

Our Programme and Network support

Now Teachers receive support in two different ways:

- 1) from the Now Teach Career Change Programme
- 2) from the wider Now Teach Network

The Two Year Career Change Programme

For the first two years Now Teachers have access to a Programme Manager. They help access the full package of support available as well as being the first point of contact at Now Teach. From one-to-one advice to tailored events and resources the programme complements teacher training and the first year as an Early Career Teacher (ECT).

The Now Teach Network

The Now Teach Network is the member-led community of Now Teachers.

Members build relationships with other Now Teachers, particularly those in their cohort year, and become a part of the community.

The Network is committed to using their skills and experiences from a diverse range of sectors for the benefit of schools and students who need them most.

We work to support all our career change participants to complete their Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)/Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE), continuing to support in the first year as an ECT. In the first year, we are sensitive to the work trainees are undertaking in their schools and with their training providers. We have designed our offer to be supplementary and supportive in helping to both transition into the classroom and achieve the ITT qualification. In year two our career-changer offer supplements the Early Career Framework.

We are really proud that in our May 2021 Cohort Survey, 91% of respondents stated they are satisfied or very satisfied with the support they receive from the Programme Team.

Programme Team Support

Onboarding

Our support – and involvement with the Network – starts when an offer is accepted, with access to our summer events series. Between now and the first day in school there is the opportunity to join events to help prepare for teaching.

This is the onboarding period and provides a safe space to ask any questions. It is all about preparing for training and getting set up for a successful first term.

We will also provide opportunities to meet fellow trainees and wider Now Teach Network.

Programme Managers

All Career Change Programme participants have access to a Programme Manager who will support based on needs as and when required. Some participants rely on them more during their training year, others later. Programme Managers are a non-judgemental expert that trainees can call on to support on any topic, be it personal, subject or career focused. They also specialise in specific areas of support. Programme Managers can also refer participants to a range of external experts and organisations, as well as offer the following support:

- Regular check-ins
- Support around managing the balance between training commitments and existing commitments
- Advice on navigating the change curve, feelings associated with beginning again and perceptions of low performance
- Bespoke support from friendly, independent individuals experienced in supporting career-changers in the classroom with common challenging areas: for example, but not limited to, lesson planning, behaviour, time management and voice coaching
- Connections to Now Teachers who have experienced similar challenges to understand how they have approached them
- Signposting to peer organisations
- Support with job applications
- Ongoing career advice and guidance from CV reviews, coaching for interviews, developing classroom practice, applying for Senior Leadership.

Additional Support

Personal, Subject and Career Coaching

In addition to the support provided by the dedicated Programme Manager, we recognise that there will be times when additional coaching might be more suitable. We can provide access to personal/wellbeing, subject, and career coaching – helping Now Teachers get to where they want to be in schools. Often, we also know of another Now Teacher who has been in a similar situation, so we can connect.

Now Teach Network

Our Network sits at the core of our work and our organisation. The Network is intended to develop a movement within education, and it is made up of Now Teachers. It helps them to support each other, as well as connect with partners and supporters of our mission.

- It belongs to participants, and we hope it will be a network for life
- Many attendees and contributors at our events will be Network members
- We use the Network to promote events, materials, and opportunities.

Year Two Impact Project

We invite all Year Two Now Teachers to complete an optional mini project. We want to see them reflect on and demonstrate how they have used their skills and previous experiences to the benefit of their school and students.

Events and Opportunities

Annual Conference

Our annual conference brings together teachers from across the Network. The aim of our annual conference is to introduce exceptional key speakers and connect members with peers in the profession. It is also a great time for participants to build connections with fellow trainees in the Now Teach Network. Alongside stimulating and developmental sessions, we also provide the chance to socialise with peers.

Teach Meets

Teach Meets are run by our Programme Managers for participants of the Programme across term time. These events provide an opportunity to reflect on practice and consider professional development.

Subject Hubs

Subject Hubs provide an opportunity to connect with Now Teachers within subjects and hear from experienced subject specialists. There are separate sessions for individual subjects with different focus areas each term and offer the chance to share ways of working and best practice in a supportive space.

Thought Leadership

We work hard to give access to some of the key thinkers and leaders that shape the educational landscape. Members of the Network can access the thought leadership element through various in-person and online events, with supplementary materials and session recordings also available online.

Onboarding and Staff Room Resources

Now Teach produce additional resources to aid development, available to all Network members. We are also always looking to proactively share best practice and helpful resources and aim to record all our Teach Meets.

Now Teaching Magazine and Digest

We publish a free termly magazine for the benefit of the whole Network. It includes aspects of thought leadership and professional development, as well as key information and case studies from across the community. We also publish a termly Digest by email with Now Teacher updates and external opportunities to develop.

Tent: Now Teacher Networking Platform

Tent is our online networking platform exclusively for Now Teachers. Now Teachers can connect and create relationships across our Network by subject, region, training provider and previous profession.

WhatsApp Groups

Now Teachers can access WhatsApp groups by cohort year, subject and currently a parenting group too. We are always happy to facilitate the setting up of these interest groups and inviting others to join them. They are great forums for sharing lesson ideas, friendly support from fellow teachers and answering any training-based questions.



"In the back of my mind, I always knew I had a support network with Now Teach. They are there to support, to encourage, to help us develop and to grow."

Helene Jones,
Cohort 2019

Before: IT and Software Development
Now: Computer Science teacher

Get in touch

If you would like to join the Now Teach network of career changers please contact:
Rachael.Kaykobad@nowteach.org.uk

To find out more about working with Now Teach please contact:
Jo.Holmes@nowteach.org.uk

nowteach.org.uk

 @ NowTeachOrg  Now-Teach  @ NowTeach