BCU ITE Mentor Training

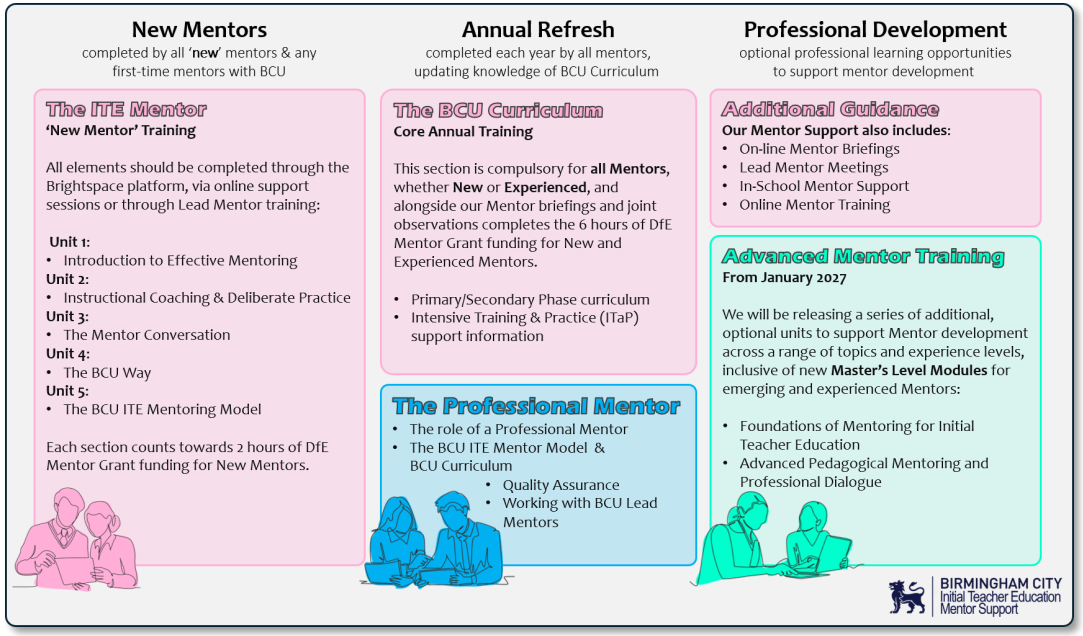
Support, Access & grant funding

Placement Briefings:
Placement briefings are provided to Mentors by the respective Course Leaders, with their attendance recorded by the course team.
These sessions are recorded for viewing, however, if you are watching the recorded version, it would be useful to advise the respective course team that you have completed this task.
Recordings are available through **YouTube** links sent by the course team or hosted on **Brightspace**.

New Mentor Training:
If this is your first engagement with a **BCU ITE Associate Teacher**, you will be required to complete the **New Mentor Training Programme**.
This is composed of 5 units that are hosted on our **Brightspace** platform.
You will be given access to the platform and be able to work through the units at your own pace.

Annual Refresh:
All Mentors are required to work through our **Annual Refresh** units, relevant to the phase that work in (i.e. Secondary or Primary). These include coverage of the current phase curricula and ITaP materials to support you in supporting our Associate Teachers.

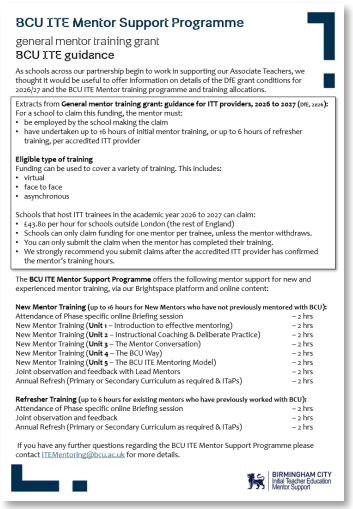
Professional Mentors:
While there is no DfE funding grant provided for **Professional Mentors**, we are keen to ensure that you are also supported sufficiently to carry out your role in supporting other Mentors within your organisation. Therefore, a short unit is included to provide support.



Brightspace & alternative training options:
All of our training materials are located on our **Brightspace platform**. An account will be set up for you by the **ITE Mentoring team** upon request, if it has not already been provided for you.
Contact them on: ITEMentoring@bcu.ac.uk

We also offer **online (in-person) training** opportunities through afternoon and twilight sessions, provided across the academic year. You will be informed of these session and are optional.

We are also looking to provide in-person, onsite **Hub Training** opportunities through partner schools in the near future.


BCU ITE Mentor Support Programme

general mentor training grant

BCU ITE guidance

As schools across our partnership begin to work in supporting our Associate Teachers, we thought it would be useful to offer information on details of the DfE grant conditions for 2026/27 and the BCU ITE Mentor training programme and training allocations.

