

Excellence in reception teaching

- **What are the benefits of taking the programme?** We know that the quality of teaching is the most important in-school factor in supporting pupil outcomes. This funded course will deepen your reception-specific pedagogical knowledge and strengthen your practice through practical, evidence-based approaches to support more children to achieve a good level of development. It will focus on the key areas of:
 - Child development
 - Classroom practice and teaching
 - Inclusive practice
 - Effective partnerships
- **Who is it for?** Teachers who currently, or are shortly expecting to, teach the reception year group and who want to build on their existing reception-specific pedagogy but are not looking for CPD at a leadership level.
- **How much does it cost?** Courses are **funded** by the Department for Education for participants in suitable state-funded settings.
 - ***To note:** early years educators in private, voluntary or independent EY settings and childminders are not eligible for DfE scholarship funding for this course, as the target audience is reception year teaching in schools. Providers can offer the course to those working outside of eligible settings, but individuals or settings would need to self-fund these places. If participants are unsure, they can contact a provider directly, or DfE can confirm if they are eligible for funding when they register.*
- **How long is the programme?** Approximately **two school terms**, with **two cohorts per academic year** in Autumn and Spring.
- **What is the time commitment and how will I learn?** A minimum of 20 hours across the course with a mixture of flexible self-study and live, facilitated sessions (which may be accessed online).
- **How to apply?** Visit [Excellence in reception teaching](#). Registrations open on **6 July** for an Autumn 2026 start date.

For:

- Current reception teachers
- Experienced teachers looking to move into reception