



## National Tutoring Programme: webinar for schools

This document contains responses to questions asked in the webinars for schools on 27 and 29 September 2022. For brevity, and to avoid duplication, some questions have been edited or consolidated.

### Tutoring Arrangements

**Q. Have the ratios changed from 1:3 to 1:6?**

A. Schools can use NTP funding to provide tutoring up to a maximum group size of 6 pupils.

**Q. Does the rule of 15 hours per child still apply for SLT? Can pupils have more than 15 hours of tutoring if they need it?**

A. Tuition offered across all tuition routes should be 12 to 15 hours to have a meaningful impact on pupil attainment. Schools should plan their tuition with this in mind and avoid less piecemeal tutoring. You may also wish to deliver longer courses if this meets the needs of your pupils

**Q. Can tutoring be carried out during school time or is it all to be carried out after school hours?**

A. Tuition can take place in-person or online and should be agreed between the tutor and the school. We expect schools to organise tutoring at an appropriate time for pupils to encourage high attendance. On any occasion on which a pupil has to be taken out of lessons for tuition, the school must ensure they still have access to the full curriculum.

**Q. Can NTP funding be used to work specifically with pupils with EAL (English as an Additional Language)?**

A. NTP funding must be used to support pupils in one of the listed subjects. EAL is not one of them, so schools cannot use NTP money to support pupils with EAL to learn English.

**Q. Can pupils have tutoring in a subject they have previously been tutored in?**

A. Yes, schools have the freedom to design and deliver a tutoring offer that suits the needs of their pupils.

**Q. What subjects can be covered using NTP funding?**

A. For primary school pupils, tutoring can be given in mathematics, English and science. For secondary school pupils, it can be provided in mathematics, English, science, humanities, and modern foreign languages.

[Alternative tutoring interventions](#) are available for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

**Q. Is there a hard and fast figure for the number of pupil premium (PP) eligible pupils who must receive tutoring?**

A. Schools should prioritise their pupil premium cohort to receive tutoring, in line with the NTP’s objective of supporting disadvantaged pupils. They may also consider offering tuition to other pupils, where appropriate.

All schools will receive a funding allocation that, based on the average cost of a tutoring course, will allow them to offer tutoring to all their PP-eligible pupils. This does not mean the programme is for PP-eligible pupils only – schools should prioritise this group, but also have the discretion to offer tutoring to other pupils.

**Q. There are three different types of tutoring available within the National Tutoring Programme. Are there any differences in the financial benefits offered for each type?**

The National Tutoring Programme (NTP) provides primary and secondary schools with funding to spend on targeted academic support, delivered by trained and experienced tutors. The financial benefits of providing tutoring through the NTP are the same for all three types of tutoring, i.e., a 60% subsidy, paid to your school through an initial funding allocation calculation based on your pupil premium rates. You may organise tutoring in your school that does not fall within the scope of the National Tutoring Programme, however, this would not qualify for the 60% NTP subsidy for each pupil hour of tutoring. Advice on funding and subsidies can be found in the [guidance for schools](#).

## Funding

**Q. Last year we were able to use the recovery premium to fund NTP, can you confirm if we can use it again this year?**

A. No, it is not possible to use the recovery premium to fund NTP. The conditions of the recovery premium grant for academic year 2022 to 2023 state that schools must not use the grant to meet their portion of the costs of tuition provided through the National Tutoring Programme (NTP). Schools should meet those costs from other sources of funding, including pupil premium. Recovery premium is additional funding to provide further education recovery support on top of the subsidised NTP offer. See [further guidance on the recovery premium](#).

**Q. Can you confirm how schools are funded?**

A. The NTP grant is paid in 3 instalments to schools and academy trusts on the following schedule:

Maintained schools*	Academy trusts
September 2022	October 2022
December 2022	January 2023
April 2023	May 2023

*\*paid to local authorities on the last working day of each month*

To find out how much funding your school will receive for the 2022 to 2023 academic year, see the [school-level funding allocations](#).

Maintained schools should receive funding from their local authority. Academies may be funded through their MAT. If your school has not received its funding (as per the amounts stated in the funding allocation), you should contact your local authority or MAT head in the first instance.

