From September 2024, the DfE requires all mentors of student teachers to undertake 20 hours* of high-quality training and professional development which is designed and delivered by ITE accredited bodies. We want to reassure our partnership schools and mentors that we are working towards a model that aims to make this manageable and tailored to the needs of our partnership; there is DfE funding for schools to support this.

**Our values**

We acknowledge and understand the pressures in schools. Our approach to meeting the DfE mentoring requirements has been developed in collaboration with our highly valued school partners to support mentors in our partnership schools. This bespoke training curriculum will:

- Fully align to the student teacher’s curriculum and experience
- Recognise the subject and phase expertise of our mentors
- Respect the mentor’s right to a manageable workload
- Value the responsibility and commitment involved in mentoring
- Be rooted in genuine partnership and collaboration
- Be responsive to the feedback and needs of our mentors
- Complement preparation and training for mentors working with ECTs

**Our model**

- 2 face-to-face conference days: with DfE funding available to release mentors from school to attend and catch-up opportunities
- 6 one-hour online self-study sessions: designed to be accessed once per half term, offering on demand, tailored and curriculum-focused learning that is underpinned by robust research and can immediately be applied to practice, comprising:
  1. Models of mentoring and coaching
  2. Professional behaviours
  3. Behaviour and high expectations
  4. Pedagogy
  5. Assessment
  6. Curriculum
- Collaborative 2-hour in-person appraisal and feedback visit from Lead Mentors
- Access to mentor communities to share best practice and to ask questions

**Benefits from working with the YSJ ITE Partnership**

- Bespoke model that is flexible and responsive and designed with the mentor in mind
- Programme of professional development that will improve student teacher outcomes and support their career progression
- Tailored CPD for mentors which will support schools’ recruitment and retention
- Strong community of mentors and Lead Mentors enacting up-to-date research-informed practice
- Opportunity to engage with wider partnership working and support the education system across the wider region
- Access to training passports for mentors who work with different providers to ensure all training counts

Further information will be released to schools in due course. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact:
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*6-hour refreshers from 2025*