

Q: What is case study for NPQLT?

A: It is essentially a detailed study for assessment at the end of the programme. The same applies to the other NPQs.

It is unseen and no more than 2,500 words long. It is a generalised piece that everybody can respond to.

- There is an 8-day window at the very end of the programme in which the trainee must respond.
- The trainee's response must be up to 1,500 words.
- You can re-sit if you need to, but it will be a different case study given.

Q: Where will face-to-face events take place?

A: We have partners all over the country, with some people applying through their local hub. The process that we go through to arrange our face-to-face events is to look at the number of applications submitted within an area and if a partner hub has been nominated, then we will look at forming a group with that partner.

If we do not have enough applications within a certain area, then we will ask those trainees if they are happy to attend a different group location, or alternatively attend only virtual event sessions.

Regarding NPQH and NPQEL, trainees tend to be allocated on a more national basis. This is beneficial for the senior leaders who take part as it is a chance to network across the country.

Q: Is this senior leadership course appropriate for an aspirational deputy who currently has very limited whole-school responsibility?

A: Absolutely! It would encourage you to have that whole-school view. For example, if your next step is that you will be doing more whole-school as a deputy, then that is senior leadership and therefore this course would be appropriate for you.

Q: What about face-to-face events for international students?

A: Currently the events we run for international students are run virtually. We do our best to group trainees within very similar time zones, to benefit everyone involved.

Q: How will local provision of training be made and does your offering have any link to the new hub schools?

A: Most of our hub partners and our partners have groups, whether they are all NPQs or not. We work very closely with them, as they provide facilitators and venues for their local groups.

Q: How are in-school coaches chosen and supported?

A: They will be nominated within the school based on their capacity to support and their role within the setting. Requirements for an in-school coach are that they must have either previous coaching experience (have a coaching qualification) or be interested in coaching their colleagues.

We will provide training and/or recordings of training and a great deal of guidance into how to coach effectively. This is all delivered for free, so that everyone can benefit.

Q: Regarding specialist NPQs, can teachers complete one specialist NPQ and then choose another specialist NPQ afterwards?

A: Definitely! We would recommend that you do not overlap them and also it is important to consider the following:

- Which is more appropriate for your role and development within the school?
- Which is more appropriate for the school's development?
- Which one you do first?
- Whether you have a gap between each one or you work consecutively?

Q: I work in an international school which does not follow the National curriculum. Is the qualification focused on only teaching in British schools?

A: It is based on teaching and leadership through best practice. The training is leadership based, whether that is leading of the teachers (leading their professional development), being a senior leader within a school (deputy head, senior head), and therefore it is those skills and attributes that we would be training you on and not focusing on a particular curriculum within the programme.

Q: For specialist NPQs that start in Spring 2022, how are the face-to-face events spaced?

A: They are spaced equidistantly over the 12 months. The events will always be held during term time, for a full day. Sometimes, these events are held in two half-days if they are catered for international students, which can depend on the time zones.

You can also look through our qualification's specification, which shows the breakdown of how the training days are spaced over the course of either the 12-month or 18-month programme.

The qualifications can be downloaded from the individual NPQ pages.

Q: How can we check if our school is funded?

A: If you are a state-maintained school or have a provision for 16–19-year-olds, you will be funded. We are happy to check for you if you are unsure, by emailing us the name of your school and the URN number to enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk

Q: Do schools have to release you for any face-to-face or online meetings if you are working full time?

A: With all NPQs, there is a 90% compliance for attendance and completion of tasks. The events are part of the qualification in which there has to be 100% attendance. If you cannot attend an event, then you must email cpd@bestpracticenetwork.co.uk and they will arrange with you to attend a different date.

Q: I am currently completing my Masters. It is part-time over two years. Is this similar/ the same? Would it be possible to link the two and how much work is involved?

A: NPQs are not the same as Masters. Masters are mainly research based, whereas NPQs are focused on practice and training event sessions. Students with a Masters have expressed that they have found it beneficial to undertake the NPQH as well.

- The specialist NPQs and NPQSL are each worth 30 Masters credits.
- NPQH and NPQEL are both worth 60 Masters credits.

Q: I started the NPQSL course last year but did not complete it. Can I continue with the new framework?

A: Unfortunately, no. The two iterations of the frameworks are very different. If you want to resume, then you must contact the provider you previously started the course with.