

NPQ Bulletin

Issue 1: SUMMER TERM 2023

Headline News !

100% of our specialist NPQ participants were successful in their summative assessment in February 2023. This is a fantastic achievement by our participants and a reflection of the high quality facilitation and professional learning experience that we provide. Congratulations to participants and thank you to our team of highly skilled facilitators from regional schools.



I am delighted to welcome you to the first NPQ Bulletin from the Vantage Teaching School Hub. My name is Sarah Paddock and I am the NPQ Lead for Vantage. My background is in secondary education and I am a lead facilitator on the reformed specialist NPQ programmes. I am currently co-facilitating on one of our MAT led programmes as well as supporting all our facilitators and participants who are completing a NPQ with Vantage TSH.

The purpose of the NPQ Bulletin is to share relevant information regarding the programmes. Included will be key information, hints and tips, upcoming dates as well as suggestions for further reading.

We will circulate these Bulletins at the start of each term.

Useful contacts

Unable to attend a training event: teachingschoolhub@smchull.org

General support and technical issues: npqsupport@edt.org

If you are a Trust or school leader, interested in running a MAT or locality led specialist programme, please contact Marc Cooper, Director of Vantage TSH: mcooper@smchull.org

Dates for your diary

Please see below the upcoming dates for your NPQ

Cohort 2 February 2022

Programme	Programme Lead	Next session	Location
NPQH	Sarah Young	Thursday 25 th May 9.30am – 1.30pm	Venue to be confirmed
NPQSL	Louise Clarkson	Wednesday 24 th May 4pm -6pm	Online via zoom (dial in details will be issued to you)

The indicative dates for the summative assessment for NPQH and NPQSL February 2022 cohort are 6th - 13th September 2023.

Cohort 4 February 2023

Programme	Programme Lead	Next session	Location
NPQH	Sarah Young	Thursday 25 th May 4pm – 6pm	Online via zoom (dial in details will be issued to you)
NPQSL	Louise Clarkson	Wednesday 3 rd May 4pm – 6pm	Online via zoom (dial in details will be issued to you)
NPQEYL	Phillippa Donnelly	<i>There are no face-face sessions or live webinar. Please continue with self-study.</i>	
NPQLBC	Jonathan Chapman	Monday 15 th May 4pm – 6pm	Online via zoom (dial in details will be issued to you)
NPQLT	Rachel Appleyard	Thursday 11 th May 4pm – 6pm	Online via zoom (dial in details will be issued to you)
NPQLL	Jonathon Williams	<i>There are no face-face sessions or live webinar. Please continue with self-study.</i>	

For those participants who are following a MAT led programme, your facilitator will provide you with dates.

The indicative dates for the summative assessments: Specialist NPQs (Feb 2023 cohort) cohort are 1st - 8th February 2024. Leadership NPQs (Feb 2023 cohort) are 4th - 11th September 2024.

Dates are not yet confirmed. EDT will confirm towards the end of each programme.

Hints and tips for efficient self-directed study

Scroll to the bottom of each unit:

When you have completed a unit, open the references and scroll to the bottom of this page. This will tell the NPQ platform that you have completed the unit which is then reflected in the dial on the left of the screen. Failure to do this will not log that you have completed the unit.

Read Aloud function

Use the 'Read Aloud' function on your computer if you find that you need to read something more than once to comprehend it. Busy school leaders are often managing multiple conflicting priorities and this can impact on your cognitive load leading to intrusive thoughts which distract you while you are reading.

NPQ Tea & Talk



NPQ Tea and Talk is a new initiative we are launching that aims to support participants in widening their professional network and collaborating in professional dialogue with other participants. Making time for structured discussion about teacher development can be a helpful way of deepening our knowledge and understanding by hearing the reflections and insights of our peers and considering what works in the context of our own and other settings.

One of the recommendations from Evidence Based Education, who provide the Great Teacher Toolkit is that effective CPD should include opportunities for teachers to collaborate. Our NPQ Tea and Talk is an example of this theory in practice and will support your NPQ learning journey.

Vantage provide a handful of our participants with a bag containing tea, coffee and task them to connect to with other participants and arrange to meet and talk about their experiences of the programme and how they are applying theory to their practice. Participants can meet face to face on arranged school visits or online to involve more people.

If you take a bag away from one of our training events, please send us some pictures or screen shots of your meeting with colleagues and if you have access to Twitter, tweet and copy @VantageTSH and @EdDevTrust in using the hashtags #NPQs #NPQTea&Talk.

Case Study - Horizon MAT Trust led NPQ Leading Teacher Development

Horizon Academy Trust has seven primary schools across Hull and the East Riding. As a former Teaching School, they have a long history of evidence-informed teacher and leader development and are a strategic partner of Vantage Teaching School Hub.

In February 2023 they opted to join our pilot of delivering a Trust led NPQ, opting for the Leading Teacher Development programme. Their motivation was to provide high quality, evidence informed professional development for teachers and leaders across their Trust. They recognised the opportunity to invest in a cadre of staff who would develop a shared language and understanding of the leadership practice that focuses on what makes the greatest difference to children's outcomes - the quality of their teacher. Additionally, they were keen to build further capacity through their NPQ participants which could support the development and delivery of evidence informed Trust wide CPD, aligned to school and Trust improvement priorities.

