

ECF Bulletin

Issue 5 April 2023


**VANTAGE
TEACHING
SCHOOL HUB**
NORTH HUMBER



Welcome to the fifth Early Career Framework (ECF) Bulletin of the academic year 2022/23 from Vantage Teaching School Hub. The purpose of this Bulletin is to share relevant information regarding the Early Career Framework Full Induction Programme with Induction Tutors, Mentors and Early Career Teachers (ECTs). We will circulate these Bulletins at the start of each new module in the Full Induction Programme Calendar.

The ECF Bulletins will begin with an introduction that is relevant to all cohorts and programme members. You will then be signposted to links that will take you to the sections of the Bulletin that are specific to the cohort to which you are a member of.

Important - are you anticipating recruiting any new Y1 ECTs from April 2023 onwards ?

We would be grateful if Induction Tutors could let us know if you are anticipating any new ECTs after Easter so we can plan ahead accordingly. The April cohort can be on boarded onto the full induction programme with Vantage TSH and Teach First from April 17th 2023 until July 2023.

Schools who recruit any new ECTs within this time frame and who wish to on board with us, are invited to register on our website: www.vantagetsh.org or by following link <https://forms.office.com/e/YGijzq7H7q>

e: teachingschoolhub@smchull.org

Induction Tutors need to also register the new ECT and Mentor on the DfE portal under the year, 2022/23: <https://manage-training-for-early-career-teachers.education.gov.uk/>

Please note that new ECTs will need to be registered with an Appropriate Body as well.

Joining our programme as part of the April cohort 2023 means that the format differs slightly compared to those joining in September and January.

ECTs will begin with some aspects of the induction and then move to start Module 1 in the summer term. Rather than completing all of Module 1 in the first half-term, the Induction and Module 1 will be spread out over the summer term and the first half term of the 2023 academic year. In September, they will join the September intake for live seminars along with continuing the self-directed study of module 1. After the autumn half-term, this intake will align with those starting ECF in September and run until the end of the summer term, 2025.

The Easter starters will also be invited to attend a face-to-face induction into Year 1 of the programme together with the new September 2023 starters in September 2023.

Mentors will also be invited to a separate induction event. The dates for these events will be circulated shortly.

If you need any help with the portal or any of the other information covered above, then please let us know.

Joining Zoom Seminars

Please note that there is a section in each of the cohort Bulletins this half term regarding signing in to Zoom seminars. We would like to clarify about attending seminars on a shared screen.

Year 2 Inductions

Updates have been put in the Year 1 September cohort Bulletin section regarding the upcoming inductions into Year 2 of the programme. Please book any Year 1 ECTs and Mentors onto their Y2 induction via our website: www.vantage4sh.org.

Induction Tutor Webinars

Marc Cooper and I will continue to offer termly webinars for Induction Tutors. This term we are offering a series of webinars as explained below to support Induction Tutors with managing the Early Career Framework and the statutory entitlements in their schools.

The first webinar is for Induction Tutors who will have ECTs moving into Year 2 of the ECF programme with us for the first time. The webinar will explain the structure, organisation and expectations for Mentors, ECTs and their schools during Year 2 of statutory induction. This meeting will take place on: Thursday 25th May 2023, 4pm via Teams. An email will be sent to all Induction Tutors with a link to attend this webinar. However some Induction Tutors may not need to attend as they have already had Year 2 ECTs.

The second webinar is a briefing for any new Induction Tutors to support them in onboarding with us onto the ECF Full Induction Programme. This is for schools who are new to our programme and will take place on: Thursday 8th June 2023, 4pm via Teams. This will be advertised on our website but please do pass this information on and our email address if you have any colleagues who have not worked with us before: teachingschoolhub@smchull.org.

The third webinar is our Summer Term webinar as previously advertised and is open to all Induction Tutors. We will give our normal updates and there will be opportunity for your feedback as well. This will take place on: Thursday 15th June 2023, 4pm via Teams.

An email will be sent to all Induction Tutors with a link to attend this webinar

ECF Funding Update

As we are coming to the end of the first cycle of ECTs who will be completing their Statutory Induction at the end of this term, we wanted to give reminders regarding the funding that schools are entitled to.

Please note that we will alert schools via email where Mentor engagement falls below the minimum engagement expectations which can impact on the school receiving the funding as detailed below.

