



Rethinking Curriculum

Pilot school role description

April 2023

Background

The Rethinking Curriculum project is a long term curriculum development project that is focussed on building knowledge and skills within the English primary sector. It aims to:

Support and equip teachers and school leaders with the knowledge and skills to identify, plan and implement curriculum development work in a sustainable, context specific and impactful approach. This will mean that all pupils will have access to an expansive, inspiring curriculum that connects them with local communities and enables them to lead healthy, fulfilled lives.

The [Chartered College of Teaching](#) is working in partnership with [The Helen Hamlyn Centre for Pedagogy](#) to design a project that is based on the needs of the **current teachers and leaders of our schools**.

We have carried out significant research into the current picture within our schools and we are now beginning the process of expert co-design. We will be working with 5 pilot schools to develop their curriculum over the next year. We will access expert support for the areas each school requires and support a co-design process in developing resources for implementation and professional development as well as areas identified by the schools involved.

From this pilot year we will be evaluating and then further developing resources for all primary schools to access in their own curriculum journeys.

Being a Pilot school

Members of the Rethinking Curriculum Pilot School group will play a central role in the co-design of curriculum materials, implementation support and CPD for primary schools. Drawn from a wide range of contexts and with different experiences of curriculum design and implementation, our Pilot schools aim to be representative of current school requirements and challenges, helping to shape and develop the Rethinking Curriculum project to ensure maximum impact in the sector.

The key responsibilities of a Pilot school are:

- To have a curriculum development focus for the academic year 2023-24. This must be on the school development plan or improvement plan.
- To have a named lead for curriculum development who will work with the Chartered College of Teaching over the pilot year.
- To contribute and engage with the co design of resources for CPD, implementation and curriculum development throughout the project that will be piloted within your school.
- To contribute and engage with the development of research and evaluation of the pilot study and co-design.
- To provide feedback to the Chartered College of Teaching on resources for Rethinking Curriculum.
- To agree with all terms of MOU and sign prior to project commencement.

Benefits of being a pilot school:

- The opportunity to contribute to a brand new curriculum design project that aims to support and equip teachers and school leaders with the knowledge and skills to identify, plan and implement curriculum development work in a sustainable, context-specific and impactful approach. This will mean that all pupils will have access to an expansive, inspiring curriculum that connects them with local communities and enables them to lead healthy, fulfilled lives.
- A chance to influence the development of evidence-informed curriculum design that will directly support in-school curriculum implementation and empower the profession.
- Time and space to collaborate and participate in professional discussions with a range of colleagues with experience and expertise from across the education sector, with a specific focus on primary curriculum and curriculum design that will directly impact the curriculum offering for your pupils.
- Access to support and expertise from the Chartered College of Teaching and the wider sector, to deepen staff expertise around curriculum design and implementation as well as the opportunity for sector wide collaboration.
- Access to Chartered College of Teaching membership.
- An opportunity to broaden and improve the curriculum offering for your children and community.
- A £2,000 payment to the school for completed participation.

The specification of a Pilot School

We will be seeking to recruit a range of pilot school members. We wish to ensure that we are as representative as possible in this small pilot and will be looking for:

- Primary schools with clear curriculum values and a whole school focus upon curriculum development.
- Interest in curriculum lens of :
 - sustainability
 - the arts
 - technology
 - cohesion
 - place based
 - agency
- We wish to include various school types:
 - MAT
 - Independent
 - Local Authority
 - Infant / Primary / All through
 - Free schools
 - Specialist provision (primary)
 - Teaching schools
- Schools must have the capacity to participate in workshops, co-design events and research. 5 days supply will be paid for class-based staff release.

We will aim to recruit 5 schools in England. These will be via a self-nomination application process.

We aim for the schools to be geographically spaced across England.

Rethinking Curriculum pilot school responsibilities

In order for the pilot school project to run smoothly, it's important that members are fully aware of their responsibilities. The following key responsibilities should be noted:

Task	Time required	When
Attend information meeting	45 minutes	June 2023
Project planning session	1 - 2 hours	July 2023
Co-design introduction session	½ day	June / July 2023
Baseline for research	½ day	September 2023
Research and evaluation	½ day	Term 1
Research and evaluation	½ day	Term 2
Research and evaluation	½ day	Term 3
Co-design workshop	1 day	Term 1
Co-design workshop	1 day	Term 2
Co-design workshop	1 day	Term 3
Engagement with Chartered College of Teaching resources	As planned for individual schools	Throughout
Other activities	As agreed in planning sessions	Throughout

Please note that this process is subject to change throughout the project as the design process progresses.

How will the Chartered College of Teaching ensure that the Rethinking Curriculum pilot school process is accessible and representative of a range of voices?

The Chartered College of Teaching is committed to ensuring equality, diversity and inclusion. To ensure that the pilot school group is accessible and representative of a range of voices, we will ensure access to the group by offering online meetings, with alternative meeting times for within / after the school day when possible. We will also meet accessibility needs as required, such as by using captioning at meetings.

To be open and inclusive, we will seek to appoint individuals to the advisory board and expert co-design process who can bring diverse viewpoints and experiences. In addition, we will proactively seek representation from under-represented groups, and individuals from these groups will be prioritised in the selection process. Meeting details, agendas and pre-reading will be sent out at least one week (but ideally two weeks) before the meetings, to allow the group members time to prepare.

Schools will be asked to apply for their participation and a blind recruitment process will take place. We will ensure that school types, size and geographical representation are considered.

Expenses and payment for participation

Pilot schools will be offered an honorarium of £2,000 for participating in the project. This will be paid as £500 at engagement, £500 Jan 2024 and £1,000 upon completion of evaluation activities. Should schools withdraw or not complete the evaluation work then the honorarium will not be paid.

In order to increase fair access to this group we may be able to offer an additional payment to schools to cover costs where supply cover is required, in line with Chartered College of Teaching policy. This will be up to 5 days supply cover per school at an agreed daily rate.

The work will be a combination of online and face-to-face work. When face-to-face work is agreed, travel expenses will be reimbursed, subject to prior authorisation.

When engaging expert support for school co-design, the college will commission and pay for this. The school should not commission any work unless this has prior approval from the Chartered College of Teaching.