

**From:** [LEADERS\\_System](#)  
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System Leaders Newsletter May 2019



May 2019

## Teaching School Hubs 'test-and-learn' phase – *Application round now open*

Building on the government's first-ever integrated recruitment and retention strategy, launched in January this year, School Systems Minister Lord Agnew, today announced the Teaching School Hubs 'test-and-learn' phase. This is the first part of the Department's plans to review the current structure of system leadership.

Around 2,000 schools are set to benefit from reforms to strengthen and improve system leadership, making it easier for underperforming schools to receive access to high quality, evidence based school improvement support.

During academic year 2019/20, the Department is looking for up to 9 high-achieving lead schools, in up to 9 areas, to take responsibility for delivering high quality school improvement services at scale. They will do this through also sourcing the best specialist support available through locally recognised high quality providers.

Where the prospective Teaching School Hub is an academy, it may seek to have its MAT formally recognised alongside the designated school.

The new Teaching School Hubs will have considerable freedom in shaping delivery of their school improvement offer, but we expect each Teaching School Hub to provide support to around 200 - 300 local schools in three core areas: school-to-school-support; continuing professional development (CPD) including workforce development at all career stages – and teacher recruitment and retention. Further information on Teaching School Hubs, and how to apply, can be found on [Contracts Finder](#). Schools will need to check to see if they are eligible before applying by using the eligibility tool, also available on [Contracts Finder](#).

The application round will close at midday on 26 July. We are committed to ensuring eligible schools have a reasonable length of time during which to work with partners and prepare applications for the 'test-and-learn' phase.

We will be holding a clarification event in June for eligible schools. Email [systemleader.application@education.gov.uk](mailto:systemleader.application@education.gov.uk) to register your interest.

The existing national network of teaching schools outside of the 'test-and-learn' areas will continue to operate during academic year 2019/20 (as usual, funding beyond March 2020 will be confirmed following the forthcoming spending review). Experiences from the 'test-and-learn' phase will be used to inform decisions about any future Teaching School Hubs policy.

## Collaborative Fund Evaluation 2018-19

If your school received Collaborative Fund grant(s) totalling **less than £40,000** during Financial Year 2018-19 (1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019), you should now have received an email from Grant Assurance, requesting that you complete an online grant evaluation. This annual evaluation enables us to provide assurance that grants issued to schools are spent appropriately.

Please note that we have launched the new [portal](#) on gov.uk, which has now replaced the previous system.

All evaluation evidence must be completed and submitted by 11:59pm on **Friday 28 June 2019**. No further payments of grants will be issued until this has been completed in full, in line with guidance provided, and returned to DfE.

If your school received less than £40,000 in FY 2018-19, and has not yet received an invite to access the new [portal](#), please contact [Grant.Assurance@education.gov.uk](mailto:Grant.Assurance@education.gov.uk).

## Annex G Certificate of Expenditure – FY 2017-18 and/or FY 2018-19

If your school received **£40,000 or more** in Collaborative Fund grant funding during FY 2017-18 (1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018) **and/or** FY 2018-19 (1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019), you should now have received a request via email to complete an independently audited Annex G Certificate of Expenditure **and auditor's report**.

This Annex G exercise is a requirement of the Grant Funding Agreement. The deadline for the return is **Friday 28 June 2019**, to ensure that you have sufficient time to procure the services of an external auditor.

If you believe that you have not yet received the commissioning email, or you have any questions prior to submitting the completed return, please contact [Grant.Assurance@education.gov.uk](mailto:Grant.Assurance@education.gov.uk), including your **URN & school name** in the subject line.

## Other news

### **Academy and school governance: professional development**

The Department for Education provides free professional development to governing boards in maintained schools and academies. This training covers the skills and knowledge that governors, trustees and clerks require, as outlined in the Department's published competency frameworks.

The governance leadership programme is available to those in governance leadership roles, like chairs, vice chairs or committee chairs.

The governance clerking programme is available to all school, academy or trust board clerks, including new clerks, who are currently supporting one or more boards.

There are seven providers delivering this training across the country. Each provider's offer, including the duration of the programme, may be different, so applicants should consider which programme would best suit their requirements.

For details and how to apply go to [www.gov.uk/guidance/school-governors-professional-development](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/school-governors-professional-development)

### **Enrol now: Teaching and Leadership Innovation Fund (TLIF) professional development programmes**

The [Teaching and Leadership Innovation Fund](#) (TLIF) provides free CPD opportunities for teachers and leaders in Ofsted judged requires improvement or inadequate schools, located within either one of the [12 opportunity areas](#) or [category 5 and 6 local authority districts](#).