Extracts from **General mentor training grant: guidance for ITT providers, 2026 to 2027** (DfE, 2026):

For a school to claim this funding, the mentor must:
- be employed by the school making the claim
- have undertaken up to 16 hours of initial mentor training, or up to 6 hours of refresher training, per accredited ITT provider

Eligible type of training

Funding can be used to cover a variety of training. This includes:
- virtual
- face to face
- asynchronous

Schools that host ITT trainees in the academic year 2026 to 2027 can claim:
- £43.80 per hour for schools outside London (the rest of England)
- Schools can only claim funding for one mentor per trainee, unless the mentor withdraws.
- You can only submit the claim when the mentor has completed their training.
- We strongly recommend you submit claims after the accredited ITT provider has confirmed the mentor's training hours.

The **BCU ITE Mentor Support Programme** offers the following mentor support for new and experienced mentor training, via our Brightspace platform and online content:

New Mentor Training (up to 16 hours for New Mentors who have not previously mentored with BCU):

Attendance of Phase specific online Briefing session	– 2 hrs
New Mentor Training (**Unit 1** – Introduction to effective mentoring)	– 2 hrs
New Mentor Training (**Unit 2** – Instructional Coaching & Deliberate Practice)	– 2 hrs
New Mentor Training (**Unit 3** – The Mentor Conversation)	– 2 hrs
New Mentor Training (**Unit 4** – The BCU Way)	– 2 hrs
New Mentor Training (**Unit 5** – The BCU ITE Mentoring Model)	– 2 hrs
Joint observation and feedback with Lead Mentors	– 2 hrs
Annual Refresh (Primary or Secondary Curriculum as required & ITaPs)	– 2 hrs

Refresher Training (up to 6 hours for existing mentors who have previously worked with BCU):

Attendance of Phase specific online Briefing session	– 2 hrs
Joint observation and feedback	– 2 hrs
Annual Refresh (Primary or Secondary Curriculum as required & ITaPs)	– 2 hrs

If you have any further questions regarding the BCU ITE Mentor Support Programme please contact ITEMentoring@bcu.ac.uk for more details.

BIRMINGHAM CITY
Initial Teacher Education
Mentor Support

BIRMINGHAM CITY University

BCU ITE Mentor Training

Support, Access & grant funding

Brightspace platform & structure:
Our New Mentor and Annual Refresh provision is offered primarily through **Brightspace**, however there are options to meet with lead mentors or the BUC ITE mentor training team to complete some elements of the training face-to-face.

Advanced Mentor Training:
We also offer higher levels of Mentor training through our L7 modules, with further details available through contacting the ITE Mentor Training team.

Online training:
These sessions will be hosted via **MS Teams** and will focus on target setting, high-quality feedback and other key areas of the training programme.

Hub Training:
If your school is able to host a training event for your own Mentors and local school partners, please do get in touch and we will deliver sections of the training as you require.

New Mentors

completed by all '**new**' mentors & any first-time mentors with BCU

The ITE Mentor

'New Mentor' Training

All elements should be completed through the Brightspace platform, via online support sessions or through Lead Mentor training:

Unit 1:
- Introduction to Effective Mentoring

Unit 2:
- Instructional Coaching & Deliberate Practice

Unit 3:
- The Mentor Conversation

Unit 4:
- The BCU Way

Unit 5:
- The BCU ITE Mentoring Model

Each section counts towards 2 hours of DfE Mentor Grant funding for New Mentors.



Annual Refresh

completed each year by all mentors, updating knowledge of BCU Curriculum

The BCU Curriculum

Core Annual Training

This section is compulsory for **all Mentors,** whether **New** or **Experienced,** and alongside our Mentor briefings and joint observations completes the 6 hours of DfE Mentor Grant funding for New and Experienced Mentors.

- Primary/Secondary Phase curriculum
- Intensive Training & Practice (ITaP) support information

The Professional Mentor

- The role of a Professional Mentor
- The BCU ITE Mentor Model & BCU Curriculum
- Quality Assurance
- Working with BCU Lead Mentors



Professional Development

optional professional learning opportunities to support mentor development

Additional Guidance

Our Mentor Support also includes:
- On-line Mentor Briefings
- Lead Mentor Meetings
- In-School Mentor Support
- Online Mentor Training

Advanced Mentor Training

From January 2027

We will be releasing a series of additional, optional units to support Mentor development across a range of topics and experience levels, inclusive of new **Master's Level Modules** for emerging and experienced Mentors:

- Foundations of Mentoring for Initial Teacher Education
- Advanced Pedagogical Mentoring and Professional Dialogue



BIRMINGHAM CITY
Initial Teacher Education
Mentor Support

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BCU ITE Mentor Training

Support, Access & grant funding

DfE Mentor Training Grant funding:
In order to ensure that you are able to draw down the appropriate level of training grant funding at the end of the academic year, we have outlined the specific allocation for each stage of our training programme.

