



ECT 2 Week By Week ECF Planning Document 2025-26

Overview for ECT Self-directed Study Materials, Mentor Sessions, In School and Watford Partnership Training and Professional Mentor Activities

This document is for: ECTs, Mentors and ECF Leads



The Watford Partnership

Week By Week ECF Document - ECTs, Mentors and ECF Leads

Year 2 ([ECT Year 2 explainer](#))

The structure of the Blocks in Year 2 replicates that of Year 1. Any remaining statements from the Early Career Framework will be covered, and many of the same themes from Year 1 will be revisited in greater depth to strengthen and further ECTs' practice. During Year 2, the focus is on mastering key ideas in the Early Career Framework. ECTs will be encouraged to reflect on the links between themes, in the light of their increasing knowledge and developing practice. They will continue to work with their Mentor to reflect on the progress they have made, and by the end of the year, they will identify future opportunities for development or specialisation for the next stage of their career. Training sessions provide additional support and access to a supportive peer network of other Early Career Teachers.

Please note:

- References to ***“in your notepad”*** for ECT SDSM simply means the ECT writes down their ideas in a notepad - we suggest all ECTs create a digital notepad or purchase a notepad for the ECF course.
- The ***numbers in brackets*** in the table below refer to the estimated number of minutes per session/section of materials.

Please see the next page for the overview of the year.

YEAR 2, TERM 1 - Block 7 (September - October)

Summary of week		<i>Embedding a positive culture for learning</i>				
Block 7		ECT Self-directed Study Materials (SDSM)	Mentor Sessions Materials Block 7	In School ECT Training Sessions	Watford Partnership INSET Sessions	Induction Tutor activities
Mon 1 Sep	<p>Welcome back & embedding a positive culture for learning A look at the year to come & how you influence the culture for learning in your classroom</p>	7.1 Video Introduction to the Block (5)	7.1 Welcome back (30) Mentor Materials Booklet Block 7	7.1 Teacher expectations; challenging tasks; language & culture of challenge & aspiration (90) Block 7 Training sessions Document		<i>Organise 1 observation this half term</i>
Mon 8 Sep	<p>Understanding the evidence Setting high expectations & motivating pupils</p>	7.2 Understanding the evidence – Pupil motivation (30)	7.2 Setting the scene & revisiting high expectations (60) Handout Mentor Materials Booklet Block 7		Tuesday 09.09.2025 : Welcome to the Watford Partnership (Online Meeting for ITTs and new ECTs) 4-5pm	
Mon 15 Sep	<p>Motivating pupils Developing intrinsic motivation in your pupils & setting them up for success</p>	7.3 Developing your teaching – Supporting pupils to achieve with challenging content (20)	7.3 Motivating pupils (60) Mentor Materials Booklet Block 7	7.2 Motivating pupils (60) Block 7 Training sessions Document	Thursday 18.9.2025: AI workshop and teacher persona (Face-to-face ECT 1 and 2 sessions at Parmiter's School - 4pm-5.15pm).	
Mon 22 Sep	<p>Regulating emotions Understanding why regulating emotions is important in the classroom, &</p>		Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)	7.3 Helping pupils regulate their own emotions (30) Block 7 Training sessions Document		

	strategies to help pupils learn how to do so					
Mon 29 Sep	Challenging content Setting high expectations & motivating pupils to master challenging content		7.4 Supporting pupils to master challenging content (60) Mentor Materials Booklet Block 7			
Mon 6 Oct	Reflection on learning Review & looking forward	7.4 Reflecting on learning (5)	7.5 Review of the Block (30) Mentor Materials Booklet Block 7			Professional Progress Review Chiltern Proforma (30)
Mon 13 Oct	No Session					
		1 hour	4 hours	3 hours	2 hours	0.5 hour

YEAR 2, TERM 1 - Block 8 (November - December)

Summary of week		<i>How pupils learn – making it stick</i>				
Block 8		ECT Self-directed Study Materials (SDSM)	Mentor Sessions Materials Block 8	In School ECT Training Sessions	Watford Partnership INSET Sessions	Induction Tutor activities
Mon 3 Nov	Introduction to making learning stick A recap on how pupils learn & why we need to	8.1 Video introduction to the Block (5)	Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)		Thursday 06.11.2025: SEND best practice 1 (Face-to-face at Garston Manor School - open to	<i>Organise 1 observation this half term</i>