**Q. Is this year's funding allocation set or will it reduce if my school has funding clawed back from last year?**

We have published [school-level funding allocations](#) for this academic year. For further information about clawback relating to unused funding in the previous academic year, please see the conditions of grant within the [school-led tutoring year-end statement](#) guidance. Please be aware, any unspent NTP subsidy will be recovered by the ESFA. We expect this to take place in December 2022.

**Q. Please can you confirm how much funding we will receive, and from this funding confirm how much subsidy we can use?**

A. To find out how much funding your school will receive for the 2022 to 2023 academic year, see the [school-level funding allocations](#).

NTP funding can be used to pay for 60% of the total cost incurred by your school to deliver tutoring. This is subject to the maximum hourly per-pupil rate that applies to all NTP tutoring you provide, to ensure the cost of tutoring is not excessive.

The maximum per pupil rates are:

- mainstream schools: £18 of which the DfE subsidy will be £10.80 (60%)
- non-mainstream schools: £47 of which the DfE subsidy will be £28.20 (60%)

The rates and subsidy are the same for all tutoring delivered through NTP (from an Academic Mentor, Tuition Partner and school-led tutoring).

Detailed funding examples are included in the [guidance for schools](#).

**Q. Why is the hourly rate not inclusive of on-costs and therefore making it approximately an additional 34% cost to schools to the hourly rate?**

A. For all tutoring delivered in the 2022 to 2023 academic year, you must record the total cost you incur, and the number of tutoring hours delivered, which you will be required to share with DfE via your funding return in summer 2023. Schools **can** include employer and onboarding costs in their total costs incurred.

If your hourly per pupil rate (total cost incurred divided by number of pupil hours delivered) is £18 or less (£47 or less for non-mainstream schools), we will cover 60% of the cost you have incurred.

If your hourly per pupil rate is greater than £18 (or greater than £47 for non-mainstream schools), we will cap your return at the relevant maximum rate

**Q. School budgets are at crisis point making it incredibly difficult to meet basic costs. Where are schools supposed to find additional 40% to support NTP?**

A. We understand that the cost of living has risen and the impact this is having on schools. We are monitoring the situation and listening to feedback from our stakeholders. We are encouraging schools to use existing sources of funding, such as pupil premium and other school budgets, alongside the NTP grant funding from DfE. Funded support for tuition remains available in 2022 to 2023 and 2023 to 2024.

**Q. Why is the amount from the DfE less than last year?**

A. We have always been clear that the subsidy we provide to schools will reduce over the duration of the programme. This is in line with our wider objective of embedding tutoring in

schools. We are encouraging schools to use existing sources of funding, such as pupil premium and other school budgets, to embed tutoring within their teaching offer. Funded support for tuition remains available in academic years 2022 to 2023 and 2023 to 2024.

The Department for Education (DfE) is providing £349 million of core tutoring funding directly to schools in the 2022 to 2023 academic year. It has been made clear from the outset that DfE would reduce the funding for NTP each year.

**Q. Can the funding be used for resources?**

A. NTP funding can only be spent on the tutoring interventions themselves.

These should be evidence-based, staff-led, and delivered in small groups or on a one-to-one basis, with a clear link to academic progress.

## School-led Tutoring

**Q. Are there restrictions around the ways that existing school staff can be used for school-led tutoring?**

A. Schools can deploy their current staff to provide tutoring or engage new staff for this purpose. Schools may recruit their own staff, such as classroom teachers or teaching assistants on a full-time or part-time basis to deliver tutoring. Alternatively, retired, supply or returning teachers can provide tutoring. Those that are delivering tutoring via their current staff should ensure that the provision of tuition is treated as additional to any staff member's core roles and responsibilities. Schools must ensure NTP funding is used only for tutoring activity.

**Q. Can we use a current member of staff to deliver and use the money to backfill their position?**

A. Funding can be used to cover the costs of staff delivering tutoring. Schools may also use the funding to cover the duties of internal staff released for tutoring, rather than the tutoring itself. However, it must not fund the same role twice or be used to fund any salaried positions. Where internal staff are delivering tuition, this must be in addition to their contracted hours and duties.

