If you’re interested in writing articles for our journal – Impact – then this Q&A is for you. We spoke to our Editorial Assistant – Phoebe Dry – to find out more about what’s involved.

What are the aims and scope of Impact?

Impact is the termly, peer-reviewed journal of the Chartered College of Teaching. Impact aims to provide a clear link between research and practice for a teacher readership, with short write-ups of research alongside reflective pieces written by teachers, school leaders, and academics. Each issue is themed around a particular topic, which will typically fit under one of three broad themes: Pedagogy (including science of learning, educational psychology, memory and assessment); School and classroom culture (including leadership, professionalism, CPD, wellbeing and behaviour); and Learning design (including curriculum, planning and delivery, feedback and enrichment).

Who can write for Impact?

Put simply, anyone with experience in schools and/or knowledge of educational research. No previous experience of writing for a similar publication is required. We encourage submissions across the full range of settings, phases, subjects and disciplines, and welcome contributions from practitioners and researchers in special education. Most of the submissions we receive are from educators, practitioners, researchers and academics. But we also welcome pieces from other educational organisations and charities, as well as co-authored pieces between authors from any of the professional backgrounds listed above.

Do I get to choose the topic and length of my article?

Topics must be relevant to the scope of both the journal and themes of the specific issue. The theme of each issue will be announced by the College in advance of submissions opening, along with examples of the topics which might be covered. All ideas presented must demonstrate engagement with relevant research and should be grounded in evidence-based classroom practice. Articles should be useful and refer to practical applications for classroom teachers where possible. The length of your article will depend on the article type you choose to write. Article types include: Research (summaries of current, original research, including practitioner research, with its implications for pedagogy); Perspectives on research (pieces offering a clear, balanced, research-informed review or critique of a particular topic within the issue theme) Case studies; and Reflections (teachers discussing a specific piece of research and how it has informed their practice).
**How do I submit?**

Initially, we ask for the submission of a proposed title and a short abstract of 150-250 words in length, specifying which type of article you intend to write, and any key references to relevant research. This will then be assessed by the publishing team before a decision is reached on whether or not you are invited to submit a full paper.

**What does the process involve?**

Once submitted, your article will be reviewed by the publishing team to ensure it meets the requirements outlined in the author guide. After this initial stage, it will then be sent back to you with recommendations or sent for peer review. You will receive peer review comments from both a teacher and an academic’s perspective. The purpose of the review process is not to criticise but to provide constructive feedback to support you in developing your article. You will be given time to amend your article based on this feedback, before submitting a revised version to be professionally copyedited and checked for any inconsistencies. You may receive queries following this stage but these tend to concern minor points.

**Will I definitely be published?**

The publishing team select final articles for print based on topic, phase and specialism, to ensure a balanced coverage of each. All accepted articles are published in the main, online edition of the journal, with only a selection of articles appearing in print. You will receive a final proof of your article to check over prior to publication.

**Will I receive guidance?**

You will be sent a copy of our author guidelines along with your invitation to submit a full paper. The guidelines are provided to offer an overview of the process and to outline the criteria of the different article types. The guidelines are designed to act as a point of reference to help you in the writing process, although the publishing team will also be on hand at each step to answer any questions you might have. You will also be asked to adhere to The Chartered College’s house style where formatting and referencing are concerned - more detail on this is provided in the guidelines.

**How long should it take?**

From the submission of your title and abstract through to publication, the publishing process can take up to four months. About a month of this will be given over to your writing. Specific deadlines will be given at each stage of development.
How do I become an Impact author?

If you’re interested in writing for us, please look out for our call for papers here: https://charteredcollege.submittable.com/submit which go live every few months.

Should you have any further questions, email journal@chartered.college. Happy writing!