Accelerate - Exceptional professional development, tailor-made for early career teachers

Education Development Trust & the Chartered College of Teaching
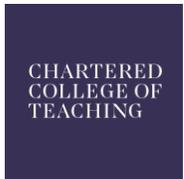
Accelerate, a transformational programme from Education Development Trust and the Chartered College of Teaching, provides Early Career Teachers (ECTs) with the tools to succeed:

- **evidence-informed content** delivered though engaging **blended learning**
- expert guidance through specialist **instructional coaching**
- peer-to-peer support through **communities of practice (CoPs)**
- regional delivery with input for participants' **school leaders** and existing **in-school mentors** recognises local context and increases capacity for sustained change.

Accelerate will therefore **embed improvements in ECT teaching quality, retention,** and **pupil attainment.**

Accelerate

High-quality teaching makes the greatest difference to disadvantaged pupils' attainment[1]. To reach this standard, ECTs need sustained, expert support. However, schools in challenging circumstances may have limited capacity to provide this, so teachers in these schools may not fulfil their potential.

- Teachers' learning curves are at their steepest in the early years of their careers – and this is where *Accelerate's* specialist support can help.

- Developed with expert teachers and teacher educators, *Accelerate* provides ECTs with the essential specialist support they need to rapidly improve their practice to improve outcomes for learners.

- Built around professional development models[2] that are the most effective in improving teacher practice and student outcomes, *Accelerate* incorporates expert instructional coaching, deliberate practice, and high-quality, evidence-informed content delivered through a flexible, blended model.

1 Sutton Trust. (2011). Improving the impact of teachers on pupil achievement in the UK – interim findings. Available at: http://www.suttontrust.com/public/documents/1teachers-impact-report-final.pdf
2 Deans for Impact (2016). Practice with Purpose: The Emerging Science of Teacher Expertise. Austin, TX: Deans for Impact. https://deansforimpact.org/wpcontent/uploads/2016/12/Practice-with-Purpose_FOR-PRINT_113016.pdf and Deans for Impact (2018). Building Blocks. [Webpage]. Available at: https://deansforimpact.org/building-blocks/

Accelerate

***Accelerate* is free for teachers in eligible schools through funding from the Department for Education, but places are limited.**

- The programme commences in January 2019 with teachers receiving their formal induction onto the programme and access to online activities and learning content. There are several face-to-face training sessions across the 4 terms of the programme where participants have expert input and work with teachers across all subject areas. These events are a regional 2-day residential event and two further locally held one-day workshops which will focus on the key content of the learning modules.

- Specialist coaches will support participants throughout on a 1:1 basis, guide online conversations with programme participants, and run short local workshops each term to bring participants together.

- Online modules throughout will guide participants' practice and prompt reflection on development, providing practical video examples, activities and resources tailored to different subject areas and phases.

- The formal end of the programme is March 2020, when participants will be encouraged to define the next steps in their own continuous professional development.

Accelerate

Who can apply?

- To participate a teacher must:

  - be in their first five years of teaching (at the start of the course in January 2019)
  - have the support of their school to apply
  - be teaching in a school that meets the eligibility criteria for funding.

- For a school to be eligible:

  - currently be Ofsted graded 3 or 4, or
  - in a DfE-identified 'priority area' or 'opportunity area'.

Accelerate

Accelerate has four strands, built on evidence of improving teacher practice and retention which meet the DfE's CPD Standard[3]:
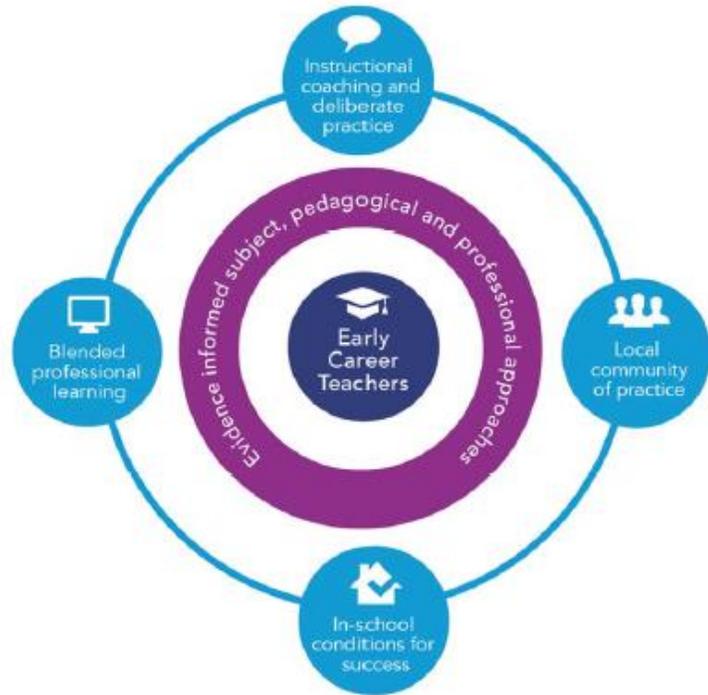
Instructional coaching, incorporating deliberate practice

