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Mentor training/development update for 2025-26

Dear University of Cumbria ITT school mentor,

Thank you for supporting the University of Cumbria in 2025-26 and considering your ongoing Mentor Professional Development.

From 2024-25 all ITT providers are required to work with general mentors to ensure that expert colleagues know and understand how to develop ITT trainees effectively.

In line with DfE’s revised (Nov 24) Initial teacher training (ITT) reform we are committed to ensuring our mentors ‘receive sufficient high-quality training to ensure they can effectively support a trainee teacher to obtain the knowledge and skills they need to successfully complete their ITT school placement.’ The mentor development we provide ensures mentors are equipped ‘with the knowledge and skills they need to undertake the role, including knowledge and understanding of the ITT core content framework and its underpinning evidence, and of the ITT curriculum which the trainee will be following.’

From September 2024**,** The University of Cumbria launched our **General Mentor: Mentor Training Curriculum.**

The professional development programme:

* **Builds** on the range of provision already in existence
* **Sequences** progression of mentor training
* **Respects** colleagues substantial experience and builds upon it
* **Engages** Mentors through online autonomous training
* **Acknowledges** mentors’ wide range of experiences
* **Encourages** professional development through self-assessment
* **Develops** transferable skills to induction tutoring, performance management and coaching

**We will:**

* continue to work with each mentor throughout our ITE Partnership, to identify the training most appropriate to their existing experience, skill and expertise in role.
* identify the ‘essential’ areas of focus for all mentors, and through ongoing high quality QA activity discuss and advise on what is the most appropriate next steps in development.
* continue to allow your professional articulation of prior training to dictate where best to access (tier) our suite of high-quality resources.

Our MT curriculum consists of **3 core tiers of Mentor Development (training) provision. All 3 tiers are available throughout the year for you to access and you only need to carry out the essential training for the tier you require.**

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| **Tier 1** | **Initial (NEW) to ITT mentoring:** Initial Mentor training - For all new ITT mentors |
| **Essential Modules** (all to be completed):   * Initial Mentor Training Introduction **(Online synchronous booking details below)** * Purpose and Design of ITTECF * Understanding Teacher Education at the UOC * Mentoring and Coaching * Observation and Feedback   **Tier 1 Developmental Modules** (optional, as identified through the self-audit\*)  2 x QA touchpoints with UPT:LM (during student placement)  **Total: approx. 6 hours** |

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| **Tier 2** | **Developing Mentor Training:**  For mentors who have completed Initial Mentor training at UoC or with another Lancashire consortium provider |
| **Essential Modules** (all to be completed):   * Setting ITE curriculum targets **(Online synchronous booking details below)** * University of Cumbria ITT Curriculum Depth Support * Challenging Disadvantage Together   **Tier 2 Developmental Modules** (optional, as identified through the self-audit\*)  2 x QA touchpoints with UPT:LM (during student placement)  **Total: approx. 6 hours** |

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| **Tier 3** | **Enhancement Mentor Training:** Module choice  For mentors who have completed all initial and developing mentoring training. |
| * 1 module from the suite in T**ier 3**   **Developmental Modules** (optional, as identified through the self-audit\*)  2 x QA touchpoints with UPT:LM (during student placement)  **Total: approx. 6 hours** |

**\*UoC are committed to maintaining our entire range of training availability for all. Therefore, please use audits of skills to identify further/next steps (CPD).**

The training is provided by either:

1. Online Teams sessions,
2. Through independent learning using the online learning platform Mosaic
3. Through a combination of the two.

To access Mosaic we need to set you up with a **Mosaic Account** and to do this we need your **up-to-date details** so please complete a form by **clicking on the link** [Mosaic-Mentor Training System](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.office.com%2FPages%2FResponsePage.aspx%3Fid%3DHdsntliZ0U-OpIrDsnzwD9IFoH1IV9hKkHCxyHT1wFtUNlNPMUU0V1lCRTI0UVFOSDVHT1VZM0c5Qy4u&data=05%7C02%7Cmentortraining%40cumbria.ac.uk%7C56e1bbaf80184785f68008dcb5f1fda7%7Cb627db1d99584fd18ea48ac3b27cf00f%7C1%7C0%7C638585298191876881%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wGG9cotyzKEvZzMfOgDiCmw7z8FStNjHtjjnxexFMM0%3D&reserved=0) if you have not done so previously.

