Leading Physics Improvement (Large School Trusts)

Eligibility checker

Leading Physics Improvement is a three-year school improvement programme for trust leaders who are committed to strengthening physics teaching and learning across their organisation. Through a leadership-led, capacity-building approach, participating trusts work with Ogden Trust consultants to identify strengths and challenges, prioritise improvement, and build sustainable capacity for long-term improvement.

The programme includes:

- An evidence-informed diagnostic framework
- Targeted improvement planning
- Dedicated implementation support
- Access to networks, expertise and funded professional development aligned to identified priorities

Our approach is guided by the Education Endowment Foundation's implementation principles, focusing on effective behaviours, contextual factors and a structured process for change.

Before you begin

This programme is designed for trust leaders with responsibility for school improvement, curriculum, science or physics across the trust.

If you do not hold one or more of these responsibilities, please discuss this opportunity with the appropriate senior leader before proceeding.

If you require support to complete the form, please contact schools@ogdentrust.com .

Expressions of interest close on 31 March 2027.

Eligibility

This programme is available to large school trusts in England.

To be eligible, your trust must:

- Have a minimum of eight secondary schools and/or all-through schools with Key Stage 4 provision.
- Have physics provision at Key Stage 4 and/or post-16 across the trust.
- Have capacity to engage with the programme and commit to annual review and renewal for up to three years.

In addition, priority may be given to trusts that:

- Serve schools and communities with above-average levels of socio-economic disadvantage.
- Have significant numbers of out-of-field teachers and/or early career physics teachers.
- Can demonstrate a strategic commitment to improving physics education across multiple schools.

Meeting the eligibility criteria does not guarantee participation. Expressions of interest will be assessed to ensure the programme is targeted where it can have the greatest impact.

Trusts selected to progress will be invited to discuss how the programme could support their improvement priorities.

Eligibility

Does the trust include a minimum of eight secondary schools and/or all-through schools with Key Stage 4 provision?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Capacity to engage

As a minimum, participating trusts will be expected to:

- Nominate an executive sponsor and programme lead.
- Engage in the diagnostic and self-evaluation process.
- Attend programme meetings and review activities.
- Enable participation from relevant leaders and staff.
- Support the implementation, monitoring and refinement of agreed improvement priorities across participating schools.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Trust profile

1. Trust name (full name)

[TEXT]

3. Trust information

- Total number of schools in the trust
- Number of secondary schools
- Number of all-through schools (including Key Stage 4 provision)
- Number of post-16 settings
- Number of primary schools
- Number of secondary SEND schools
- Number of secondary alternative provision schools
- Number of secondary resource bases, specialist units or other specialist provision

4. Which courses are available across trust schools? Tick all that apply.

☐ GCSE physics (single subject)

☐ GCSE combined science

☐ A-level physics

☐ Other

☐ None of the above

5. What is the trust's teacher profile for teaching physics? Tick all that apply.

	None	1	2	3	4+
Early Career teacher with a physics specialism					
One teacher with a physics specialism (not Early Career)					
More than one teacher with a physics specialism (not Early Career)					
Out-of-field teachers (with a chemistry or biology specialism)					
Out-of-field teachers (without science-related A-level or degree)					

6. What is the trust's current technician profile? Tick all that apply.

☐ Physics specialist technicians

☐ Chemistry or biology specialist technicians

☐ No technician provision in some schools

☐ Other

7. How many secondary schools within the trust have a Free School Meal percentage at or above the national average 28.9%?

[NUMBER]

8. Have schools within the trust previously participated in Ogden Trust funded programmes?

○ Yes

○ No

○ Don't know

Expressions of interest will be assessed to ensure the programme is targeted where it can have the greatest impact.

What's next?

If you would like to be considered for the programme, please complete the next section of the form which is an expression of interest.

The following questions help us understand your current context and improvement priorities.

Strategic alignment

How does improving physics education align with your trust's current improvement priorities?

[TEXT]

Barriers to improvement

Before undertaking any formal diagnosis, what do you consider to be the main barriers to improving physics education across your trust?

Select all that apply and provide further detail where relevant.

☐ Recruitment and retention of specialist physics teachers
☐ Subject leadership capacity
☐ Teacher subject knowledge and confidence
☐ Curriculum design and progression
☐ Student engagement and participation in physics
☐ Practical work and resources
☐ Professional development opportunities
☐ Cross-school collaboration and networks
☐ Data, monitoring, and evaluation
☐ Other (please specify)

Further details:

[TEXT]

Existing strengths

What approaches or interventions have already been effective in improving physics education across your trust?

[TEXT]

Areas for development

What do you see as the most important priorities for improving physics education across your trust over the next three years, and why?

Please outline up to three priority areas and explain why they are important.

[TEXT]

Readiness for change

What current opportunity, challenge or strategic priority makes this an important time for your trust to engage with the programme?

[TEXT]

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Contact information

Trust details

1. Trust name and address
2. Trust URN

Lead contacts

Applications must include:

- A named senior leader with responsibility for trust-wide improvement.
- A named leader with responsibility for science, physics or curriculum development.
    - Your name (lead contact)
    - Your role

Do you have responsibility for leading change across the trust?

- Yes
- No
    - Which area(s) are you responsible for?

[TEXT]

 Named senior leader sponsor

 Senior leader sponsor role

 Senior leader sponsor email address

 Lead contact telephone number

 Lead contact email address

Meeting the eligibility criteria does not guarantee participation. Expressions of interest will be assessed against programme eligibility, capacity to engage, alignment with programme aims, and readiness to undertake sustained improvement to ensure the programme is targeted where it can have the greatest impact.

Trusts selected to progress will be invited to discuss how the programme could support their improvement priorities.

Following the closing date, all expressions of interest will be assessed by 30 April 2027. Trusts that are selected to progress to the next stage will be contacted after this date.

Thank you for your interest in the programme.

Further information on our open-access resources and programmes can be found on our website https://www.ogdentrust.com/.