Working with Vantage TSH, they recruited a cohort of 15 willing colleagues from across their schools and also benefited from £200 DfE targeted support funding per participant for those from schools of fewer than 600 pupils, which could be directed into their CPD budget.

Vantage designated two senior Trust colleagues who jointly deliver each of the 7, 2-hour sessions across the 12 months of the programme. To minimise the impact on workload, Trust leaders agreed to ring fence directed CPD time for the delivery of most of the training. Between each face to face session, participants are engaging in flexible self-directed study using the EDT platform.

The NPQ programmes include a series of micro-implementation tasks (MITs) to provide opportunities for deliberate leadership practice that enables participants to put theory into action. Working with Vantage, these MITs have been refined to align closely with the demands of Trust improvement priorities.

The programme has been well received by Trust leaders and participants alike. Stuart Clark, Leader of Learning at Horizon MAT and one of the programme facilitators is delighted with the impact so far.

"The decision to facilitate the NPQLTD as a trust was wholeheartedly supported by all our schools and the central team. It was seen as an opportunity to create a trust wide group of strong teachers and to help tackle a number of issues currently facing the education sector as a whole.

The schools have committed to releasing and supporting a variety of staff with differing experiences - our current cohort range from assistant heads to those in the earlier stages of their career. We wanted to create a tight cohort of aspiring leaders across the trust who will hopefully stay for the long term and hopefully shape the future of teacher development at Horizon, aligned to our priorities. In terms of retention, we felt this was a good opportunity to not only develop our teacher's skill set, but to show our appreciation of staff by offering them the chance of high-quality, evidence informed CPD.

Already staff are looking at up-to-date research and working effectively with staff from other settings. Participants are beginning to realise where they fit in within the bigger picture of school improvement and are looking at current issues and identifying CPD solutions to tackle outcomes and workload."

If your school or Trust are interested in delivering their own specialist NPQ programme during 2023/24, please contact Marc Cooper, Director of Vantage Teaching School Hub:

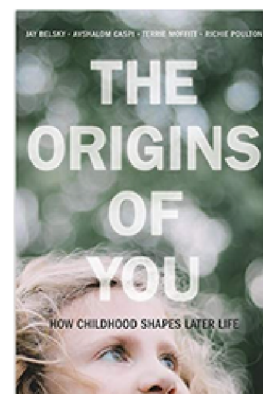
mcooper@smchull.org

Beyond the core content - Research and additional reading

We will share research articles and books that might be of interest to you. Please note that any articles or books that we share which are not included in the NPQ core content framework are not considered by the DfE to be the 'best available evidence'. However, we believe that reading widely can support leaders in developing a deeper understanding of issues that are relevant to curriculum and teacher development.

Modelling evidence-based practice in initial teacher training: causal effects on teachers' skills, knowledge and self-efficacy by Sam Sims, Harry Fletcher-Wood, Thomas Godfrey-Fausset, and Stephanie Meliss.

<https://www.ambition.org.uk/modelling-evidence-based-practice-in-initial-teacher-training/>



The origins of you: How childhood shapes later life

The Dunedin Multidisciplinary Health and Wellbeing Study is probably the most important piece of research conducted into human development. After tracking the lives of thousands of people from birth to midlife, four of the world's pre-eminent psychologists reveal what they have learned about how humans develop. This book provides robust evidence on early childhood experiences and their impact on longer term human development. These insights are useful in considering how the curriculum and its implementation through high quality teaching, can mitigate the impact of adverse childhood experiences.

Participant feedback



'NPQ LTD February 2022 cohort member...

"I have enjoyed all aspects of the NPQLTD programme. The facilitators are very knowledgeable and I have enjoyed the discussions with colleagues from other schools about implementing and sustaining effective teacher development.

The workload is manageable and I have already put into practice the learning we have discussed in the sessions. I would highly recommend the programme to all colleagues."

NPQ LTD February 2022 cohort member...

'I have already seen the impact the NPQSL programme has had in terms of teacher development and pupil outcomes. The programme is structured well and the content studied has direct relevance to my current needs as a leader.'

2023 / 24 NPQ programmes - APPLY NOW

Applications for fully funded places on NPQ programmes in national cohort 5 (October 2023) and cohort 6 (February 2024) will be welcomed by prospective participants when the application window opens at the end of May 2023.

Apply early to avoid disappointment. Applications will be reviewed as they are received and places allocated on a first come first serve basis for suitable and eligible applicants until all places are full.

To start your registration and application journey please use this link below, which will take you to the Vantage TSH application guidance page. When registering for a programme you will need the following information to hand:

National Insurance Number

Teacher Reference Number (TRN) - available from your payroll provider

Select 'Education Development Trust' as your lead provider

[Click this link to start your application journey](#)

Please get in touch should you need any support.

Email: teachingschoolhub@smchull.org

Tel: 01482 851136

Best Wishes

Sarah Paddock

NPQ Lead