


Shropshire and Telford
Education Partnership

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School led, **T**ransformative, **E**xcellence in **P**artnership

Please click on the title below to move directly to this area within the newsletter:

[National Professional Qualification Section](#)

[Early Career Framework and Appropriate Body Section](#)

[Initial Teacher Training Section](#)

[Continuing Profession Development Section](#)

Here at STEP we continue to deliver a ONE STOP service for our schools, ensuring confidence that experienced, local experts are delivering our programmes bespoke to our Shropshire and Telford context. Working together as a teaching school hub we are recognised in the West Midlands for our joined up positive partnership.



National Professional Qualification (NPQ) News



Apply for an NPQ

Don't miss your opportunity to apply for the fully funded NPQs 2024. There is no guarantee funding will be available next year.

Shropshire and Telford Leaders embrace their new learning through the NPQs.

The Alliance of Leading Learning continue to deliver exemplary NPQs to leaders across Shropshire and Telford. The full suite of **Fully Funded NPQ** programmes is delivered **locally for STEP**.

OUR SUCCESS IN THE STEP REGION

- 169 NPQ participants across the full suite of NPQs. Surpassing our KPI of 156.
- 100% retention rate.
- 99% satisfaction rate.
- 98% pass rate.
- 58% repeat business – the highest for the licence LLSE.

Quality assurance processes, run by LLSE / Teach First, that deem all our facilitators are highly effective.

STEP have trained to date 320 local leaders. This is positive across 249 schools but also indicates that there is likely to be a significant demand for NPQs from the area in future years.

Don't miss your opportunity to apply for the fully funded NPQs 2024. There is no guarantee funding for programmes or the Targeted Support funding for Small Schools will be available next year.

The NPQs remain fully funded with **Targeted Support Funding for Small Schools (less than 600 pupils)**

The Department has updated the Targeted Support Fund offer for the 2023 to 2024 academic year to further incentivise state-funded schools and state-funded 16 to 19 educational settings in England to participate in NPQs.

For each teacher or leader they employ who takes an NPQ in the 2023 to 2024 academic year:

- state-funded primary schools with one to 150 pupils will receive a grant payment of £800
 - state-funded primary schools with more than 150 pupils will receive a grant payment of £200
 - state-funded secondary schools and state-funded 16 to 19 educational settings with one to 600 pupils will receive a grant payment of £200
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Join our success story and ensure real impact on your school performance.

INVEST IN YOURSELF OR YOUR STAFF AND [APPLY HERE](#) FOR YOUR FULLY FUNDED PLACE.

WHERE / WHAT WE DELIVER:

[NPQLT](#) / [NPQLTD](#) / [NPQLBC](#) / [NPQLL](#) / [NPQLPM](#) / [NPQSL/NPQEYL](#)– Delivered in either Telford or Oswestry

[NPQH](#) / [NPQEL](#)– Delivered in Nantwich (5* conferencing facility)

*[NPQLL](#) and [NPQEYL](#) – applicants follow this [link](#).

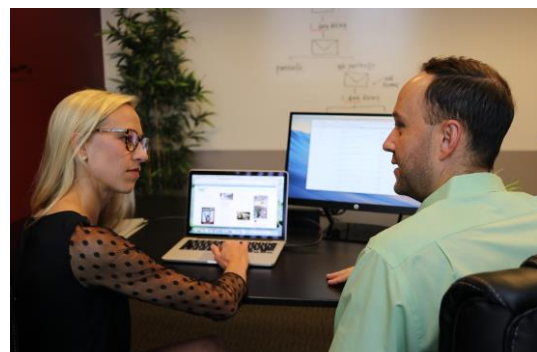
Apply for an NPQ

Don't miss your opportunity to apply for the fully funded NPQs 2024. There is no guarantee funding will be available next year.

Applications for our 2024 cohorts remain open until 15th January 2024. But to avoid missing this opportunity to start your high-quality leadership journey apply NOW .There is no better time to apply and secure your place on our highly reputable programmes whilst the Department for Education full funding remains. For more information on funding please [click here](#)

For more information contact: Gemma Hargreaves, NPQ Strategic Lead – gemma.hargreaves@leadinglearning.co.uk or visit the Alliance of Leading Learning's website – leadinglearning.co.uk

Early Career Framework and Appropriate Body News



Class of July 2023 - Congratulations!