	remember what we have learnt				any staff in partner schools - 4pm-5.15pm)	
Mon 10 Nov	<p>The importance of practice What makes practice effective</p>	<p>8.2 Understanding the evidence – The importance of practice (30)</p>	<p>8.1 Setting the scene & planning regular practice & reviews of material (60)</p> <p>Mentor Materials Booklet Block 8</p>			
Mon 17 Nov	<p>Increasing the likelihood of material being retained Techniques for boosting memory retention so pupils are more likely to remember what they learn</p>		<p>Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)</p>	<p>8.1 Balancing exposition, retrieval, repetition & practice (75)</p> <p>Block 8 Training sessions Document</p>	<p>Thursday 20/11/2025: Data and AfL (Face-to-face ECT 1 and 2 sessions at Queen's School - 4pm-5.15pm)</p>	
Mon 24 Nov	<p>Putting it into practice Retrieval practice techniques to aid memory</p>	<p>8.3 Developing your teaching – Retrieval practice (20)</p>	<p>Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)</p>	<p>8.2 Retrieval practice techniques (75)</p> <p>Block 8 Training sessions Document</p>	r	
Mon 1 Dec	<p>Designing tasks & support to help pupils access the information they need How to support pupils' retrieval of important information when attempting challenging work</p>		<p>8.2 Dealing with the challenge (60)</p> <p>Mentor Materials Booklet Block 8</p>			
Mon 8 Dec	<p>Reflection on learning Review & looking</p>	<p>8.4 Reflecting on learning (5)</p>	<p>8.3 Learning from colleagues & reviewing</p>			Professional Progress

	forward		this Block (60) Mentor Materials Booklet Block 8			Review Chiltern Proforma (30)
Mon 15 Dec	No Session					
	Time	1 hour	3 hours	2.5 hour	1 hour	0.5 hours

YEAR 2, TERM 2 - Block 9 (January - February)

Summary of week		<i>Enhancing classroom practice – grouping & tailoring</i>				
Block 9		ECT Self-directed Study Materials (SDSM)	<u>Mentor Sessions Materials Block 9</u>	In School ECT <u>Training</u> Sessions	Watford Partnership INSET Sessions	<u>Induction Tutor</u> activities
Mon 5 Jan	Introduction to enhancing classroom practice through effective grouping & tailoring	9.1 Video introduction to the Block (5)	Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)			<i>Organise 1 observation this half term</i>
Mon 12 Jan	Pupil grouping & homework Understanding the evidence & how group work & homework can enhance learning in the classroom		9.1 Setting the scene & reflecting on your own practice (60) Mentor Materials Booklet Block 9		Tuesday 13.01.2026: Best practice 2 - Concrete examples, dual coding and storytelling (ONLINE WEBINAR open to any staff in partner schools - 4-5pm)	

Mon 19 Jan	Grouping pupils A deeper look at how to group pupils effectively to maximise learning		Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)	9.1 Grouping pupils effectively (75) Block 9 Training sessions Document		
Mon 26 Jan	Facilitating pupil collaboration Stimulating pupil thinking through high quality collaborative tasks	9.2 Understanding the evidence – Pupil grouping & homework (30)	9.2 Stimulate thinking: collaborative work (60) Handout Mentor Materials Booklet Block 9	9.2 Model collaborative work effectively (75) Block 9 Training sessions Document	Tuesday 27.01.2026: WPfTT Teach Meet (face-to-face at The Reach Free School - all staff from partnership schools welcome 4pm - 5.30pm)	
Mon 2 Feb	Meeting the needs of individuals Approaches to tailor learning to the needs of your students without creating unnecessary workload	9.3 Developing your teaching – Grouping pupils effectively (20)	9.3 Meet the needs of individuals without creating unnecessary workload (60) Mentor Materials Booklet Block 9			Formal Assessment 3 Chiltern Proforma (60)
Mon 9 Feb	Reflection on learning Review & looking forward	9.4 Reflecting on learning (5)	9.4 Review this Block (30) Mentor Materials Booklet Block 9			Professional Progress Review Chiltern Proforma (30)
	Time	1 hour	3.5 hours	2.5 hours	1 hour	1.5 hours

YEAR 2, TERM 2 - Block 10 (March - April)

Summary of week	<i>Revisiting the importance of subject & curriculum knowledge</i>				
Block 10	ECT Self-directed	Mentor Sessions	In School ECT Training	Watford Partnership	Induction Tutor

		Study Materials (SDSM)	Materials Block 10	Sessions	INSET Sessions	activities
Mon 23 Feb	Curriculum design & subject knowledge Revisiting the importance of subject & curriculum knowledge		Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60) Mentor materials booklet block 10			<i>Organise 1 observation this half term</i>
Mon 2 Mar	Complex mental models How to support pupils to build increasingly complex mental models	10.1 Video Introduction to the Block (5)	10.1 Setting the scene & the core concepts & principles of the subject (60) Handout Mentor materials booklet block 10		Thursday 05.03.2026: KS2-3 SEND transition and visible learning (Face-to-face ECT 1 and 2 sessions at The Reach Free School - 4pm-5.15pm)	
Mon 9 Mar	Establishing secure knowledge Ensuring that pupils have secure subject knowledge before attempting more complex content		Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)	10.1 Establishing secure knowledge (60) Block 10 Training sessions Document	Wednesday 11.03.2026: SEND best practice 2 (ONLINE WEBINAR open to any staff in partner schools - 4-5pm)	
Mon 16 Mar	Strengthening pupils' subject knowledge Helping pupils to consolidate key ideas & build on previous learning	10.2 Curriculum design around the big ideas (30)	10.2 Strengthening pupils' subject knowledge (60) Mentor materials booklet block 10 Handout	10.2 Linking new ideas to existing knowledge (90) Block 10 Training sessions Document		
Mon 23 Mar (weeks	Putting it into practice Building increasingly	10.3 Developing your teaching – Strategies	10.3 Supporting pupils to apply their knowledge &			

combined)	complex mental models & supporting pupils to apply their knowledge in new contexts	& activities to support building increasingly complex mental models (20)	skills to other contexts (60) Mentor materials booklet block 10			
	Reflection on learning Review & looking forward	10.4 Reflecting on learning (5)	10.4 Review this Block (30) Mentor materials booklet block 10			Professional Progress Review Chiltern Proforma (30)
	Time	1 hour	3.5 hours	2.5 hours	1 hour	0.5 hours