As an addition to this information, the principles underpinning mentoring and scenarios are:

- Mentors are entitled to 2 years of funding to support an ECT
- Where a mentor joins midway through an ECT's programme they are classed as a replacement mentor and NOT a new mentor
- Replacement mentors are still entitled to two years of funding but, in reality they are unlikely to receive this unless they continue to mentor a new ECT as when the current ECT completes the programme they would have no one to mentor – in this scenario, mentors can opt to continue their training without an ECT and funding would be made available
- A mentor can mentor multiple ECTs at a time but will only receive funding once
- Once a mentor has completed their 2 years training, they are no longer eligible for funding
- If a mentor does not complete their 2-year training programme they remain eligible for funding for the time they have not mentored (e.g. if they mentor for 1 year, then stop mentoring but return at a later date, they will be eligible for their final year of funding)
- Part time mentors should have a programme adjustment agreement in place if they are not engaging in the programme full time.

We advised schools in our briefings last Summer term, that they could register new ECF mentors.

Why register new ECF mentors when I already have some undergoing the training who can mentor any existing and new ECTs next year?

If you do register a new mentor for each ECT it means as a school, you:

- Maximise the funding that you receive - £1713.86 per mentor
- Build coaching capacity across school – 20-hour training for ITT quality requirements from 2024
- Supports succession planning – maternity cover, sickness, resignation

If a school chooses to register a new mentor alongside a new ECT then the mentor will be required to complete the ECF mentor training as part of their CPD development including:

- Induction
- 1 hour self-directed study per half term
- 1 hour live webinar per half term

The existing mentor that the school has in this scenario, can take on the weekly mentoring duties of the new ECT in addition to the existing ECT.

Below is a summary from the DfE:

DfE funding for ECF-based training

We support schools with additional funding for ECF-based training. This is paid directly to schools and covers:

- 5% off timetable for early career teachers (ECTs) in year 2 of induction, for induction activities including ECF-based training and mentor sessions
- a dedicated mentor for each ECT, based on 20 hours of mentoring in year 2 of induction

If a school uses a training provider, we also fund:

- training delivered to ECTs by the lead provider or delivery partner, paid directly to lead providers
 - training delivered to mentors by the lead provider or delivery partner, paid directly to lead providers
 - 36 hours of mentor time off timetable for training over 2 years, paid directly to schools
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- Year 1 funding for ECF-based training

Schools receive their core funding through the dedicated schools grant (DSG). We calculate this using the national funding formula (NFF). This funding is primarily based on pupil numbers and characteristics and is allocated by the local authority.

Funding is not 'earmarked' for statutory induction. It's up to headteachers to manage the funding they receive.

Headteachers should use core funding to cover the cost of 10% off timetable for ECTs in year 1 of induction.

Year 2 funding for ECF-based training

We pay this funding directly to schools in the summer of year 2. It covers the cost of giving each ECT:

- 5% off timetable in year 2 of induction
- 20 hours of mentor support in year 2 of induction

We calculate funding using the average hourly rate for mentors and early career teachers, split by region.

<u>Year 2 Funding</u>	<u>England (excluding the London Area)</u>
Rounded cost (per ECT)	£1,200
Rounded cost (per Mentor)	£900
Total	£2,100

We collect data on ECTs and mentors through the school workforce census to minimise the administrative burden on schools.

1. Introduction

Schools using one of the DfE-funded training providers to deliver early career framework (ECF) mentor training will receive backfill payments to cover 36 hours of mentor time off timetable for training per mentor, over 2 years. Year 1 and year 2 refer respectively to the first year and second year of induction for a mentor.

This funding will be made in arrears over 2 payments. The first payment will be made in the summer of year 1, following the start of ECF mentor training, covering 18 hours of mentor time off timetable for training. The second payment for the remaining 18 hours of mentor time off timetable will be made in the summer of year 2 where there has been sustained engagement with the mentor training.

2. Proportionate funding

Funding for eligible mentors working part-time, or for those who commence DfE-funded mentor training slightly later in the academic year, for example January, will be paid in full over 2 payments during the summer of year 1 and the summer of year 2. Funding may be used to support these eligible mentors beyond the 2 academic years. It is for the school to decide how this funding is managed.

Funding for eligible mentors who start their training late in the academic year and are not registered and validated on the DfE's manage training for early career teachers service by 31 May, will receive their payment the following summer.

3. Eligibility

All state-funded institutions where induction can be served and have a mentor signed up and completing DfE-funded provider-led ECF-based mentor training will be eligible for the funding.

5. How DfE checks the eligibility of mentors

If a school uses a DfE-funded training provider to deliver ECF-based mentor training, we have to make sure that all mentors taking part are eligible for funding. We do this by checking mentors' details in the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) records.

