

Physics Partners is a dynamic educational charity providing hands-on training and support for non-specialist and newly qualified physics teachers in state secondary schools.

The **crisis in physics education** is well-known with most GCSE physics lessons being delivered by non-specialists. Physics Partners has demonstrated significant impact on classroom practice by boosting teacher knowledge and confidence.

We are looking to partner with a small number of schools who, with our help, would like to establish a physics teaching partnership with local schools. Partner schools will be invited to host a Physics Partners Training Hub using their experienced physics teachers to train non-specialist or early-career teachers from local schools.

You may be looking to strengthen existing relationships with nearby schools, or looking to build these from scratch but unsure of how to start. **Physics Partners can help make the first move and take the administrative burden from you.**

You may have excellent physics teaching provision in your school and are conscious that, as a shortage subject, you would like to share your expertise with others, but are unsure of how to go about it. **Physics Partners can help to coach your staff and support their development as physics teacher trainers.**

The 3³ model: Training Hub schools commit to hosting a minimum of **3 workshops** each academic year for a minimum of **3 schools** for **3 years**, supporting subject knowledge and confidence in teaching physics, especially in practical teaching.

Physics Partners offers the following support – at no cost to you:

- **Initial approach** - We can help you make contact with local schools, building on any existing relationships or forging new ones.
- **Administration** – we can help you organise dates for training events, recruit delegates and communicate event details.
- **Training** - your teachers will be coached in teacher-training techniques from our team of experienced trainers, including hands-on support initially and mentoring thereafter.
- **Resources** – your trainers will have access to a package of suggested activities, supporting materials and a community of experienced trainers.
- **Impact evaluation** – we will provide needs-analysis and evaluation materials to demonstrate the impact of your hub, with an annual report on the hub activities.

Benefits to your school:

- **Ready-made project** to strengthen relationships with local schools, and raise the profile of your school.
- **High impact scheme**, fully evaluated to demonstrate public benefit.
- **Professional development** for your physics teachers as trainers, and being part of local and national networks with other trainers and physics teachers.

How does it work?

You'll need a lead physics teacher for the hub to liaise with Physics Partners, given adequate time to lead the hub.



We'll assess the coaching needs of the teacher(s) who you will be releasing to carry out the training and give them the necessary support (this may be face-to-face, online, on-demand, or a mixture). Included in this will be access to our training resources and community, and ongoing mentoring.



Next, we'll agree the schools to approach and a programme of events for the year ahead which our administrator will facilitate. Our support is fully funded, and the physics training your teachers will lead is provided for local schools for free. Your school may wish to add further discretionary benefit by offering refreshments, equipment loan, etc.

I'm interested – what next?

Please contact Bryan Berry, CEO at bryan.berry@physicspartners.com for an initial conversation. If your school aligns with our criteria for partnership, we'll form an agreement with your Headteacher and start working together to improve physics education in your community.

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We started a new hub in Bedford. Physics Partners were instrumental in forming the group and starting us off with training. Our first meeting looked at the challenges of encouraging girls into studying Physics at A level and beyond. We will also focus on methods of teaching Physics at KS3 to share good practice and build the confidence and skills in all Physics teachers, specialist and non-specialist, to deliver stimulating lessons. Are are so grateful to Physics Partners for initiating this project and are very much looking forward to what the future brings.

Emma Smart, Head of Science, Bedford Girls' School

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