Our first cohort successfully completed ECF induction with STEP in the summer term. ECTs, their mentors, Induction Tutors and Head Teachers engaged positively with us to transition

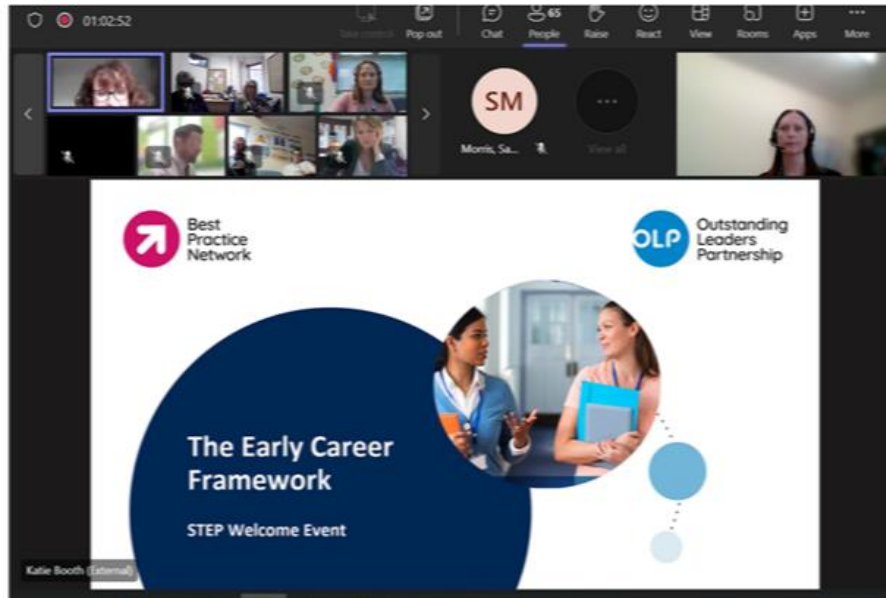
away from the previous NQT system and get the most from the new Early Career Framework. We are very proud to celebrate their achievements here and wish them every success for the future.

Individual graduations continue to occur for late starters as we progress through the new academic year which is always a joy, so congratulations to all!

Appropriate Body Welcome

As we move towards Teaching School Hubs being sole providers for AB services by September 2024, our team have worked closely with Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Local Authorities to successfully transfer ECT registrations ready for the current academic year. We welcome all of our new participants and were pleased to meet many ECF partners, both existing and new, during our Welcome event, 27th September 2023. It was fantastic to see so many participants attend and listen to speakers including: Alison Pope, Head Teacher at The Priory School, the lead school for AB and ECF Services, Samantha Morris, Associate Assistant Principal at Ercall Wood Academy, who shared some useful tips for effectively managing the induction phase, as well as Katie Booth, Best Practice Network Lead Facilitator, who outlined the CPD element of the ECF for us. If you were unable to attend this event then you can access the recording via our website at: [Shropshire and Telford Education Partnership - ECF/AB \(stepwm2.co.uk\)](https://stepwm2.co.uk)

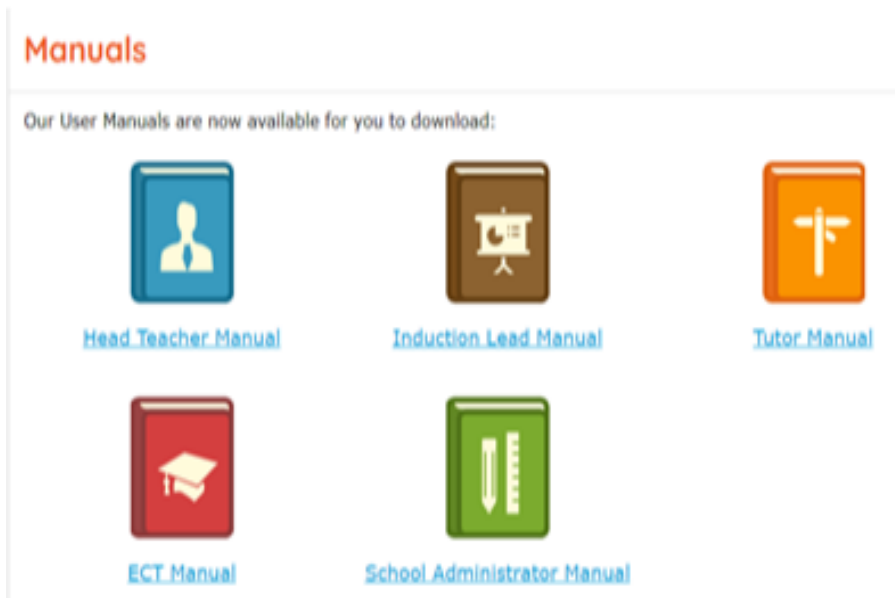




ECT Manager goes live!

