# Expertise in Teaching Certificate

Certified CPD for practising classroom teachers (including middle leaders)







# Embed learning from research and showcase your teaching expertise

This certified online course will enable you to take your research engagement further as you explore education research and apply what you learn directly to your classroom practice.

The Expertise in Teaching Certificate is designed to fit with your existing professional development priorities meaning you can choose to focus on an aspect of pedagogy that is important to you - and which will make a real difference to the pupils you teach.

Over a period of around four months, you will engage with research and evidence and undertake wider professional learning as appropriate to build your understanding of effective practice in relation to your chosen pedagogical focus. You'll then dedicate time to apply what you have learnt utilising **deliberate practice**; you will identify clear goals that will help you to systematically hone your skills and embed your chosen approach within your teaching, adding to your pedagogical repertoire.

#### Deliberate practice

Deliberate practice draws from research about expertise from a range of domains – such as sports, chess and music – which suggests that experts practice differently to novices. In contrast with traditional notions of practice, deliberate practice requires individuals to focus on a very specific aspect of their practice, developing a 'mental model' of what success looks like, then engaging in goal-focused, specific and systematic practice to develop and improve their practice in line with these mental models.

### Develop your teaching expertise to achieve the best possible outcomes for your pupils

- Explore the evidence around the development of teacher expertise
- Evaluate your teaching and choose a focus that is meaningful to you to refine or develop further
- Demonstrate your expertise and share effective practice in the unit assessment
- Focus on embedding evidence-informed approaches that will make a difference to pupils within your context.

Successful completion of the Expertise in Teaching Certificate offers **20 credits** towards:

• Chartered Teacher Status



- £ Enrolment fee: £129
- Cocation: Online
- Time commitment: 16 weeks
  - Typically around one hour per week for the first six weeks
  - From week seven onwards, classroombased deliberate practice and reflection
  - Prepare your portfolio for submission
- Who is this course for?

  Experienced classroom teachers
  (including middle/senior leaders with classroom teaching responsibility)



## Content

This course involves a combination of guided online learning, independent self-directed study and sustained periods of classroombased, deliberate practice.

There are around 6-8 hours of core learning content, in which you will:

- explore research and evidence around the development of expertise
- build your understanding of deliberate practice and how you can use it to refine and develop your teaching practice
- be guided through a range of activities that are designed to enable you to hone your expertise by:
  - self-evaluating your practice against key indicators that you have identified based on current education research
  - setting goals and creating a robust action plan to apply learning from research in your classroom
  - reflecting on progress and refining goals and action steps to embed the skills you have developed.

Additional supporting resources include detailed assessment guidance and exemplars; a collection of evidence-informed rubrics; and reading lists, resources and activities to support you with your research engagement.

## Assessment

This is an assessed course meaning you will be required to successfully pass the course assessment to receive certification of your learning. The assessment requires you to engage with research and evidence around an area of classroom practice of your choosing, undertaking two cycles of deliberate practice in your classroom and seeking feedback from a colleague, coach or mentor in at least one of these deliberate practice cycles.

Your submission will take the form of a Developing Teaching Portfolio, which must include:

- initial self-evaluation (no specified word count)
- evidence-informed action plan (no word count)
- two deliberate practice reflections (500–800 words each)
- a recorded video presentation (5–7 minutes in length)
- appendices (including evidence of feedback received).

#### Academic writing

You will need to be comfortable with writing clearly and concisely in a formal tone and style, and able to structure your work in a logical manner.

"This was one of the best things I have done. I felt empowered by it. It made sense and was directly relevant to what I am doing in the classroom.

The course included plenty of useful, practical information which is backed up by robust research. I really enjoyed it."

Fiona, Chartered Teacher



### Course timings

You may begin the course at any time, and can complete the content and assessment at your own pace - typically, it takes around **16 weeks** to complete. Alternatively, join one of our two annual cohorts:

#### Autumn 2025 cohort

Enrol by: 22 Sept 2025Start date: 29 Sept 2025Submission: 28 Feb 2026

#### Spring 2026 cohort

Enrol by: 15 Dec 2025Start date: 5 Jan 2026Submission: 30 May 2026

## Benefits

- Deepen your understanding of how you can use deliberate practice to refine and hone your expertise in an area of your choosing
- Have greater autonomy over your professional learning and development as you implement and embed evidence-informed pedagogical approaches in your classroom
- Gain free access to IRIS Connect software to record and reflect on your classroom practice
- Be recognised for highly effective evidenceinformed teaching with a focus on ensuring the best possible outcomes for your pupils.







The Chartered College of Teaching is incorporated by Royal Charter and a

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