilitators working across Local Authority regions and different school and Trust settings. • High value placed on face to face networking, delivered in the Rotherham area close to M1 exits. • Additional leadership opportunities available to enhance NPQ learning and apply theory into practice.
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See overleaf to Apply

Funding & Costs

NPQ	Scholarship Funding Available	Qualifying Criteria	
NPQ Headship	Yes - Fully Funded for all	Participant must be employed in a state funded school or setting	
NPQ Executive Leadership NPQ Senior Leadership NPQ Early Years Leadership NPQ Leading Teaching NPQ Leading Teacher Development NPQ Leading Behaviour & Culture NPQ Leading Literacy	Yes – Conditions Apply	Participants must be employed in a state funded school or setting which is identified in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the 50% of schools with the highest proportion of students who attract pupil premium funding 16 to 19 educational settings identified as having high disadvantage Highly disadvantaged early years settings (NPQEYL only) 	For non-eligible settings or those without a scholarship, you are still able to study an NPQ. Please see the UCL Website for course costs as per DfE Guidelines
NB: The DfE have agreed a limited number of scholarship funded places nationally so early registration is advised to secure a scholarship			

For more information regarding eligibility and funding for your setting please visit the [DfE Funding Page](#) or contact us on info@learnersfirst.org

NPQ Course Structure & Time Commitment

Our NPQs are a blend of flexible, high quality online learning, coaching, virtual and face-to-face workshops. Each NPQ has an evidence informed curriculum design, connecting participants to the latest research and best practice to apply practically to the workplace. Expert school, setting, trust based and business leaders provide skilful facilitation and national and local networking will support participants' professional development. All Learners Firsts facilitators are experienced NPQ assessors.

	Duration	Blended Structure (Face to face sessions are based in South Yorkshire)	Summative Assessment
All leadership NPQs	18 months plus 8-day window for final assessment	3 x 1 hr Online Self Audits (start of each module) 2 x 5 hrs Induction /Consolidation Conference (start and end of course) 3 x 5hrs Face to Face Days 4 x 3hrs Peer Learning Groups (face to face) 4 x 1 hr Line Manager/Coach Check ins 3 x 1 hr Online discussion forum 39 hrs self-study online at a time to suit you (Total Study Time=75 hrs over 18 months)	1,500-2,500 worded response to a scenario based case study. Open book online submission. 8-day window
All Specialist NPQs	12 months plus 8-day window for final assessment	3 x 1 hr Online Self Audit (start of each module) 1 x 4/5hrs Induction Conference (face to face or online) 27 hrs Self Directed Learning at a time to suit you 1 x 3 hrs Online Learning Community Discussion 3 x 3/4 hrs Peer Learning Group (Face to face) 3 x 1hr Line Manager/Coach Check In (Total Study Time=55 hrs over 12 months)	

Register, Apply or Find Out More...

- Step 1** → **Register your Interest.** Complete your **Expression of Interest** [here with UCL](#) . Please mark your **Delivery Partner** as **Learners First Schools Partnership**
- Step 2** → **Register your Place with the DfE** [here](#) (opens February 10th) stating your Lead Provider as **University College London (UCL)**
Early registration advised to maximise opportunity for scholarship funding
- Step 3** → **Complete & Return Your Application Form** sent to you by UCL stating **Learners First Schools Partnership** as your delivery partner. You will need to nominate a sponsor for your NPQ (for example a line manager or key colleague)
- Step 4** → **Learners First Schools Partnership** as your delivery partner will onboard you to start the course in April 2025