



**Proudly serving Bromsgrove, Redditch,
Solihull and Stratford-on-Avon**

Tudor Grange Teaching School Hub

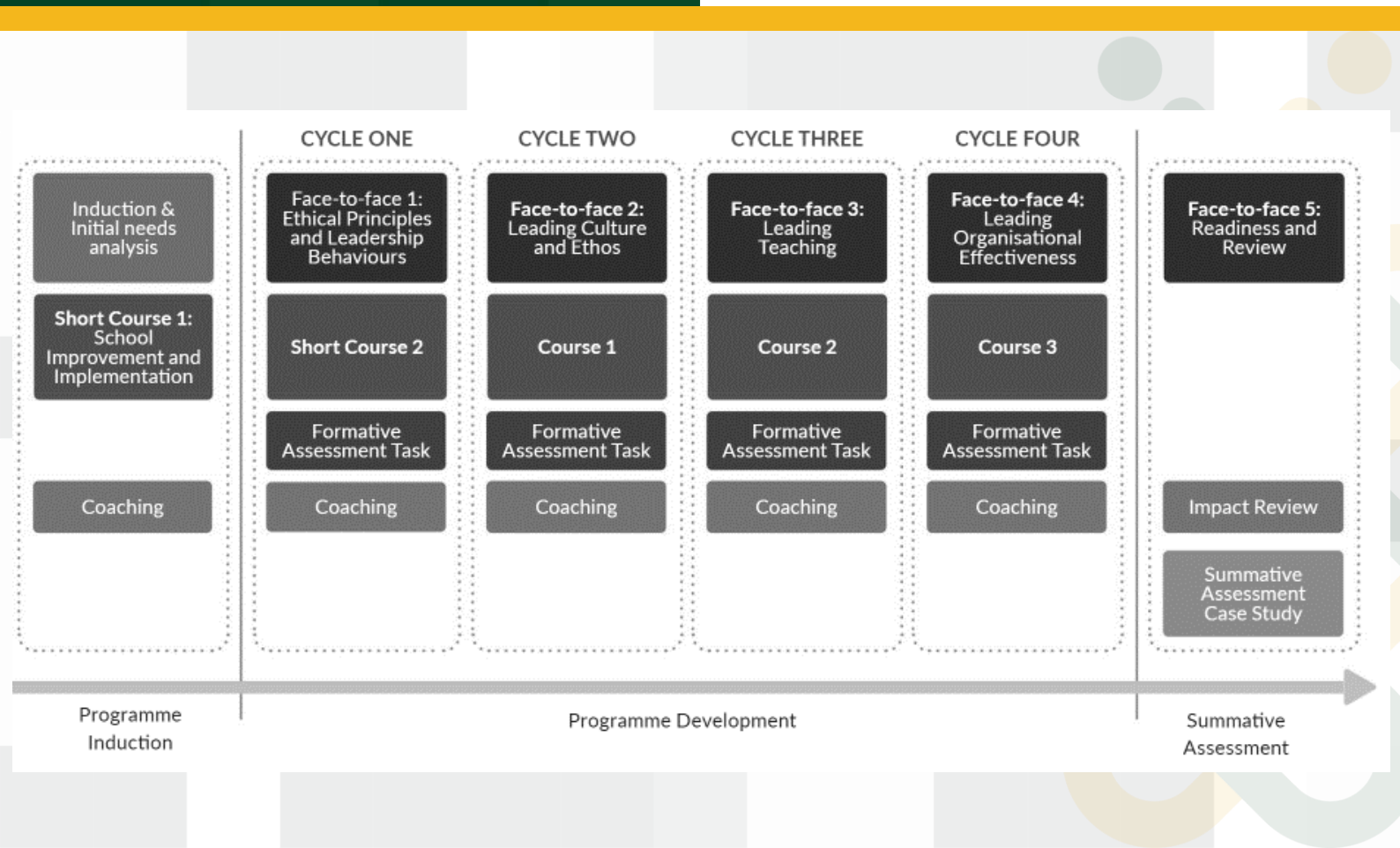
NPQ for SENCOs

Group 1
Autumn 2024

Dear Participant,

Huge congratulations on being accepted on to our NPQSENCO Programme. As we know, research tells us that leadership is second only to teaching in making a difference to outcomes for young people. The programme you are embarking on will further enhance the contributions you can make to this.

The aim of this course overview is to help you begin to familiarise yourself with the programme and to start feeling ready for the exciting challenges and opportunities ahead of you.