We have now completed the transition from the old STEP Portal to our new online Appropriate Body management system [ECT Manager](#). This system allows for easier navigation of all aspects of the ECT Induction process and we appreciate Induction Tutors working through the registration processes on this new system in recent months. We are now eagerly awaiting our first set of progress reviews and assessments in December.

Although ECT manager is quite intuitive to use, there are lots of helpful guides to support different users, from ECT to Head Teacher, which can be found under the 'Helpdesk' heading under 'User Manuals'. Or, if you have a more specific issue, just click the red 'Help and Support' button, which directs your query straight through to the AB team.



Drop-ins

It was lovely to meet a number of ECTs during our first ECT Drop-in event of the year on Monday 13th November. This informal Teams call allowed ECTs to say hello to me, as the new Strategic Lead, share their experiences of induction so far and ask any questions they might have had to provide reassurance that they are on the right track.

A similarly informal meeting was held with Induction Tutors on Wednesday 15th November where again, faces could be put to names, questions answered and guidance provided to support the completion of Progress Reviews and Assessment Reports in ECT Manager.

Our next Drop-in sessions are scheduled for Tuesday 20th February for ECTs and Wednesday 21st February for ITs, but please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions in the meantime as we are here to support you.

Registration for Spring 2023 cohort now open!

Any new ECTs and their Mentors joining your schools now will be placed into the Spring 2023 cohort who will commence their ECF training in February 2023. We are very happy to announce that these online-only sessions will this year be run by STEP facilitators within our local region. Please refer to our website for details of how to register: [Shropshire and Telford Education Partnership - ECF/AB \(stepwm2.co.uk\)](https://stepwm2.co.uk)

Initial Teacher Training News



Another Successful Year

The Graduation Ceremony celebrating the achievements of our last cohorts was held recently at ST Chads Church in Shrewsbury. This year's Associate Teachers (students) both Primary and Secondary across all our Alliances, working together as part of STEP, are nearing the end of their first placements in local schools. They progress well thanks to the support that they receive from the schools and staff that work with them. The high quality balance of school experiences and facilitated sessions delivered by The University of Chester and Alliance staff are supporting them on their route to becoming high quality teachers.

Working with the University of Chester

Following their successful accreditation as a Teacher Training provider. Government requirements mean that teacher training is changing in 2024. School Direct has been replaced by the Lead Partner route.

The PGCE Lead School Partner Route (previously part of the University of Chester's School

Direct programme) enables you to work within a school and train in the classroom supported by qualified teachers and mentors. The intention of the programme is for schools to recruit and educate candidates in subject and age phases most in need of employment, allowing Lead Partners to tailor the Initial Teacher Education (ITE) programme to the needs of the schools, staff, children and families within the communities they serve. The programme is delivered in partnership with the University which means your training is delivered by both your Lead Partners and the University of Chester; during the programme you will spend a number of days studying with The University of Chester as you progress towards Masters level credits in addition to the training and school experiences provided to you through your Partner. On successful conclusion of the Lead Partner Route you will be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) and Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).

All the Alliances are now welcoming applications from suitable candidates to train with them next year.

The application process can be accessed through www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training with the gateway open with advice on the application process and application form.

If you require further information and the dates of future information sessions, please visit www.stepwm2.co.uk and click on the ITT area.

Continuing Professional Development News



FUTURE IN MIND PLANNING for 2023-2024

We are delighted to be working with 126 partners for Future in Mind this year.

Following your feedback on the mental health issues your staff, children and young people are facing each and every day, the following aspects have been identified for the academic year

2023-2024.

Shropshire and Telford

Autumn 2023 – 21st November(Telford) and 28th November(Shropshire) 2023

Understanding and supporting children with Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) – run by Shropshire Education Psychology Service

A full day's training will include an exploration of:

- What EBSA is
- The current, more accurate terminology
- The 4 functions of EBSA
- More thorough assessments as part of the APDR (Assess, Plan, Do, Review) process
- Tools and strategies to gain child voice
- A shared understanding of what it is about school which is being avoided
- Effective plans co-produced to avoid blame.

Spring 2024 – 28th (Shropshire) and 29th (Telford) February 2024

This session will be run by Jody Walshe, an Educational and Child Psychologist and a registered member of the Health and Care Professions Council with expertise in Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT).

Cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) focuses on the role that thoughts play regarding both emotions and behaviour, and advocates that change in thought processes can have a significant effect upon altering behaviours. This is a goal-oriented and specific approach which often results in positive and meaningful change in a short period of time. A range of evidence indicates that CBT is an effective intervention for supporting young people with a range of difficulties.