**Q. Can a school directly employ a tutor with QTS (for example, a retired teacher) and can this be fully funded through NTP or does the 60% rule apply to hourly rate?**

A. The school-led tutoring route offers flexibility for schools to identify their own tutors. These may be people recruited from their own staff, such as classroom teachers or teaching assistants. Alternatively, retired, supply or returning teachers can provide tutoring. School leaders can decide who will be an appropriate tutor with the skills and experience to deliver high-quality tuition to meet the needs of their pupils.

NTP funding can be used to pay for 60% of the total cost incurred by your school to deliver tutoring. This is subject to the maximum hourly per-pupil rate that applies to all NTP tutoring you provide, to ensure the cost of tutoring is not excessive.

**Q. Does a potential tutor need any formal qualifications i.e., GCSEs/A Levels, to become a school-led tutor?**

A. There are no specific qualifications required to become a school-led tutor, however, staff who do not hold QTS will require training. The training requirements are shown in the training section below.

If you are engaging new staff as tutors, you should ensure that all safer recruitment checks have been completed. It is the responsibility of schools to agree with tutors the terms of their employment.

## Tuition Partners

**Q. Some of the tuition partners we've started using are charging in the realm of £60 per hour. Does this mean only £10.80 of this cost will come out of our NTP funding and the rest by school?**

A. Yes, NTP funding can only be used to pay for 60% of the total cost incurred by your school to deliver tutoring. This is subject to the maximum hourly per-pupil rate that applies to all NTP tutoring you provide, to ensure the cost of tutoring is not excessive. Increasing the group size (up to a maximum of 1:6) will reduce your hourly per pupil rate.

The maximum hourly per pupil rates are:

- Mainstream schools: £18 of which the DfE subsidy will be £10.80 (60%)
- Non-mainstream schools: £47 of which the DfE subsidy will be £28.20 (60%)

These [funding examples](#) illustrate some of the funding scenarios that may occur and how schools should address them, when managing their NTP funding.

**Q. Can we use the funding towards tuition partners? We couldn't claim it in the return last year.**

A. Yes, for academic year 2022/23, NTP funding can be used to pay for 60% of the total cost incurred by your school for all NTP tutoring you provide. This is subject to the maximum hourly per-pupil rate, to ensure the cost of tutoring is not excessive.

Your funding allocation can be used for all 3 types of tutoring: Academic Mentor, Tuition Partners and school-led tutoring.

## Academic Mentors

**Q. Can we recruit our own Academic Mentor?**

A. Schools can [apply for an academic mentor](#) via our delivery partner, Cognition Education. If your school has already found an academic mentor you wish to employ, there is no need to follow this application process. Instead, you can employ them directly, following the employment guidelines outlined in the school-led tutoring guidance. For school led tutoring, training is optional for staff with QTS or who have previously completed the recommended training in a previous year. For non-QTS training is mandatory.

**Q. Does the new 60% subsidy still apply to the full Academic Mentor salary?**

A. NTP funding for Academic Mentors can be used to pay for 60% of the total cost incurred by your school to deliver tutoring. The minimum salary for an academic mentor is £19,000 per year, or £21,000 for those with a university degree. Schools may choose to set higher salaries at their discretion. The 60% subsidy will be applied to the hourly per pupil cost of delivering tuition, not the total annual salary. For more information, see the [funding and paying for tutoring](#) and [mandatory year-end statement](#).

## Supporting pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

### **Q. Can we use a combination of school led tutoring and an Academic Mentor for specialist SEND speech and language support?**

A. Yes, we encourage schools to use a combination of NTP routes to create a tutoring offer that meets the needs of pupils. Academic mentors can provide alternative types of tutoring for pupils with SEND if they are suitably qualified.

### **Q. Can we use NTP funding for a speech and language therapist?**

A. Yes, funding can be spent on alternative types of tutoring interventions for pupils with SEND across mainstream and non-mainstream schools, including speech and language therapy.

### **Q. How do we access the SEND tutoring resources from EDT?**

A. If you're a headteacher and wish to nominate a tutor for online training, visit the [Education Development Trust website](#), where you can request specific topics (including materials from SEND) for your NTP tutor. If you are struggling to find the SEND tutoring resources, you can get in touch with EDT for more information at [tutortraining@educationdevelopmenttrust.com](mailto:tutortraining@educationdevelopmenttrust.com).

