

# Chartered Teacher Status: Catholic Educator Specialism

# A professional learning and accreditation pathway supporting career-long development



# A bespoke pathway to Chartered Status for Catholic educators

“To achieve Chartered Teacher Status rooted in Catholic Social Teaching (CST) is a remarkable opportunity for our sector, to help provide pupils in our schools with the very best Catholic education. We are called to embrace CST in our lives, and I would highly recommend Catholic teachers to join the Chartered College through this route.”

**Paul Barber**

- Director of the Catholic Education Service

Chartered Teacher Status is a professional accreditation that provides formal recognition to highly accomplished teachers and school leaders who have attained an advanced standard of practice.

Through undertaking rigorous Chartered Status assessments, teachers have the opportunity to showcase their professional expertise. In April 2026 the Chartered College of Teaching is set to launch the Chartered Teacher Status Catholic Educator specialism, the first of its kind, developed in collaboration with the Formatio partnership of Catholic dioceses, multi-academy trusts and universities.

This new pilot programme will enable you to complete tailored assessments in evidence-informed practice; teaching practice; education research and inquiry; and professional knowledge, with a focus on core elements found within Catholic education, including Catholic life and mission, religious education and prayer and liturgy.

If you decide to take this step and work towards achieving Chartered Status via this new specialism, the process will be both challenging and hugely rewarding. You will engage with research and evidence, and seek out professional learning and development opportunities that enable you to attain the high standard expected of a Chartered Teacher, and flourish in your role as a Catholic educator, with opportunities for you to share your journey and expertise with other Catholic colleagues, near and far.

I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

- John 10:10.



# Benefits of Chartered Status

- ✓ Enjoy increased autonomy over your learning and development as part of a personalised professional pathway.
- ✓ Receive certification for engaging in high-quality, evidence-informed CPD from across the sector.
- ✓ Build and demonstrate your knowledge and expertise as a Catholic educator through a series of assessments, designed to support meaningful improvement in your Catholic context.
- ✓ Draw critically on research and evidence to evaluate your practice and impact on children and young people in your setting.
- ✓ Gain professional recognition through a rigorous accreditation process and the award of Chartered Status.



“It has completely transformed my teaching practice. It has not only given me confidence to implement new teaching strategies but has provided me with a greater understanding of educational research.”

Paul Middleton MCCT, CTeach  
Head of History



**“Do it! You will feel re-invigorated, engaged and enthused – you are in control of your own learning and professional development.”**

*Mat Grafton FCCT, CTeach  
Assistant Head  
Orchard School Bristol*

## A framework for career-long development

At the Chartered College of Teaching we want you to feel empowered as a professional. Our Chartered pathways give you autonomy over your professional learning, and through the award of Chartered Status, you will be recognised for your commitment to engaging in career-long, evidence-informed professional development that enables you to build your expertise effectively.

This new Catholic Educator Specialism enables you to apply a unique Catholic lens throughout each stage of your journey to Chartered Status, giving you recognition for your expertise as a Catholic educator.

When you commence your journey to becoming Chartered, you'll reflect on your professional identity as a Catholic educator, undertaking a self-evaluation against the Chartered Teacher Professional Principles and our Catholic Educator criteria. You'll identify up to four goals for your professional development and will develop a robust professional development plan that will support you to achieve these goals.

The Professional Framework and Catholic Educator criteria also define the standard you will need to meet to be awarded Chartered Status via this specialist pathway. You'll demonstrate that you meet the standard by completing five CPD units containing embedded assessments. Each unit is self-paced and can be shaped to align with your individual goals and priorities to support meaningful development in your unique Catholic context.

# A professional learning pathway, shaped by you



Use our Professional Framework, alongside the Catholic educator criteria, to identify learning goals that will help you to grow as a professional. Access tools and resources to develop a professional profile that will drive, and capture your development.



Complete four certified CPD units on your chosen pathway, with each offering the breadth and flexibility for you to focus on the specific areas of learning and development that are important to you.



Demonstrate your expertise against the Professional Framework through the embedded unit assessments, with the opportunity to integrate learning from wider CPD you have completed in your school, trust or with external CPD providers, where relevant.



Reflect on your unique experiences as a Catholic educator, and how this shapes your practice throughout each stage of your journey. Gain recognition as you demonstrate your expertise against each of the Catholic educator criteria.

# Chartered Teacher Status

with Catholic Educator specialism



When you enrol on this pathway, you will gain access to the core unit: the Professional Profile, along with a supplementary course on 'Planning your Professional Learning'. our Chartered Teacher Status Introductory course. In this core unit, you'll reflect on your professional identity as a Catholic educator, undertaking a self-evaluation against the Chartered Teacher Professional Principles and Catholic Educator criteria. You'll identify up to four goals for your professional development and will develop a robust professional development plan that will support you to achieve these goals.

