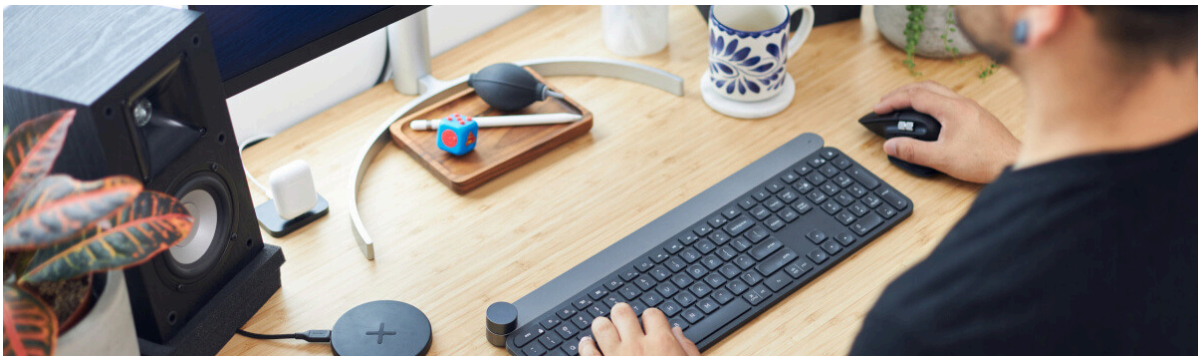
XAVIER ECTE WEEKLY BULLETIN

FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING 12th OCTOBER 2026



Audio Version of Bulletin

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Polite Reminder

We ask all ECTs and mentors to please have working cameras and mics when joining any online training. This will help to ensure engagement can be confirmed and will contribute to a positive experience for everyone.

National Professional Qualifications (NPQs)

Xavier offers **NPQ opportunities** for experienced staff members such as mentors or induction tutors. You can register for the November start cohort here. Some of the NPQs are fully funded this year, for more information go to the STSN website.

ECTs received reduced membership to The Chartered College of Teaching

The Chartered College of Teaching is the professional body for teachers. Their mission is to empower a knowledgeable and respected teaching profession. Through membership and accreditation, they are working to develop effective, evidence-informed teachers and leaders, improve the quality of professional learning, establish more robust career pathways for teachers, and improve job satisfaction within the teaching profession. Join now if interested: Early career teacher - Chartered College of Teaching

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IMPORTANT DATES

ECT 1 seminars - take place **between** the **12th October** and **15th October** depending on your venue (see messages for YEAR 1 ECTS)

ECT 2 Primary seminars - take place between **between** the **9th November and 12th of November** depending on your venue (see messages for YEAR 2 ECTS)

Mentor training dates:

If mentoring an ECT2 - Welcome Meeting 3: **Thursday 8th October** at 4pm **online** Link to Teams meeting (see messages for MENTORS)

For **all mentors** - Welcome seminar 3: Workload and wellbeing: **Tuesday 13th October 4-5pm** online Link to Teams meeting

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YEAR 1 ECTS

ECT 1 seminars

Module 1 Seminar 2: Holding high expectations of all pupils - **week commencing 12th October** - 4-5.30pm in person.

Brightspace Tasks

Module 1: How can you create an effective learning environment?

Complete session 5: Holding high expectations and maintaining engagement

If you cannot access Brightspace please contact: Contact Us | My Teach First

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THOSE ECT 1s STILL AWAITING BRIGHTSPACE ACCESS

The Brightspace materials for Module 1 have been downloaded to the ECTE Member Area, if you do not have access to Brightspace this will enable you to look at the content for the module: Link to ECTE Area

Once you have access you will be required to log in and click through these materials to register your engagement (this will only take a few minutes).

YEAR 2 ECTS

Engage with an Expert Activity: This week, arrange an opportunity to learn from an experienced colleague in an area linked to your professional development focus for this term. This could be through **either observing their practice** or **engaging in a professional discussion** with them. For example, you may choose to observe a colleague teaching, meet with your SENDCo, or speak with a subject, inclusion or oracy lead. To record your observation or professional discussion, you may use the **Engage with an Expert Proforma**. However, you are welcome to record your reflections in another format if you prefer.

Engage with an Expert Activity - proforma upload to Brightspace: Please upload your completed observation or discussion proforma on Brightspace in the assignment tab. You can select **one** of the following ways to do this:

- Upload a Word or PDF document.
- Upload a photograph or scanned copy of handwritten notes.
- Submit your notes directly as a text response, using the proforma headings as a guide.

Mentor meeting: Please meet with your mentor this week to discuss your key learning from Self-Study 1 and Seminar 1. Together, agree clear action steps for your first development focus. Please also discuss your initial *Engage with an Expert* activity, including the observation **or** professional discussion you have undertaken and the key learning you gained from it.