A school may draw down funding for a **New Mentor** (a mentor who has not worked in support of a BCU Associate Teacher previous to the Market Review) of **up to 16 hours** of training.

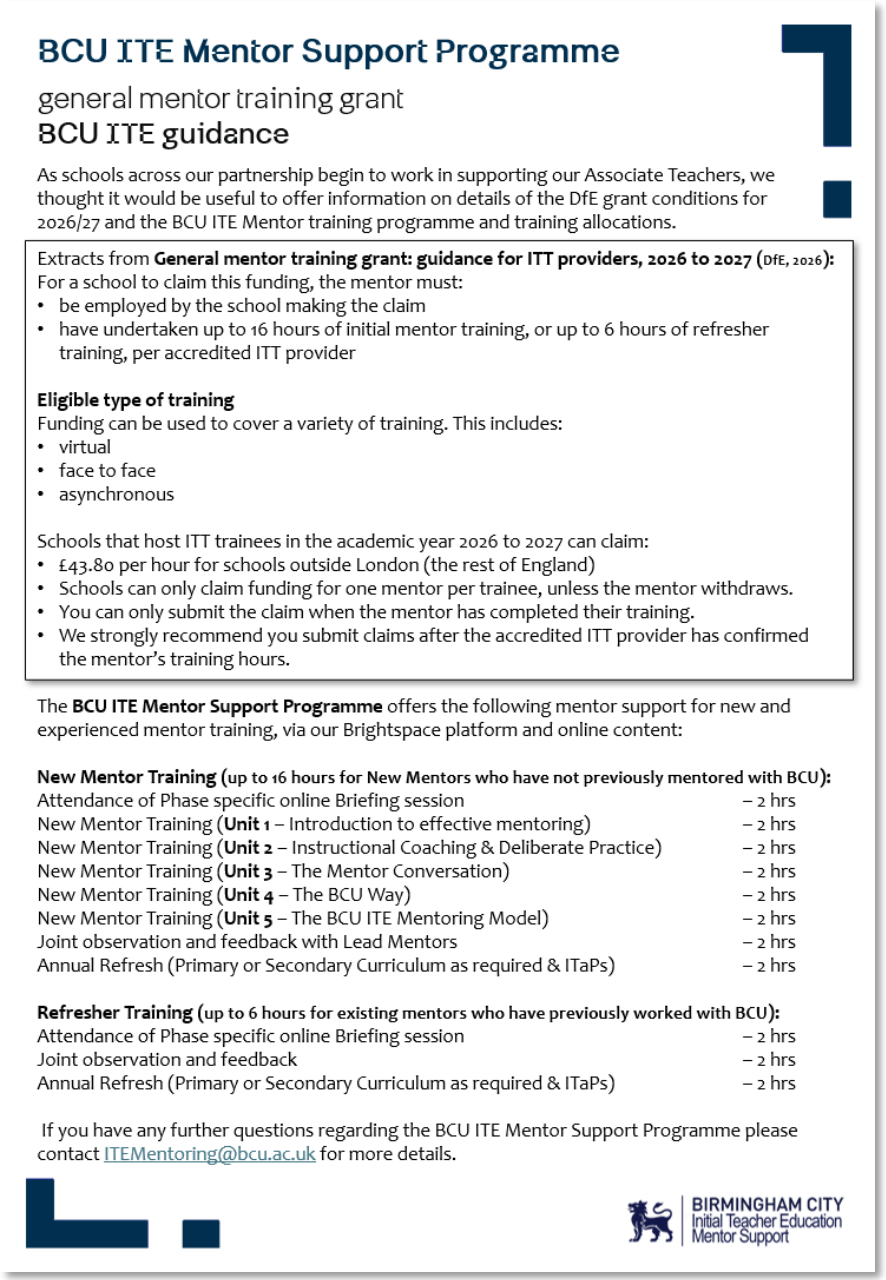
A school may draw down **6 hours** of funding for an **existing mentor** (a mentor who has supported a BCU Associate Teacher in the last 2 years) based on the training they have carried out.

Details of how our training can be allocated against the grant funding are provided in the guidance document.

In order to claim this funding, a school **requires evidence** that specific elements has been completed, as the DfE carries out **randomised audits** of training, asking the University to confirm the claim that has been made.

This means that the University is required to **track a Mentors progression** across the training programme. We track this through Brightspace engagement, and Lead Mentor interactions.

Further guidance is available at:
General mentor training grant for schools
Or contact ITEMentoring@bcu.ac.uk for further details.



BCU ITE Mentor Support Programme

general mentor training grant
BCU ITE guidance

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BIRMINGHAM CITY Initial Teacher Education Mentor Support

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