When school induction tutors register mentors with DfE using DfE's manage training for early career teachers service we:

- send each mentor an email (so it's important the addresses provided are for active email accounts)
- ask them to sign into our service and tell us their teacher reference number (TRN) or National Insurance number, name and date of birth

We check that the mentor:

- does not have any prohibitions, sanctions or restrictions on their record
- has not previously received funding for ECF-based mentor training

The school induction tutor can sign in to the manage training for early career teachers service to see the status of these eligibility checks.

6. Funding

Eligible institutions will receive 2 payments to enable mentors to have time-off timetable to complete the 36 hours ECF-based mentor training. This will be paid over 2 payments in arrears.

The first payment will be in the summer of year 1. This payment will be based on evidence lead providers share with DfE that the mentor has commenced training. It will fund 18 hours of mentor time off timetable for training.

The second payment for the remaining 18 hours of mentor time off-timetable (36 hours in total) for mentor training will be made in the summer of year 2. This payment will be based on evidence that lead providers share with DfE that there has been sustained engagement with the mentor training.

DfE makes backfill payments directly to institutions or to local authorities to pay maintained schools. The funding amount is calculated using the average hourly rate for mentors and will differ by region:

<u>Mentor time off timetable</u>	<u>England</u>
Payment 1-18hrs (1yr of training)	£856.93
Payment 2-18hrs (1 yr of training)	£856.93
Total (36hrs)	£1713.86

We collect data on mentors through DfE's manage training for early career teachers service to minimise the administrative burden on schools.

7. Payments

The two payments will be made in arrears in the summer of year 1, and the summer of year 2. These payments are based on evidence that lead providers share with DfE and eligible mentors recorded through DfE's manage training for early career teachers service, therefore it's essential that your school submits accurate and up to date information about early career teachers (ECTs) to the service to ensure payments are received.

Mentor Survey

Teach First have asked us to remind Mentors again about the Mentor survey. Mentor responses are extremely valued.

We have created a brief one-page guide for mentors on how to access the survey on Brightspace. Please click on this if you think it will be helpful:

For Year 2/Cohort 2021 Mentors [HERE](#)

For Year 1/Cohort 2022 Mentors [HERE](#)

My Teach First and Brightspace

My Teach First is the home page that you log on to access the ECF Programme. The platform Brightspace is where all of the curriculum materials are housed and this is accessed once you log onto My Teach First.

We are pleased to announce that Teach First have appointed a new team: The Delivery Partner Success Team. We have a Data Manager who is part of this team and is assigned to support Vantage TSH with any Brightspace or data issues.

If you do have any issues with accessing Brightspace or functionality on the platform, our advice is to check all details are correct on the DfE portal in the first instance. Induction Tutors will need to click on this link to access the portal: <https://manage-training-for-early-career-teachers.education.gov.uk/>

Once this has been done, please take a screenshot of the problem on Brightspace and email along with a short explanation to: contactcentre@teachfirst.org.uk

If any issues have not been resolved in a timely manner, then do let us know by emailing: teachingschoolhub@smchull.org and we will aim to support with the resolution of the query through our Data Manager.

We have included a link here to a very useful document to support schools with access issues: ([click here](#))

How Mentors can check on the progress of their ECTs:

A reminder to Mentors about how to check on the progress of your ECT within a Module on Brightspace. The pathway to do so is as follows:

Login to My TeachFirst > Click on ECF2021 (Year 2 ECTs) Click on ECF2022 (Year 1 ECTs) > Click on the chosen Module for ECTs (Do not click on the Module for Mentors) > Click on Audit Users > Select the ECT

You will then be able to see an overview of their engagement in the content of the Module

ECF Mythbuster

The DfE has published new guidance regarding the ECF. This guidance covers the most common questions regarding ECF, and we hope will be a valuable resource for hubs. Please find the links below and please do share these within your networks:

- [ECF induction and training: additional information for early career teachers - Manage training for early career teachers \(education.gov.uk\)](#)
- [ECF induction and training: additional information for school leaders - Manage training for early career teachers \(education.gov.uk\)](#)
- [ECF induction and training: additional information for mentors - Manage training for early career teachers \(education.gov.uk\)](#)

Year 1 ECTs/ Mentors and Induction Tutors 2022/23 (Including those who started their induction in April 2022). Please follow the link here to open the section of the Bulletin that is specific to your cohort: [\(click here\)](#).

Year 2 ECTs/ Mentors and Induction Tutors 2021/22

Please follow the link here to open the section of the Bulletin that is specific to your cohort [\(click here\)](#).

Year 1 ECTs/Mentors and Induction Tutors January Cohort 2022

Please follow the link here to open the section of the Bulletin that is specific to your cohort: [\(click here\)](#).

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Best Wishes

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