Brightspace Support Videos

Teach First have released new short support videos for navigating and using Brightspace

ECTP: The Year 2 Diagnostic Process

Getting started with Brightspace: A guide for ECTs

MENTORS

Mentors mentoring an ECT1

Brightspace Task

Mentor Meeting Focus

1. Read the section Managing complex behaviour in the Mentor Handbook p25-30

Mentors mentoring an ECT2

The member area of our website has been updated to include a trained mentor handbook for ECT2 mentors and a new/partially trained handbook for ECT2 mentors. In this section we will refer to the relevant pages in each handbook.

New and partially trained mentors

DC1 Mentor Interaction 2 Mentor Handbook p14-15

Trained mentors

DC1 Mentor Interaction 2 Mentor Handbook p18-19

Diagnostic Tools

There are two different ways you can access your ECT's diagnostic tool:

1. Via the Mentor Diagnostic Tool tile at the top of your ECT's Brightspace course page.
2. Via the 'Diagnostic Tool' button on the Brightspace navigation bar.

Brightspace Mentor Support Videos

Teach First have released the following really useful videos to support you monitoring your ECT's progress on Brightspace and support your ECT with their self study.

Getting started with Brightspace: A guide for mentors

ECTP: The Brightspace Auditing Function for Mentors This allows you to see your ECT's progress on Brightspace.

ECTP 2026: The Year 1 Diagnostic Process

ECTP: The Year 2 Diagnostic Process

Mentor Training

For **all mentors** - Welcome seminar 3: Workload and wellbeing: **Tuesday 13th October 4-5pm** online Link to Teams meeting

Fully Trained, Partially Trained and New Mentors

We are aware that there are many of you who have mentored a trainee or ECT before and as the programme progresses there are increasing variables of 'mentor types' in terms of their training status. Xavier will only have a record of your training if you have completed ECT Mentor training with us. All other mentor's status is determined by a Training Needs Analysis button on your Brightspace platform.

Fully Trained Mentors - Will not have access to the Training Needs Analysis or Mentor Training on Brightspace as Teach First will recognise them as trained. They will complete the welcome seminars and attend no further training. Fully Trained Mentors will have access to the Diagnostic tool and their ECT's Modules in order to support their ECT's recommended pathway.
Partially Trained Mentors - Will need to complete the Mentor Eligibility question sent to them via email from Teach First. This will release the Mentor Training Needs analysis on Brightspace. If you have not received this email please contact Contact Us | My Teach First
New Mentors - Will need to complete the Mentor Eligibility question sent to them via email from Teach First in order to release the correct materials on Brightspace. If you have not received this email please contact Contact Us | My Teach First

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INFORMATION FOR INDUCTION TUTORS

Current FAQs

Queries over 10% reduction of timetable

Statutory guidance requires ECTs to have a 10% reduction of timetable in year 1 and a 5% reduction of time table in year 2, as well as their PPA time. The school will need to calculate this themselves as all schools have different timings. Sometimes ECTs need this clarifying and the reductions explainied for their setting. Induction for early career teachers (England)

Induction Tutors online experience

Teach First are looking for a group of induction tutors to be part of a focus group. The Teach First Digital Experience team is looking to interview a few induction tutors around their experience monitoring programme member engagement. They will be using the research insights to determine the best approach for sharing engagement data with Induction Tutors in the future. If you are willing to be involved with this please contact Sophie on: s.hunter@xaviercet.org.uk

Are you a new Induction Tutor? - If so, please contact Sophie Hunter to arrange a Teams meeting to go over any questions you may have about your new role: s.hunter@xaviercet.org.uk . Sophie can talk you through the platforms you will work on and ensure you are aware of your responsibilities for the term ahead. If you haven't already engaged in the induction tutor training please do so here: Xavier Teaching School Hub - Induction tutor training

If any links in this bulletin do not work for you, you may need to copy and paste the url and open it in a new window depending on your school's IT set up.

Need to change a mentor or any details? Please complete this Google Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13Sw4sr8aJEtypDRSIbEgqIm-ssxuXwfjJd_1bQ-ARiY/edit

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DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION REGARDING BRIGHTSPACE?

If you have any questions about Teach First's online learning platform please contact them
https://my.teachfirst.org.uk/contact-us

LOG IN TO OUR MEMBER AREA BELOW:

All information about the programme can be found on the Xavier ECTE Member area here:
Log in details below:

https://www.tshub.xaviercet.org.uk/

email: xavierecf@xavier.org.uk

password:
Xaviertsh2024

CONTACT US BELOW:

Our team is here to support you every step of the way. If you need help, have any questions, please contact us: teachingschoolhub@xaviercet.org.uk
Thank you for your patience with us at this busy time,we will try to get back to you asap.

Xavier Teaching School Hub, Guildford Road, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 9LU

Manage preferences