

The ACTS NPQ Alliance

National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH)

We are proud to announce that we are part of the new NPQ Alliance, led by Ambition School Leadership.

The Association of Central Teaching Schools is now working with a national alliance that brings together over 50 multi-academy trusts, teaching school alliances and schools – including groups such as Ark, Outwood Grange Academies Trust and Oasis Community Learning – with regional school groups from across the country. We will deliver the NPQs through the Alliance’s experienced facilitators, tailoring programme content to meet local challenges and each leader’s development needs.

Working together to test, learn and innovate

The Alliance will support the education system to do everything it takes to raise the aspirations and attainment of every child, no matter what their background.

The programme

The main focus of this programme is to ensure all participants increase their confidence and capability in the core skills and responsibilities of an effective school leader. The course will empower participants to develop a strong network to support them as headteachers. Participants will be assessed through a written assignment to ensure they have reached the qualification requirements, plus a viva interview to assess them against the more challenging Ambition bar.

The programme comprises a series of training sessions, along with pre- and post-reading, a nine-day school placement and an in-school impact project.

The training sessions will include the following six core areas:

- Leadership skills for headteachers
- School self-evaluation and school improvement planning
- School culture and vision
- Operational management of a school including finance and HR
- Teaching, learning and curriculum
- Pastoral leadership

The NPQ Alliance will be delivering programmes offering this qualification, and Ambition School Leadership will also run the Headship Programme (with NPQH).

Length

The programme consists of six full-day sessions spread throughout the course of a school year.

Eligibility

This programme is suitable for:

- **Deputy heads who are aspiring to headship** and meet the following eligibility criteria:
 - You will probably be in a headship role in the next 12-18 months
 - You will have completed at least one year at a deputy head level
 - As this programme is for those whose next step is headship, eligibility is limited to deputy and associate headteachers in secondary settings, and deputy, associate and assistant heads in primary. Assistant heads in secondary whose role is commensurate to that of a deputy head are also eligible
 - You will have evidence of having made substantial positive impact on a school
- **Those currently in headship roles**

For all participants

In order for both aspiring and serving headteachers to receive their qualification, they will need to complete the project element of this qualification successfully. This is in two parts:

- **Lead a change programme at whole-school level, lasting at least two terms, to improve pupil progress and attainment. They will need to present the plan to their governing board prior to implementation, and gather their feedback**
- Undertake a placement in a contrasting school (for example, by performance, pupil profile, geography), lasting at least nine working days

Therefore it is essential that the school understands the level of support they will need to put in place when they are placing participants on the programme.

To apply: You will be able to apply for NPQH from early September, with courses starting in the Autumn Term. NPQH will run for 18 months, starting in October 2017. Training locations will be across the Birmingham region. Applications can be made through this website.

Cost: £1,100

Contact: enquiry@cptsa.co.uk

For more details on the NPQ Alliance, visit:
ambitionschoolleadership.org.uk/programmes/npqs