To make an application for award of Chartered Status you will need to successfully complete the core assessment unit (Professional Profile) and four additional, certified CPD units, each of which are individually certified:



Upon successful application for Chartered Status, you will be invited to attend a prestigious graduation ceremony where you will be awarded Chartered Teacher Status with Catholic Educator Specialism, and conferred with the postnominals 'CTeach'.

# Course details

<p><b>Core assessment unit: Professional Profile</b> In this unit, you'll reflect on your professional identity as a Catholic educator, undertaking a self-evaluation against the Chartered Teacher Professional Principles and Catholic Educator criteria. You'll identify goals for your professional development and will develop a robust professional development plan that will support you to achieve these goals.</p>	Course length: duration of programme
<p><b>Unit 1: Certificate in Evidence-Informed Practice</b> Learn how to navigate education research, build your understanding of key themes and debates within current education research, and consider implications for classroom practice.</p>	Course length: up to 3 months
<p><b>Unit 2: Expertise in Teaching Certificate</b> Explore the development of teacher expertise as you choose an area of your teaching to refine and develop, informed by your Catholic context, utilising deliberate practice to embed evidence-informed approaches in your classroom.</p>	Course length: up to 5 months
<p><b>Unit 3: Education Research and Inquiry Certificate</b> Take your research engagement one step further as you learn about the process of practitioner inquiry as a powerful mechanism for professional development and undertake an evidence-informed inquiry project in your classroom, focusing on an area of your choosing, driven by the principles of Catholic Social Teaching.</p>	Course length: 3-6 months
<p><b>Unit 4: Professional Knowledge Award</b> Demonstrate your knowledge of assessment and pedagogy through three professional knowledge examinations designed to assess your understanding of general and subject/phase/specialism-specific approaches (includes access to our Principles of Assessment course).</p>	Course length: 1-12 months
<p><b>Application for Chartered Status</b> Submit your application to become Chartered, to include your Professional Profile (core assessment).</p>	Course length: 1 month

# Chartered Teacher Status: Catholic Educator Specialism

## Eligibility

### To be eligible for Chartered Status, you must:

- Be working within an Catholic education setting
- Be professionally engaged in teaching (or employed as a teacher in a leadership role) in a relevant setting in accordance with the Chartered College of Teaching membership handbook
- Be eligible for full membership and hold membership of the Chartered College of Teaching (MCCT or FCCT)
- Have a minimum of 3 years teaching experience at the point of you reach the end of the programme and make your final application for Chartered Status.

Please feel free to contact us if you are unsure about your eligibility.



## Key dates for your diary

**April 2026**

Begin your Professional Profile

Begin unit 1: Certificate in Evidence-Informed Practice

**May-June 2026**

Undertake exam 1: MCQ

**September 2026**

Revisit your Professional Profile

Begin unit 2: Expertise in Teaching Certificate

**December 2026**

Undertake exam 2: OSTE

**March-June 2027**

Revisit your Professional Profile

Begin unit 3: Education Research and Inquiry Certificate

Undertake exam 3: Written exam

**July 2027**

Prepare your application for Chartered Status

# Reaccreditation

Chartered Status holders are required to undertake reaccreditation every three years. The reaccreditation process ensures that Chartered Teachers have maintained their membership and continue to uphold the high standards outlined in the Chartered College of Teaching Professional Framework.

Reaccreditation is a light-touch assessment process, through which Chartered Status holders must demonstrate their ongoing commitment to professional learning and development of practice, including:

- that they show continued commitment to professional learning and maintain up-to-date knowledge of effective pedagogy, teaching and learning, curriculum and assessment as relevant to their phase, subject, specialism and role
- how they have shown collegiality and supported others, for example through mentoring, delivering CPD, supporting the work of the Chartered College of Teaching or contributing to the knowledge base of the profession
- that they continue to uphold high standards of professionalism and practice.



## How is this assessed?

Assessment includes three elements:

- A written reflection in which you critically reflect on your professional learning and the impact this learning has had on your practice
- Written evidence that demonstrates how you have supported the professional learning and development of others
- A supporting statement from your line manager or headteacher confirming that you have continued to uphold high standards of professionalism and practice.

**Reaccreditation fee: £17.50**

# Additional information

## Recognition of prior certificated learning

Recognition of prior certificated learning (RPCL) provides a means by which individuals may use previous relevant qualifications as credit towards achieving Chartered Status.

This means you may be exempted from one or more assessments that must be completed to achieve Chartered Status on your chosen pathway, up to a maximum of 30 chartership credits in total.

A full list of qualifications that are recognised for RPCL is available on our website.

### Questions?

Get in touch with the team via [charteredteacher@chartered.college](mailto:charteredteacher@chartered.college) and we'll be happy to help with any questions you have.



“I’ve wanted to make change across a whole school and show my ability to lead and increase high-quality teaching and learning and I think this course has allowed me to do that.”

*Vanessa Hirani MCCT, CTeach*



## Chartered College of Teaching

The Professional  
Body for Teachers

The Chartered College of Teaching is incorporated by Royal Charter and a registered charity (number 313608).

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