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**University of Exeter PGCE 2024 2025: Exeter Model mentoring requirements**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Have the Mentor roles in the Exeter Model changed?**

Yes, due to feedback from schools on mentoring capacity we have removed the separate Reflective Mentor role. We will have the role of Mentor (previously called Lead Mentor) along with the ITE Coordinator role (ITEC).

**What training do Mentors need to do?**

The DFE have set the requirement of 20 hrs (or equivalent) of training to be completed by the Mentor who has formal responsibility to support a trainee teacher undertaking a placement at their school.

**How will the training be split up?**

There will be three different units for Mentors to complete their 20 hrs over the academic year.

**UNIT 1 -** General Mentoring Development (10 hours equivalent) completed through an online national package - https://www.nasbtt.org.uk/mdm/

**UNIT 2 –** Mentoring in the Exeter Model (5 hours equivalent)

**UNIT 3 –** Mentoring Development through Communities of Practice (5 hours equivalent annually)

The training will be a combination of training events, mentor meets, one to one training during school visits, reading materials and online training. Please see the information in the Mentor Zone that lists details of the Mentoring Curriculum for The University of Exeter: <https://www.exeter.ac.uk/students/partnership/mentoring/>

We have purposely made our curriculum flexible to fit with a busy school schedule.

**Do ITECs need to complete 20 hrs of training?**

ITECs do not need to do this. All ITECs will need to attend the Unit 2 training either as an online refresher (1 hr session) or attend the full 5 hrs of training delivered across the region or online equivalent. Staff will be invited to attend the training session relevant to them. ITECs also need to attend ITEC Meetings, usually two meetings a year/ one meeting per placement.

**Do other teachers supporting the trainees need to complete the 20 hours of training?**

No, only the allocated Mentor who completes the formal 1.5 hours of mentoring each week needs to complete the 20 hours of training. Any other teacher input will be supported by the Mentor.

**What is the 1.5 hours of mentoring requirement each week?**

We have not increased the weekly mentoring requirements of our Mentors. The Exeter Model has a 1 hour Weekly Development Meeting and then the completion of the Exeter Model tools such as the agendas and observations. This makes up the formal required 1.5 hours per week of mentoring.

**Can the University of Exeter pre-accredit training?**

Yes, this will be possible.

We are working closely with other providers nationally and across the South West and we will enable pre-accreditation of general mentoring skills where appropriate in order to enable schools to work with multiple providers and to acknowledge previous relevant training.

**Unit 1 General Mentoring Development (10 hours)**

Mentors will be able to pre-accredit up to six hours of the ten hour requirement if they have trained as an ECF Mentor and/or completed the NPQ LTD.

We will be working with local providers and ITECs over 24/25 to continue to develop our pre-accreditation matrix to allow mentors who have complete ITE Mentoring training via other providers to use some of these hours to pre-accredit some of the NASBTT modules.

**Unit 2 – Mentoring in the Exeter Model (5 hours)**

We will pre-accredit four hours of Unit 2 if Mentors have been Exeter Model trained in the last two years. In this case the Mentor will only need to complete a 1 hr online refresher training session. If a Mentor is not Exeter Model trained, they will need to attend a 5 hr training session in person or equivalent online training. We cannot pre-accredit Unit 2 when a Mentor has been trained by a different ITE provider as it is specific to the Exeter Model. All Mentors will need to be Exeter Model trained by the time the trainee starts their placement.

**Unit 3 - Mentoring Development through Communities of Practice (5 hours equivalent annually)**

The 5 hours of Unit 3 will be annual training and cannot be prior accredited.

**We have offered to host placements for 2425. Are there plans to make training accessible in the summer term so Mentors can make a head start on the training?**

Yes, when we send the mentoring curriculum details in early July, we will also send the online training and log in details for Unit 1. So those Mentors that want to start their training can begin before September 2024. This is an online package of training which is flexible. For Units 2 and 3, we will provide further details regarding Exeter Model Induction dates and locations both for the 5 hour induction and 1 hour refresher along with Mentor Meet dates.

**How much funding is available from the DFE?**

Schools can claim up to £875 per mentor directly from the DFE for 24/25. We will circulate claiming guidance once this is released by the DfE.

DfE guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-training-reform-funding-guidance>

**How will this process work?**

University of Exeter will provide evidence of certification for the completion of each unit showing completed hours. Schools will apply directly to DFE to receive this funding; we are waiting for further clarification on the details of this from DFE.

**Do schools claim the funding or Mentors directly?**

The schools claim the funding directly not individual mentors.

**What funding is available from 25/26?**

The DfE have not released this information yet but it is likely to be reduced. Therefore there is a financial incentive for schools to undertake this training during 24/25.

**Due to funding, should we train as many Mentors as possible during 24/25?**

That is a decision for the school but in order to claim from the DfE a school must have evidence that each Mentor had a trainee attached to them at some point. We will provide this evidence. It could be financially beneficial to spread trainees across different teachers for 24/24, such as using a different teacher to complete the Mentor role in school 1 to school 2.

**What happens with funding if the trainee allocated to the Mentor does not start?**

As long as you have evidence that the Mentor had a trainee attached to them (we will provide this) the Mentor can complete the 20 hours and the school can claim for the training.

**Will a Mentor only working with a school 2 trainee need to complete all the 20 hours of training?**

All aspects of our Mentoring Curriculum are important for each Mentor to complete and it is flexible enough so that school 2 only mentors will be able to access it. We will provide more information for Mentors in this scenario, especially if the placement was secured late. There will be some aspects of training that need to be completed before the trainee arrives but mentors could choose to complete the remaining hours over a longer period. However, for financial reasons it may be beneficial to the school to encourage the Mentor to complete the 20 hours by the DfE claim deadline in July 2025.

**Can Independent Schools claim the Mentor training funding from the DfE?**

Yes, Independent schools can claim for any Mentors working with PGCE trainees in the same way as other schools and can access the same level of funding to support training and development of the mentors.

**Can schools work with multiple providers?**

We are working closely with other providers across the South West to support pre-accreditation of general mentoring skills in order to enable schools to work with multiple providers. This is important for the sector as providers offer different routes and subjects. Many providers have training that is specific to their course, for us that is our Exeter Model training (units 2 and 3). Schools can claim for any additional training required by Mentors working with multiple providers.