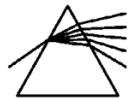
National Professional Qualification for SENCOs (NPQSENCO)

All NPQs in the suite have been carefully constructed with some key areas of learning in mind, and these are listed below:

KEY AREAS OF LEARNING



Effective communication and teamwork



Leadership clarity & team alignment



Change management & implementation



Professional learning & growth



Self management & awareness

Course structure and approach

The NPQSENCO has **18 months** of study followed by an assessment period.

Our **flexible** study approach is underpinned by high quality, **web-based self-study** with plenty of **online discussion** with your peers and **support** from your course leader.

Key activities in these sessions will include:

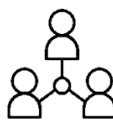
Key Activities



Hold a **mirror** up to your current setting, studying how it works



Get a **window** into other types of schools – different phases, specialities, localities



Courses designed for participants from a **variety** of backgrounds & schools



Be properly prepared to deal with the most common real-life leadership **challenges**



Learn from detailed interviews with great leaders – not just what they do but how they think



Experience repeated opportunities to practise real **change** and **implementation**

Your facilitators will be:



**Kara
Robinson**

Kara is an experienced teacher and senior leader. She originally trained and worked as a teacher in mainstream primary schools, before moving into special education in 2008. Since this time, she has worked at special schools in Birmingham, Solihull and Warwickshire, supporting pupils from 2-19 with a wide range of special educational needs and disabilities. Kara currently works as Deputy Headteacher at Hazel Oak School, but has also held roles as Deputy Headteacher, Head of School and Headteacher in other special schools.

Kara has supported other NPQ programmes and is an experienced training facilitator. She also works as an associate for Peacemakers, where she supports the facilitation of Restorative Practice training in schools. She is excited to be part of the new NPQSENCO programme and is looking forward to working with staff who share her passion for providing the best education for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

s501krobinson@hazel-oak.solihull.sch.uk

**Rachael
Russell**



Rachael trained as a teacher at the Institute of Education in London. Rachael is an Executive Principal with Tudor Grange Academy Trust and works predominantly with the primary team. Rachael has been a Head Teacher, leading a school from repetitive 'requires improvement' to 'good' in a short period of time whilst developing a staff team that has since secured sustained improvement.

Rachael is an accredited SENCo with a particular interest in SEMH provision. Rachael supports schools outside of TGAT as an LLE and highly values collaborative working which has supported her own professional development.

rrussell@yewtree.tgacademy.org.uk

Kara and Rachael will be your first port of call with any queries relating to your NPQSENCO, if you have any further questions do contact us.

Facilitators have completed extensive training so that they can support you in your programme.

Asynchronous engagement in discussion boards will enable your facilitators to craft the sessions to suit your contexts, and to respond to questions you may have, using the materials provided by Best Practice Network.

This is such an exciting time for us in the profession – the suite of professional qualifications will enable us to question our own tacit knowledge and theories of action, so that we can make evidence-based decisions in our schools. The fundamentals of school improvement depend on the culture of improvement and strong relational trust that will ensue.

Course structure and approach

1. Attendance at sessions is mandatory. This includes webinars and face-to-face sessions.
2. During face-to-face sessions, participants are expected to wear professional dress.
3. During webinars, participants are expected to have cameras on and be able to use a microphone. The sessions are interactive, and use break-out rooms to discuss provocations, and thus engagement via camera and microphone is essential.
4. This is your space to learn, and we would ask that you put aside all other environmental distractions and priorities to engage fully in the sessions.
5. Your participation and engagement are pre-requisites to enable you and your colleagues to optimise the learning opportunities. This will mean that your preparation is key, so you are ready to respectfully share your perspectives on these. The programme will endeavour to enable you to question your own theories of action, so that you might enhance decision making in your own setting and others that you might encounter.
6. It is expected during the session for you to wear a red lanyard and not leave the lodge without being accompanied by TGAT staff.
7. You must have completed onboarding by **18th November 2024**. Failure to do so will result in any secured DfE funding being revoked and may result in not being able to apply for further NPQ funding in the future.

We hope this serves as a useful introduction to your qualification. On the next page, you will find details of the schedule, including the dates of the various elements of the programme.

We are really looking forward to working with you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch, using the following email address:

tsh@tgacademy.org.uk



Billie Stewart
Operations and Strategic Lead for NPQs

Programme Dates

Delivery Session Name	Delivery Mode	Date	Start Time	End Time
Conference 1	Face to Face	10.12.24	9:30	15:30
Conference 2	Face to Face	5.3.25	9:30	15:30
Conference 3	Face to Face	11.6.25	9:30	15:30
Conference 4	Face to Face	16.10.25	9:30	15:30
The Face-to-Face sessions will be conducted at Tudor Grange Academy Solihull in The Lodge building				

