



National College for Teaching & Leadership

Teaching Schools Cohort 7: Eligibility Criteria

Clarification of terms: the terms listed below are used throughout the criteria. The use of terms is solely for ease of readability, and does not in any way imply that our assessment process doesn't take into account the differing contexts of those organisations which are eligible to apply.

- **NCTL:** represents the National College for Teaching and Leadership
- **School:** also represents academy, nursery, sixth-form college¹, University Technical College (UTC), General Further Education Providers and Colleges (GFE) and Pupil Referral Unit (PRU)
- **Governing body:** also represents the body appointed to be accountable for the management of the school, federation or trust including the board of trustees or equivalent
- **Headteacher:** also represents principal, chief executive or executive headteacher
- **Strategic partners:** are schools, universities and others (including private sector organisations or local authorities) that deliver particular aspects of the alliance's activity such as initial teacher training (ITT), continuing professional development (CPD), leadership development or school-to-school support (StSS)
- **Alliance:** is a group of schools and other partners which commit to working collaboratively, supported by 1 or more teaching schools. It includes all schools, who benefit from the alliance by receiving support, as well as teaching schools and strategic partners who offer/deliver support. Alliances may be cross-phase and cross-sector, work across local authorities and include different types of organisations.



Eligibility criteria for teaching schools

Criteria	How this should be demonstrated
To be considered as a teaching school your school must:-	
1. Have a clear track record of long-standing collaborative relationships with a significant number of partner schools based upon trust and mutual respect, resulting in substantial school improvement across a locality or group of maintained schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Your school has been involved in collaborations with at least 5 schools, for at least the past 3 years, andThere is clear evidence that the collaborations have had a positive impact on performance across your own and supported schools
2. Be judged to be outstanding	<p>Your school's most recent Ofsted inspection² has judged the school to be:</p> <p>School inspected prior to 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">'Outstanding' for 'Overall Effectiveness', 'Leadership and Management' and 'Teaching and learning or Quality of Teaching' <p>School inspected from January 2012 onwards (including pilot inspections):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">'Outstanding' for 'Overall Effectiveness', 'Leadership and Management' and 'Teaching'
3. Show consistently high levels of pupil performance and progress or continued improvement over the last 3 years and be above current floor standards (as evidenced in published Department for Education data)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Department for Education performance data shows a clear upwards trend, or consistently high levels of attainment and achievement, andLatest performance data demonstrates that the school is above the current floor standard³, andTaking account of their different starting points, the proportions of pupils making and exceeding expected progress are high compared with the national figures, and in additionProgress and attainment of disadvantaged pupils in comparison to their peers. Please see the application guidance for further details.



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<p>4. The proposed teaching school has outstanding senior and middle leaders who have demonstrated that they have a strong track record and on-going capacity to:</p>	
<p>4a. Make a significant and high quality contribution to the training of teachers (ITT)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clear evidence of leading, managing and quality assuring the training of teachers over the last 3 years that has had a positive impact, and• Clear evidence of high-quality school-led ITT through on-going engagement in effective programme design and development, and• Have the full support of an accredited ITT provider who is able to provide a reference as part of the application process⁴, and• If the school is a named lead school in the management of an existing SCITT or EBITT the last Ofsted inspection rated the provision as at least 'good'.
<p>4b. Provide highly effective professional development for teaching and/or leadership (CPD)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clear evidence of highly effective CPD which has impacted positively on the strategic leadership and performance of the school, and• Clear evidence that the school has the capacity, culture and leadership required for successful and sustainable CPD for all staff.
<p>4c. Provide successful support to under-performing schools within a school to school support partnership, federation or chain (StSS)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clear evidence of providing formal support to schools in order to improve outcomes (either in pupil attainment or Ofsted judgement) over the past 3 years, and that the• support has involved, and has capacity to continue to involve senior leaders in the support of schools in challenging circumstances, and that the• support provided has had a positive impact both in the school supported and your own school; such as impact on pupil performance or improved Ofsted judgements

Continued overleaf...



Eligibility criteria for the head of a teaching school

Criteria	How this should be demonstrated
To be considered as a teaching school the headteacher of that school must:-	
5. Be judged to be an outstanding serving headteacher with at least 3 years headship experience and expect to remain at current school for at least 2 years following designation ⁵	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> headteacher has been a substantive headteacher for 3 years or more (at point of designation) in which time they have been legally responsible for the management of a school and accountable to the governing body, and headteacher is named on a recent Ofsted inspection where 'Leadership and Management' has been judged as 'Outstanding' either at current school, or at previous school if the applicant has changed headship within the last 3 years and is yet to receive an inspection at current school, and Confirmation within the application that the headteacher expects to remain head of applicant teaching school for at least 2 years following designation.
6. Be accountable for 1 or more schools which meet the teaching school criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headteacher is accountable for at least 1 school that meets the 'Eligibility criteria for teaching schools', and Confirmation in the application that the headteacher has the authority to deploy staff from the proposed teaching school and enter into contractual arrangements to undertake teaching school activity
7. Have the full support from the school's Governing Body and DCS/Senior Educational Professional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Declaration within the online application that your chair of governors (or equivalent) supports the application, and A supportive reference from a DCS/Senior Educational Professional

In addition to the eligibility criteria above, we will assess each alliance's plans for:

1. leading the development of a school-led ITT system, through School Direct and in some cases by seeking full accreditation as an ITT provider.
2. leading peer-to-peer professional and leadership development
3. providing support for other schools

Successful alliances will also be asked, as part of their start up process, to outline how they plan to:

4. designate and broker specialist leaders of education (SLEs)
5. identify and develop leadership potential
6. engage in research and development activity



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Eligibility criteria notes

- ¹ As a sixth from college, you should be able to cite evidence of supporting maintained schools in addition to any support provided to sixth from colleges.
- ² Ofsted inspections that will be considered are; Section 5, College Inspections and Independent School Inspections. Monitoring inspections will **not** be considered.
- ³ Should the floor standards change during the application round; the new floor standard will be applied
- ⁴ Accredited ITT provider references should be sought from your proposed - ITT strategic partner. This accredited provider should have an Ofsted grade of at least 'Good'. In exceptional circumstances applications will be considered from schools using an accredited ITT provider with a 'Satisfactory' or 'Requires Improvement' Ofsted grade, if for geographical reasons they do not have access to a good or outstanding accredited provider
- ⁵ In exceptional circumstances applications may be accepted from schools where the headteacher has been in post for less than 3 years, or expects to remain in headship for less than 2 years, if they can sufficiently demonstrate a strong leadership structure within the alliance. Applicants applying in this way will be dealt with on a case by case basis and emphasis will be placed on the other eligibility criteria.

Notes for independent school applicants

Independent schools must have been judged 'Excellent' by ISI in regards to:

- the quality of the pupils' achievements
- their learning, attitudes and skills
- the contribution of teaching
- the quality of leadership and management

Alternatively, if the school is inspected by Ofsted, then they will be required to meet the criteria outlined in the eligibility criteria for teaching schools.

In addition independent schools are required to cite evidence and/or show a commitment to collaborating with and supporting maintained schools.