



Teach First



Time to

bounce

back

MENTORING SUPPORT FOR THOSE
HIT HARDEST BY COVID-19

National
Tutoring
Programme 

Academic Mentoring Programme

**Pupils hit hardest by lockdown need extra support.
Hire high-quality, affordable mentors to help them bounce back.**

Schools are doing an amazing job in tough circumstances. This year is going to be an even bigger challenge, and disadvantaged young children are the worst affected.

During lockdown, these students were less likely to have access to the facilities and resources they needed to progress. The DfE predicts this could widen the attainment gap by up to 75%. It's important they get extra support to help them return to everyday learning this year.

As part of the government's response to COVID-19, we're offering a new programme to help you support the pupils who need it most.

We'll recruit and train graduates to work closely with pupils who have fallen behind and give high-quality, focused support.

Hiring a fixed-term, trained academic mentor lets you make an immediate impact in your school this year. With base salaries funded by the DfE, it's an opportunity to help your pupils get back on track, all while protecting your time and budget.



Key benefits

- ◆ It's a short-term commitment with a choice of start dates, designed to reinforce support for pupils as you bounce back from COVID-19 this year.
- ◆ Base salaries are met by the DfE, allowing you to make a real difference at low cost.
- ◆ Working alongside your teachers, it lets you focus on improving other areas for the long-run.
- ◆ Let us know what you need and we'll handle mentor recruitment and training.
- ◆ Our training and support are the result of two decades preparing the brightest, most committed people to make a difference where it's needed most.
- ◆ Each mentor will have subject-specific knowledge, giving you support to match the needs of your pupils.
- ◆ Many of our mentors are looking at a career in teaching. So it's an excellent way to meet potential new recruits and see if they're a good long-term fit for your school.

What academic mentors do

Your mentor could be a qualified teacher or a graduate interested in a career in education. What duties an academic mentor undertakes depends on the needs of your pupils.

This includes:



We're currently recruiting academic mentors specialising in:

English, humanities, maths, modern foreign languages, science, primary literacy and primary numeracy.

How it works

We know planning too far ahead is difficult right now, so we only ask you to commit for up to one year. We'll aim to find mentors when it suits your school, with a selection of start dates available from the beginning of the second Autumn half term, and first and second Spring half terms. You'll employ your mentor directly on a fixed-term contract that will run until the last day of term in July 2021.

This is a government-funded programme, which means the DfE covers all of your mentor's salary (£19,000 pro-rata, depending on their start date). There are no recruitment or training costs or school fees. Schools can make use of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) catch-up premium fund to cover mentor 'on-costs', such as pension and National Insurance contributions, adding extra capacity without reducing your school budgets.

Your academic mentor will continue to receive ongoing support from a Curriculum and Training Lead, with training delivered (virtually) by Teach First.

Next steps

You can find out more about the programme, including school eligibility, at:

www.teachfirst.org.uk/hire-academic-mentors

If you think an academic mentor could make a difference for the pupils who need it most this year, register your interest using the web address above, or call us on **020 3862 8994**.

We'll be in touch to talk through your needs. As soon as you decide to go ahead, we can start looking for the candidate who's right for your school. We'll let you know as soon as we find a suitable match.

teachfirst.org.uk

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