- Access to a highly-trained subject (or phase) expert coach from regional Delivery Hubs
- Video coaching enabling participants to systematically improve teaching
- Coach-led group workshops, individual school visits, and regular online conversations.

Blended learning

- Launch event
- Face-to-face training days (regional for easy access)
- Five evidence-based online modules with tailored participant pathways, content and collaboration
- Final module includes optional improvement project, shared at a celebratory CoP event.

Communities of Practice (CoPs)

- Local peer ECT groups established
- Effective collaboration promoted through initial residential and ongoing online and face-to-face meetings
- Shared subject (or phase) grouping, enabling structured sharing, planning, reflection and local contextualisation.

In-school conditions for success

- Online induction and optional online training for in-school mentors (if relevant, e.g. NQT mentors) and school leaders, complementing participant modules with school-case-studies / implementation at school-level
- In-school support for participants and integration with existing provision ensured
- Builds in-school capacity and sustainability.

Accelerate will provide a flexible and tailored learning experience maximising the time ECTs can dedicate to the programme.

Structured Learning Pathways
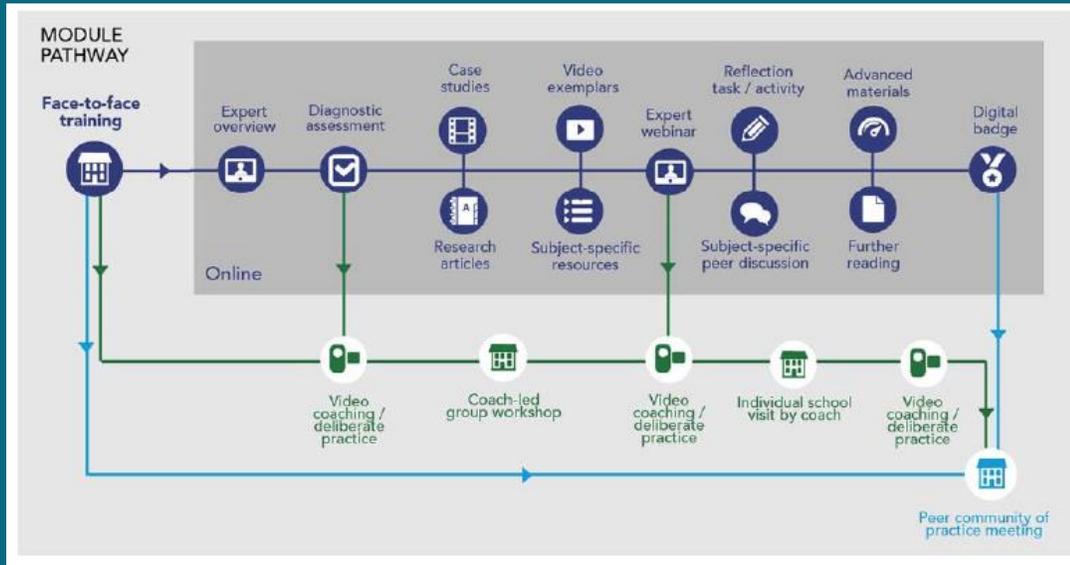
Coaches will analyse participant's individual learning needs at the start of the programme and again at the start of each module to tailor the experience.

Online Learning

Use of a mobile-friendly learning platform for online content and collaboration allowing remote learning.

For further information:

For more information about the programme please refer to the *Accelerate* website:
https://accelerate-teaching.co.uk/

Teachers should apply via the registration page on the website:
https://accelerate-teaching.co.uk/registration/

To contact the central team please email:
info@accelerate-teaching.co.uk