The TLIF programmes currently recruiting for 2019 are aimed at increasing existing teachers' skills, confidence and knowledge in a range of areas including leadership, career progression, managing challenging pupil behaviour and geography.

Enrol now for programmes with the following providers:

- **Teach First** – school leader development programme
- **Tom Bennett Training** – behaviour management programme
- **The Geographical Association and Association for Science Education** – geography and science programme for both primary and secondary teachers
- **Ambition Institute (formerly Institute for Teaching)** – teacher development programme

Search the [provider overview](#) to find out more about the programmes and the areas of England covered. To apply for a programme, contact the provider directly.

Please contact [mailbox.TLIF@education.gov.uk](mailto:mailbox.TLIF@education.gov.uk) with any questions.

### **Teacher Subject Specialism Training**

Do you have non-specialist teachers teaching secondary mathematics, core maths, physics or modern foreign languages?

Many teachers and schools have already benefitted from Teacher Subject Specialism Training (TSST) over the past 3 academic years and courses are still available for 2018/19, please visit [teacher subject specialism training courses](#) for information about courses available in your area.

TSST:

- Is free
- Increases subject knowledge and confidence
- Is flexible - many courses running in the evening or weekend
- Can help with timetable planning and vacancy management

We would like to share the experience of Tom, a PE teacher who trained to teach maths. You can read his [blog on taking on a new challenge – making the move from PE to maths](#).

### **Now Teach - bringing experienced professionals into teaching**

Now Teach is a programme that is uniquely tailored to support trainees as they change profession and redeploy their talent and experience in the classroom. Now Teach have candidates ready to be screened and placed in the West Midlands, East Anglia and the South East.

Candidates have significant experience as leaders in a variety of sectors. Now Teach places them in partner schools, supports them through their training and connects them to a professional network that amplifies their impact and accelerates their progress.

Now Teach focuses on recruiting professionals who are motivated to teach those subjects for which there is the greatest need: 58% of the 2018 cohort are STEM teachers and 17% are modern foreign languages teachers. However, they do have candidates from a variety of subjects.

For providers interested in getting involved, please visit [Now Teach](#).

For further information, email [info@nowteach.org.uk](mailto:info@nowteach.org.uk).

### **The Chairs Programme - an opportunity to recruit subject-expert trainees**

As part of the drive to increase the number of maths, physics and wider EBacc subject expert-teachers, The Brilliant Club recruits postdoctoral researchers to train and teach across the country through the Researchers in Schools programme.

From 2019, the programme is recruiting trainees to both the School Direct Fee and Salaried routes. The

programme is seeking placement schools in the following areas to host participants from September 2019: Cambridge, Bristol, Leeds, Manchester, Nottingham, Sheffield.

To view details, please visit [The Brilliant Club](#) and [Researchers in Schools](#).

For further information, email [amy.emery@researchersinschools.org](mailto:amy.emery@researchersinschools.org) or call 07474 214460.

#### **Transition to Teach - bespoke support for career changers**

Transition to Teach is a new programme offered in the East Midlands and North of England, designed to promote teaching to professionals interested in changing careers and using their transferable skills to inspire the next generation.

The programme does not provide initial teacher training, but instead aims to work in collaboration with ITT providers to offer an additional layer of bespoke support and guidance that helps this group successfully transition into a new career. Partner ITT providers could therefore benefit from:

- support with recruitment initiatives
- support with assessment
- advice and support on maximising the previous experience of each participant for the benefit of pupils
- improved retention due to the additional layer of personalised wraparound support that participants receive

We are looking for partners across our regions but are particularly interested in hearing from potential partner ITT providers and schools across Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and the North East.

For further information, please visit [Transition to Teach](#) or email [info@transitiontoteach.co.uk](mailto:info@transitiontoteach.co.uk).

#### **Teach First – finding high calibre, resilient and talented teachers**

If you are looking for an easy and reliable way to recruit and train new teachers, the Teach First rigorous selection process guarantees high calibre candidates, with over 95% graduating with a first class or 2:1 degree. The programme also supports career changers to take up teaching, bringing transferable skills and expertise into classrooms across England.

As one of the most popular graduate schemes, Teach First provides training rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted and trainees complete a two-year Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) in parallel QTS and NQT training.

To find out how they work in partnership with schools, ensuring they also play a key role in shaping the initial training and development of trainees, [watch this short video](#).

As an education charity, Teach First targets schools that will benefit most from their support. To find out whether your school is eligible and to register your interest for new trainee teachers, visit [Teach First](#).

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