### **Q. Can we include occupational therapy (OT) support for students with SEND?**

A. Due to the diversity of SEND, schools are encouraged to select the most appropriate tutoring intervention for the needs of their pupils. This could include OT support if considered the most effective way to support pupil progress and learning. We have not put any specific restrictions on the type of tutoring provided, on the condition that the selected intervention is supported by evidence and can help pupils to make academic progress.

### **Q. Can assessment for the best intervention for a student not currently in school and the intervention itself (such as dramatherapy, art therapy) be funded as school-led tutoring?**

A. NTP funding can only be spent on the tutoring interventions themselves rather than the initial assessment. You can only spend NTP funding on pupils currently on roll at your school. Once an assessment of the most suitable intervention has been made and the pupil has enrolled, you can use NTP funding to subsidise the cost of your chosen intervention.

## Training

### **Q. Who needs to complete training this year? Do staff with QTS need to complete it?**

A. To ensure school-led tutoring is high quality, a comprehensive training package is available from the [Education Development Trust](#). Training content will vary according to the professional background of individual tutors, in recognition of the fact that staff hired as tutors will have different levels of experience working in a school setting. For school-led tutoring, training is optional for staff with QTS or those who have completed the recommended training in a previous year. For academic mentors, the core training is mandatory for all except those who completed it in a previous year.

### **Q. Can NTP funding be used to pay for staff to attend training?**

A. Training is online and self-directed so schools will not need to pay travel costs. Training is free for all NTP tutors, but NTP funding can only be used to subsidise tuition hours. It is at

the discretion of the school to decide if they want tutors to complete training within school hours, but tutors should be compensated for any time spent training outside their core working hours.

**Q. How long does the training take to complete?**

A. The length of training will vary for each individual but will last approximately 14 hours for those without QTS.

## Year End Statement

**Q. I made a mistake on my 2021 to 2022 Year-End Statement – can I still amend it?**

A. Yes, please check your records on tutoring and [submit the Year-End Statement](#) again as soon as possible, and by no later than Friday 14 October. If you re-submit the Year-End Statement, we will accept this as your final return and your previous return will not be considered.

**Q. What information will schools need to provide in the 2022 to 2023 Year-End-Statement next year?**

A. The 2022 to 2023 year-end statement will be available in June 2023 and will require data on:

- how much your school has spent on NTP tutoring
- how many hours of tutoring your school has funded using your NTP allocation
- how many pupils in your school have received tuition through the NTP

## Reporting

**Q. What are the in-year reporting requirements?**

A. Schools are required to complete the [termly census](#), and from June 2023, schools will be required to provide details of their full year spend through the Year-End Statement.

Guidance for completing the Year-End Statement, including exact timelines, and further assistance will be available in June 2023, and we will alert schools when it is released.

**Q. What data will schools be expected to provide?**

A. It is important to keep up-to-date records of the tutoring you have delivered. We recommend you regularly record:

- the number of pupil premium eligible pupils who have received tutoring
- the number of other pupils who have received tutoring
- how many hours of tutoring you have provided per pupil for pupil-premium pupils
- how many hours of tutoring per pupil you have provided to other pupils
- the tuition route used – whether it was an academic mentor, a tuition partner or existing school resource

**Q. Is there an up to-date NTP tracker this year that reflects the reduced contribution?**

A. We are considering the best way to support schools with tracking their tuition and will provide more information in the coming weeks. In the meantime, we recommend you keep up-to-date, clear, and accurate records of the tutoring you have delivered as outlined in the previous question.

**Q. If a school hasn't completed any tutoring, what do they need to complete on the termly census, do we just leave it blank?**

A. Schools should annotate on the census that they have not carried out any tutoring for that period.

**Q. How would the NTP expect evidence to be presented to show that the role of the tutor was outside of existing responsibilities?**

Schools can deploy their current staff to provide tutoring or engage new staff for this purpose. Those that are delivering tutoring via their current staff should ensure that the provision of tuition is treated as additional to any staff member's core roles and responsibilities. Schools must ensure NTP funding is used only for tutoring activity.

## Help and support

Contact our dedicated support team if you have any queries about tutoring, or any issues accessing the service:

- Email [tutoring.support@service.education.gov.uk](mailto:tutoring.support@service.education.gov.uk)
- Phone **0300 373 0891** (Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm)

© Crown copyright 2022