



Joining the Early Years Professional Development Programme

What it is and why you should join







? What is it?

The Early Years Professional Development Programme is a new 2-year programme providing high quality, evidence-based and fully funded CPD (continuous professional development) for pre-reception practitioners from schools and private, voluntary and independent settings (PVI), who meet the qualifying criteria. It is funded by the Department for Education and delivered by Education Development Trust in partnership with Elklan.

Working with children between the ages of 2 and 4, practitioners will be supported to improve outcomes in language, literacy and mathematics for the most disadvantaged children, with an emphasis on improving school readiness. The programme supports the government's aim to help improve social mobility through education.







It is anticipated that 60,000 children will be reached by this programme.

? How will it be delivered?

53 local authorities are working to help create 112 partnerships, within which skilled and experienced practitioners will be trained as CPD Champions during the first year of the programme. These CPD Champions will then cascade and lead the CPD across their partnership during the second year.

CPD Champions will be either Tutor Champions with pedagogical focus, or Mentor Champions chosen for their strong interpersonal and mentoring skills. A team of programme trainers will support the CPD Champions in building communities of practice. In this way, good practice will be shared across a wider number of practitioners.

112 CPD Partnerships

448 CPD Champions trained - 4 per partnership

Hours minimum training for each CPD Champion

? What do we look for in CPD Champions?

If you are interested in becoming a CPD Champion, you will need to demonstrate the following attributes:

- A high level of interest in promoting the communication skills of young children
- A high level of interest in sharing skills with others
- Able to compile a learning log at Level 4 which embeds and evaluates the impact of training others
- Empowered to implement change in an early years setting or organisation
- Able to work in a range of settings
- Have the full support of your senior managers and leaders to engage in the programme and embed your learning within their setting.

Once the CPD Champions have been recruited, the next stage is to identify those who would be Tutor Champions, and those who would be Mentor Champions. Tutor Champions will deliver the next round of training to early years practitioners, while Mentor Champions will support them as they implement these changes; both working as a team to support the settings.

? Who will benefit from this training?

CPD champions cascade the work through CPD partnerships in their local area to a further 2,560 early years practitioners (2 per setting).

By the end of the programme:

More than 3,000 practitioners will have received accredited training in language, literacy and mathematics

1,500 early years settings will have achieved Communication Friendly Setting status

Improved practitioner skills will increase quality of practice in their settings

CPD partnerships will ensure that the learning continues beyond the life of the Programme

Children's outcomes in early language, literacy and mathematics skills will improve

448 CPD Champions achieve both Level 3 Language, Literacy and Mathematics 2-4s and Level 4 Creating Communication Friendly Settings

2,560 early years practitioners achieve Level 3 Language, Literacy and Mathematics 2-4s

1,280 early years practitioners achieve Level 4 in Creating Communication Friendly Settings

? How are CPD Champions supported?

In addition to the training package:

- Each CPD Champion will be provided with a comprehensive set of printed and electronic training materials, manuals and handbooks to support their learning and the cascade delivery.
- CPD Champions will have access to a bespoke online platform giving access to further video exemplars, links to research and evidencebased approaches and an e-portfolio for logging learning, secure marking of accredited work and downloadable materials to support the cascade, including guidance for settings.
- Membership of the Chartered College of Teaching, the professional body for the teaching profession, is included free of charge for participants on the programme. As a member you will get access to a host of articles, resources, webinars and discounts on books from a range of publishers to support you in developing your practice.

All participants will gain:



a sound grounding of current early years child development research and theory to improve practice



the skills and knowledge to enhance the quality of adult-child interactions through sustained shared thinking – encouraging 'back and forth'



the skills to engage with parents to support the home learning environment



the skills to identify children at risk of speech, language and communication needs.

High professional standards maintained

We will monitor and quality assure the delivery of the programme to ensure the training delivered by CPD Champions to early years practitioners is of high quality and maintains fidelity to the approach and content of the training over the lifetime of the project. As part of this process each CPD Champion will receive 6 hours of personalised observation and coaching from a programme trainer as part of a schedule of regular support.



? Register now

To join the programme and become a CPD Champion, you will need to have registered directly with your local authority by 30 September 2019.