

The Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership

The Church of England Qualification of Headship (CofEPQH)

Selecting a Mentor

How to select a Mentor

As you prepare to apply for your place on the CofEPQH you will need to consider who you will ask to support you throughout the programme as your mentor. Ideally your mentor will *not* be somebody who you work with every day. There are significant benefits in choosing somebody who sits outside these every day working relationships.

- Consider asking a Head teacher you respect who works at a neighbouring school.
- Consider asking a school leader who is working at a more senior level to you who you know has experience in Coaching and Mentoring.
- Consider asking somebody who has completed the CofEPQH recently themselves.
- Speak to the programmes team at cefel@churchofengland.org if you require additional support.

What is a Mentor is Expected to do?

- Enable you to set stretching leadership development goals based upon an understanding of your leadership strengths and weaknesses.
- Offer coaching and support as you adopt new leadership strategies and behaviours.
- Share their own experience to guide your learning.
- Make connections from within their own network that will enhance your opportunities to learn.

Who might make an Excellent Mentor?

We want you to be supported by a high-quality mentor who is respected in their institution and who possesses the following qualities:

- A positive attitude and commitment to be a role model

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- A personal interest in developing an excellent mentoring relationship with you
- A commitment to your lifelong learning and your personal growth
- Values your ongoing learning and growth in educational leadership
- A willingness to give advice and constructive feedback in the context of a critical friendship
- Values the opinions and initiatives of others

What will the Mentor Receive?

Your mentor will receive guidance on how they can best support you throughout the programme. They will also have the opportunity to complete a one day professional development course in Coaching and Mentoring, delivered by 3D coaching in line with International Coaching Federation (ICF) standards. There will be an option to attend this training in different locations or virtually.