



Programmes

The Church of England Professional Qualification for Headship (CofEPQH)

Frequently Asked Questions

May 2018

1. How long does the programme last?

The programme will run from Spring 2019 to Summer 2020. It will therefore take 18 months to complete and run across two academic years.

2. How much does it cost?

The total cost of CofEPQH is £1975 + VAT.

In the South West we will be delivering a mixed mode programme with less residential learning and more virtual classroom time. This will be £1650+ VAT.

3. Do I get a discount if I am a small school?

There are a limited number of bursaries available for participants. In the first instance, we ask that you contact CEFEL@churchofengland.org to discuss your particular circumstances and request a bursary application form.

4. Can I spread the cost over 2 financial years?

Yes. Further information is provided on the application forms which are available to download from our website.

Once you have been accepted on to the programme and paid the deposit no refunds can be made for cancellation.

5. My school budget can't cover the cost of the programme what can I do?

Funding for this programme may be secured from a variety of sources. Participants on similar programmes have covered the cost through school funds; personal contribution; church contributions as well as charitable donations. It is worth making enquiries to ascertain if there is funding available from alternative sources.

6. If I want to withdraw from the programme and I don't want to continue what happens?

Whilst we encourage all participants to try and complete the programme we appreciate that sometimes this is not possible. We do not typically offer refund on course fees; however this may be possible in exceptional circumstances.

7. What is the criteria for joining the programme?

You need to be a Senior Leader within a school or be in the early part of your career as a Head. Your application must be supported by the headteacher of the school you currently work in or your Trust CEO or Chair of Governors if you are a serving headteacher.

Your sponsor must indicate their support for you taking the necessary time out of school to complete the qualification.

8. Who will be my mentor?

Participants will be responsible for finding their own mentor – this might be a colleague who is already working with you in school or from another organisation. If working within a Church of England school, this must be in discussion with your diocesan education office.

The mentor should have experience of working at a senior level within a school context. They may be serving practitioners or have recently left the profession. It will be for you and your mentor to decide how you would like to work together - face to face, skype, phone call etc. Mentors must attend the mentor briefing scheduled via webinar in January and will have the option of also completing a certificate in Coaching and Mentoring via live webinar (provided by 3D Coaching, in line with International Coaching Federation criteria).

9. How much time should I tell a possible mentor they would need to set aside to support me?

Ideally, we expect the mentor to provide between 6 and 10 hours in total in supporting the participants. We do expect though that there will be at least one-hour session to help you prepare prior to the school visit, and another one-hour session to summarise learning, after each module (3 modules in total). We do expect the potential mentors to attend a webinar in December (TBC), to ensure they are all on par with programme guidelines, but this is the only additional time they will have to give during the course.

10. Will I get to visit other schools?

Yes, you will arrange a 9- day school placement (this can be split into shorter spells) where you will gain an in depth understanding of local challenges. You will make use of your learning during this process.

11. Do you have to be a Christian take part in this programme?

This programme is open to everyone regardless of their religion. It is designed to be fully aligned with the [Church of England's vision for education](#) and therefore participants will be engaging with this vision throughout the programme.

Each face to face learning event will begin with a short period of collective worship.

12. Is the programme the same as NPQH?

Yes. The programme incorporates the NPQ content areas and core practical elements necessary to build a successful school, whilst also being rooted in the Church's vision for education.

13. Can I do this programme if I already have NPQH?

We recommend that you discuss your professional experience and skills with a member of the Programmes team to ensure that you will receive appropriate professional development by taking part in their programme.

14. I don't have NPQH, but I've been a serving head for 2 or more years, can I still do the programme?

We recommend that you discuss your professional experience and skills with a member of the Programmes team to ensure that the Foundation will provide you with appropriate professional development.

15. Is the programme open to me if I'm not in a church school?

Yes, the CofEPQH is open to leaders in secondary and primary schools in Church of England, community or other faith schools.

16. How will I be assessed?

Participants will complete two projects: 1) Leading a whole-school change programme (4,000 words), and 2) Designing an action plan to meet your placement school's resourcing and capability needs (2,500 words). These will be submitted at the end of the programme.

17. Does the programme have any M Level credits associated with it?

The programme does not currently have Master's Level accreditation. However, participants will be expected to write at Masters level and some universities may give prior learning credits for the assessments completed on the CofEPQH.