Training topics will include:

- The theory and principles understanding the cognitive model
- Applying the cognitive model using case studies
- Rationale, process and key considerations
- Resources which delegates can adapt to their specific settings
- Time for delegates to practice key tools and strategies.

Learning outcomes:

- An understanding of CBT as a positive intervention model to support others
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- An understanding of key CBT tools and strategies
- Increased confidence in implementing CBT tools when working with children and young people
- Resources and tools for use in school or a support context.

Shropshire - Summer 2024 – 20th June 2024

Working With Anxiety

This course focuses on the experience of children and young people, based on the most recent evidence and will be run by **Jody Walshe, an Educational and Child Psychologist and a registered member of the Health and Care Professions Council.**

This course gives clear and practical advice to all those who are supporting the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people, including those who may already be vulnerable or experiencing mental health difficulties. The training will support delegates to understand some of the causes of anxiety and the possible resulting behaviours. Delegates will develop strategies and ways of communicating with children and young people to support them to manage their anxiety.

Training topics will include:

- Common signs of anxiety in children and young people
- Exploring tools and strategies which can support children and young people
- Applying techniques through case studies and opportunities to use practical resources.

Learning outcomes:

- Identify anxiety in children and young people
- Recognise the impact of times of crisis and uncertainty on the wellbeing of pupils
- Understand the common signs of anxiety
- Evaluate and implement tools for supporting pupils to manage anxiety within an education setting
- Identify trusted resources for use with pupils in an education setting.

Telford - Summer 2024 – 12th June

Messages Behind The Behaviour

This training focuses on trauma-informed approaches and applying these to understanding the 'messages behind the behaviour'. This will include the key cause of unmet emotional needs as described by Maslow in his hierarchy of needs: psychological safety, belonging, connectedness, self-esteem and finding purpose and meaning. Each of these emotional needs

will be discussed through the lens of the latest neuroscience and psychological research as relevant to the mental health of young people.

Training topics will include:

- A young person's behaviour that challenges can be an attempt to communicate something.
- Understanding how behaviour communicates messages can help you support a young person and meet their genuine needs.
- Responding to a genuine need will support the child/young person, and you!
- Understanding the psychological rationale behind some of the main behaviour can help with much more effective responses and in deescalating behaviours.
- Practical approaches

Learning outcomes:

- To understand how trauma affects (mis)communication.
- To understand the possible messages behind typically displayed behaviours.
- To explore possible approaches to responding.
- To be able to meet every child's needs.

If you are not yet a partner and would like to join this DfE accredited programme for 2023-2024, please contact sian.deane1@taw.org.uk

DON'T MISS YOUR FINAL CHANCE TO CLAIM THE DfE FUNDED MENTAL HEALTH LEAD COURSE AND JOIN US IN AUTUMN 2023, FUNDING ENDS IN MARCH 2024

We are offering further dates in the autumn term for you to use your DfE funding of £1200 to train your mental health lead. The funding will cease in March 2024.

The cost of the training is £800 and there is £400 toward the cost of cover

- Day 1 - 22nd November
- Day 2: 24th January
- Day 3: 26th February

Or

- Day 1 – 14th March 2024
 - Day 2 – 8th May 2024
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- Day 3 – 17th June 2024

Have you used your grant for the Mental Health Lead and now need to train another? The cost of the training is £800. The provider we are working with has the following discount for subsequent places:

- **50% for training a second lead if the previous lead trained with The Root Of It(Severn) – This would be £400.**
- **30% for training a second lead if the previous lead trained elsewhere –This would be £560.**

"If you feel that one of these discounts apply to you, please contact info@rootofit.com and tell us the previous lead's name and email address so that they can confirm your discount at the time of booking. Retrospective discounts cannot be honoured therefore you must contact them at the time of booking for these to apply."

Please click on the link below to make your booking.

<https://mentalhealthlead.com/course/advanced-mental-health-lead-telford-november-2023-smhl008/>

Updates/Reminders

ECF/AB

Registration for Spring 2023 cohort now open!

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CPD

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NPQ

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Dates for your diary

ECF/AB

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STEP will:

- Work with openness, transparency and collaboratively as a Professional Learning Community in devising and delivering innovative, high quality programmes for school improvement and the quality of teaching and leadership.
- Secure the commitment of our wider communities by developing and maintaining effective partnerships.

Our vision is to work in partnership to be a proven force in assuring uniform, rapid school improvement, driven by our moral purpose to ensure teaching standards continue to rise in our Shropshire and Telford School.

CONTACT

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Shropshire and Telford Education Partnership, STEP

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