We have created a **short audit & flow chart (Appendix 1)** for you to work out which sections of training you should complete during the academic year. Of course, you will continue to discuss this with your Lead Mentor: University Partnership Tutor at each QA touch point or Partner visit.

Once you have identified the training required the sections below provide further detail on the actions required to access the training.

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| **Tier 1** | | |
| **A** | **Initial Mentor Training**  A one-hour online session for new Mentors exploring the Initial Teacher Training and Early Career Framework (ITTECF) and the University of Cumbria’s curriculum and assessment design. The session will also introduce Mentors on how to access the compulsory, asynchronous online learning modules. | **How to book:**  See Appendix 2 for session dates and corresponding links. Please follow the link to your preferred date to complete an online booking form. |
| **B** | Complete the **Tier 1 Mosaic** essential learning modules throughout the academic year and be prepared to discuss your progress during the Lead Mentor: University Partnership Tutor QA visit | |

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| **Tier 2** | | |
| **A** | **Target Setting Training**  A 75-minute online session preparing Mentors in linking targets to the students ITT curriculum. The session will explore how to set SMART targets in line with Staged Expectations and the domains of ITT learning. Input will be provided on how to expand targets from composite to component through clear implementation steps in addition to verb driven actions. Short-, medium- and long-term targets will be analysed in line with the University of Cumbria processes and procedures including weekly reviews, target running records and End of Placement Reports. | **How to book:**  See Appendix 2 for session dates and corresponding links. Please follow the link to your preferred date to complete an online booking form. |
| **B** | Complete the **Tier 2 Mosaic** essential learning modules throughout the academic year and be prepared to discuss your progress during the Lead Mentor: University Partnership Tutor QA visit | |

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| **Tier 3** |
| Complete the training selected throughout the year and be prepared to discuss your progress during the Lead Mentor: University Partnership Tutor QA visit |

We are also offering optional online briefing sessions supporting Mentors prior to the placements starting, more information can be found here:

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| **Beginning Placement Briefing**  An optional online briefing session for Mentors preparing to support a student on a Beginning Placement. Speak directly to a University Lead Mentor – UPT. Ideal for quick informal queries. | **How to book:**  Please follow the link below to complete an online booking form for your session.   * Monday 20th October PGCE, Y1/3 or Y1/3 SEN Beginning-4.00-4.30   [**PGCE, Y1/3 or Y1/3 SEN Beginning Placement Briefing 20th October 2025**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/d9e808c9-8812-44ae-bef1-3e740c530d63@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f)   * Wednesday 28th January PG(Jan) Beginning -4.00-4.30   [**PG(January) Beginning Placement Briefing 28th January 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/3fb75040-b9a1-47b7-9716-b92b02cd7aea@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| **Developing Placement Briefing**  An optional online briefing session for Mentors preparing to support a student on a Developing Placement. Speak directly to a University Lead Mentor – UPT. Ideal for quick informal queries. | **How to book:**  Please follow the link below to complete an online booking form for your preferred session   * Wednesday 15th October Y2/3 or Y2/3 SEN Developing -4.00-4.30   [**Y2/3 or Y2/3 SEN Developing Placement Briefing 15th October 2025**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/6c4e51e8-4160-49fe-87b3-2a17d3bf98de@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f)   * Tuesday 6th January Y3/4 or PGCE Dev-4.00-4.30   [**PGCE or Y3/4 Developing Placement Briefing 6th January 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/2d6b1851-97d6-4905-a457-34d9eafa9b4e@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f)   * Wednesday 6th May PG(January) Developing- 4.00-4.30:   [**PG (January) Developing Placement Briefing Wednesday 6th May 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/22fc3d28-a088-48f0-8639-147b529ebb38@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| **Extending Placement Briefing**  An optional online briefing session for Mentors preparing to support a student on an Extending Placement. Speak directly to a University Lead Mentor – UPT. Ideal for quick informal queries. | **How to book:**  Please follow the link below to complete an online booking form for your preferred session.   * Monday 15th September PG(January) Extending -4.00-4.30   [**PG(January) Extending Placement Briefing 15th September 2025**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/76339c40-2f38-496b-80fe-9b9534173043@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f)   * Tuesday 30th September Y3/3 Extending -4.00-4.30   [**Y3/3 Extending Placement Briefing 30th September 2025**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/29488b16-900d-47d1-ac39-3a56c8b113e3@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f)   * Monday 15th December Y4/4 Extending -4.00-4.30[**Y4/4 Extending Placement Briefing15th December 2025**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/2fba0c69-3b25-49a3-ab4f-51c17f6d9717@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) * Wednesday 25th March PGCE Extending -4.00-4.30   [**PGCE Extending Placement Briefing 25th March 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/e3c4790f-e9aa-4ec0-bb5d-d2abefd2b52b@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |

Please direct any enquiries relating to mentor training to [mentortraining@cumbria.ac.uk](mailto:mentortraining@cumbria.ac.uk)

Many thanks for your continued support of the ITT partnership.

Pat Freeman & Leadership Team

**Patrick Freeman SFHEA**

Placement Liaison Manager | Institute of Education

**APPENDIX 1**

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**APPENDIX 2**

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| **Initial Mentor Training** |
| Tuesday 7th October 4.00-5.00 [**Initial Mentor Training 7th October 2025**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/32ace46f-3b61-4e6f-b888-605e526b9105@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Monday 17th November 4.00-5.00 [**Initial Mentor Training 17th November 2025**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/9b8e581e-d35b-4662-be4b-21c5d8c794c3@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Tuesday 13th January 4.00-5.00 [**Initial Mentor Training 13th January 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/5535db64-881f-4afb-8ae8-8898d32c291a@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Monday 26th January 4.00-5.00 [**Initial Mentor Training 26th January 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/af47f636-05f6-4de4-8218-61d0f2910d03@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Wednesday 11th February 4.00-5.00 [**Initial Mentor Training 11th February 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/0f92c114-f4cf-4900-9101-d2186d36cb3a@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Monday 9th March 4.00-5.00 [**Initial Mentor Training 9th March 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/642f1aa0-03f4-4dae-9860-40054fe790a1@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Wednesday 15th April 4.00-5.00 [**Initial Mentor Training 15th April 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/0ce7a3e0-5edf-4397-8253-1c657257fdbe@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Wednesday 13th May 4.00-5.00 [**Initial Mentor Training 13th May 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/2b745032-1f74-4a94-bf23-6b00c4bd5d02@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |

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| **Target Setting Training** |
| Monday 6th October 4.00-5.15 [**Target Setting 6th October 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/2dc4fb41-3caa-472e-9d3e-3e09f9789781@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Wednesday 12th November 4.00-5.15 [**Target Setting 12th November 2025**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/95ef2b08-908d-4851-affd-9155e2b00ba3@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Monday 12th January 4.00-5.15 [**Target Setting 12th January 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/bddb872b-00c9-486c-b56a-73ff7b81d649@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Wednesday 25th February 4.00-5.15 [**Target Setting 25th February 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/a9559286-50b3-4c8c-b6c1-33879b572c4e@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Monday 23rd March 4.00-5.15 [**Target Setting 23rd March 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/51eb52d2-ae3a-4717-aa09-54c83523497e@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Tuesday 5th May 4.00-5.15 [**Target Setting 5th May 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/e9522261-1f5b-486b-bea7-9316c0d9514e@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |
| Tuesday 9th June 4.00-5.15 [**Target Setting 9th June 2026**](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/df184145-cc18-417c-a6a6-7190bd29f21b@b627db1d-9958-4fd1-8ea4-8ac3b27cf00f) |