YEAR 2, TERM 3 - Block 11 (May- June)

Summary of week		<i>Deepening assessment, feedback & questioning</i>				
Block 11		ECT Self-directed Study Materials (SDSM)	Mentor Sessions Materials Block 11	In School ECT Training Sessions	Watford Partnership INSET Sessions	Induction Tutor activities
Mon 13 Apr	Feedback Understanding the elements of feedback which help pupils to monitor & self regulate their own learning over time	11.1 Video introduction to the Block (5) 11.2 Understanding the evidence – Supporting pupils to monitor & regulate their own learning (20)	11.1 Setting the scene & providing high-quality feedback (60) Handout Mentor materials handbook Block 11			<i>Organise 1 observation this half term</i>
Mon 20 Apr	Efficient approaches to assessment Increasing the efficiency of your assessment approaches,		Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)	11.1 Making assessment manageable & effective (75) Block 11 Training sessions Document	Tuesday 21.4.2025: Best practice 3 - Guided practice and practice for fluency (ONLINE WEBINAR open to any	

	including self & peer assessment				staff in partner schools - 4-5pm)	
Mon 27 Apr	<p>Marking – learning from colleagues Using the experience of your colleagues to help identify & refine effective approaches to marking</p>	<p>11.3 Learning about... Efficient approaches to assessment (15)</p>	<p>11.2 Make marking manageable & effective – working with colleagues (60)</p> <p>Handout</p> <p>Mentor materials handbook Block 11</p>			
Tue 5 May	<p>High-quality feedback A look at verbal & written feedback & the principles of high-quality feedback</p>	<p>11.4 Developing your teaching – Providing high-quality feedback (15)</p>	<p>Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)</p>	<p>11.2 High-quality feedback (75) Block 11 Training sessions Document</p>		
Mon 11 May	<p>Marking – efficiencies Reducing your workload by ensuring that marking is efficient</p>		<p>11.3 Making marking manageable – efficiency (60) Mentor materials handbook Block 11</p>			
Mon 18 May	<p>Reflection on learning Review & looking forward</p>	<p>11.5 Reflecting on learning (5)</p>	<p>11.4 Review of the Block (30) Mentor materials handbook Block 11</p>			<p>Professional Progress Review Chiltern Proforma (30)</p>
	Time	1 hour	3.5 hours	2.5 hours	2 hours	0.5 hours

YEAR 2, TERM 3 - Block 12 (June - July)

Summary of week		<i>Continuing your professional development</i>				
Block 12		<u>ECT Self-directed Study Materials (SDSM)</u>	<u>Mentor Sessions Materials Block 12</u>	In School ECT <u>Training Sessions</u>	Watford Partnership <u>INSET Sessions</u>	<u>Induction Tutor activities</u>
Mon 1 Jun	<p>Contributing to the wider school Taking shared responsibility for your pupils & working as part of a team</p>		<p>12.1 Contributing to the wider school culture & beyond (60)</p> <p>Handout</p> <p>Mentor Materials Handbook Block 12</p>			<i>Organise 1 observation this half term</i>
Mon 8 Jun	<p>Reflective practitioner Developing your reflective practice</p>		<p>Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)</p>	<p>12.1 Reflective practice (90) Block 12 Training sessions Document</p>	<p>Friday 12.06.2026: WPFTT Summer Conference (12-4pm)</p>	
Mon 15 Jun	<p>Continuing professional development Knowing what effective professional development looks like</p>		<p>Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)</p>	<p>12.2 Effective professional development (30) Block 12 Training sessions Document</p>	<p>Tuesday 16.06.2026: SEND best practice 3 (Online and face-to-face at Garston Manor School - open to any staff in partnership schools - 4-5pm)</p>	
Mon 22 Jun	<p>Reflecting & celebrating success Looking at the past two years, the progress made & what you have learnt along</p>		<p>12.2 Looking back & reflecting on progress (60)</p> <p>Handout</p> <p>Mentor Materials</p>			

	the way		Handbook Block 12			
Mon 29 Jun	Looking forward Consider the next steps in your teaching career & what you need to achieve your goals		12.3 Next steps (60) Mentor Materials Handbook Block 12		Tuesday 30.06.2026: WPfTT online share fair (open to all partnership school staff)	
Mon 6 Jul	Final Review		Open Mentor session reviewing class progress and induction to school this half term. (60)			Professional Progress Review Chiltern Proforma (30)
Mon 13 Jul			3 hours	2 hours		0.5 hours